

# *The Octagon Octopus*

Octo, a small octopus felt very alone. He lived with lots of octopi and other beautiful sea creatures but he was different. All his octopi friends swam with grace like butterflies of the sea. But Octo moved mechanically like a robot. When he swam he moved one tentacle at a time.

He never knew why he moved this way. Then one morning when he was cleaning his beak, he looked in the mirror and saw his special feature.



*written and illustrated by  
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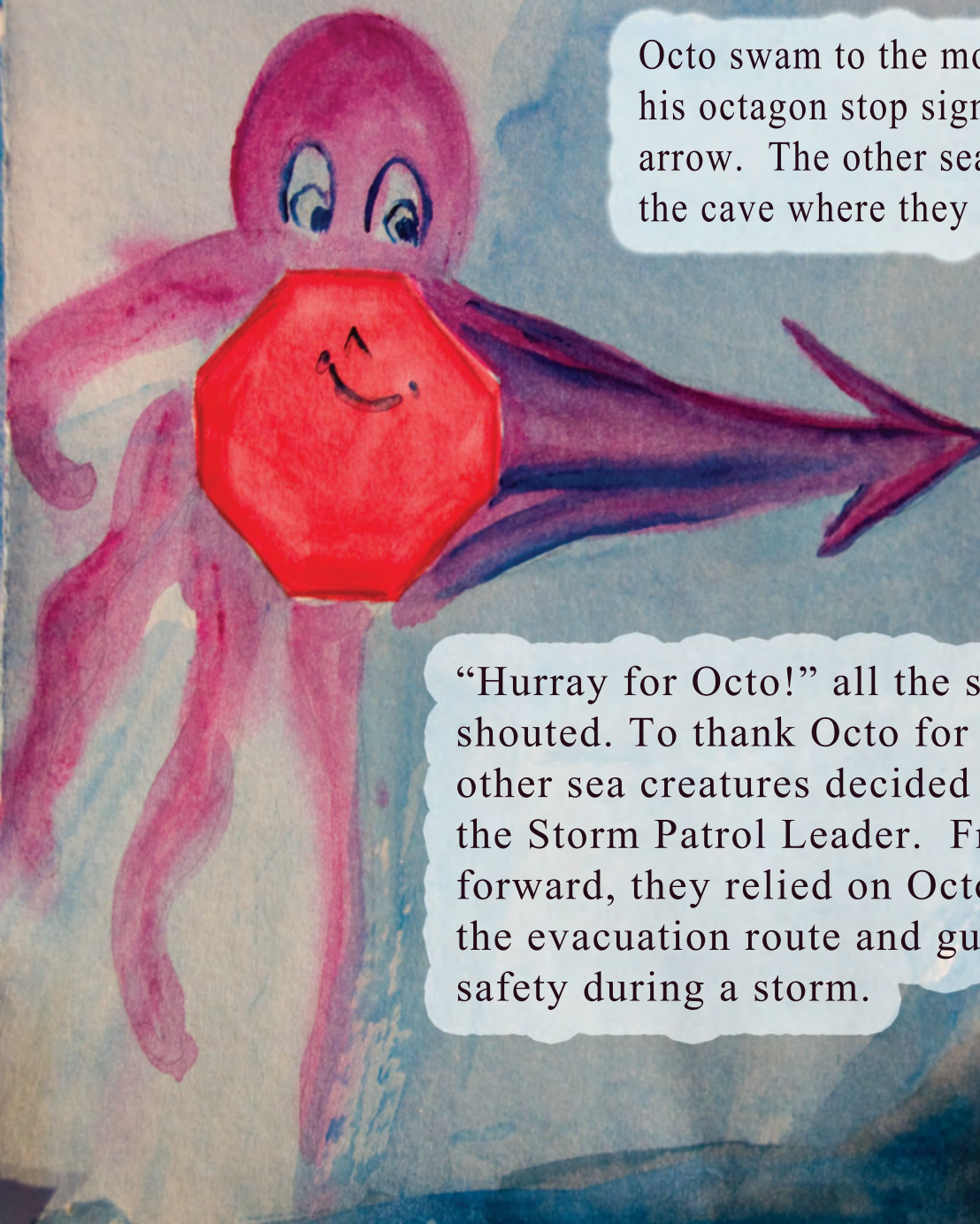




When he stretched out, he could make a perfect octagon. The rigid edges of this octagon are what caused him to swim differently. He asked his mother Octavia, why he was different. They went to the mirror and Octavia said “Show me your octagon.” He did and he was so embarrassed his octagon turned bright red. Octavia could see her son was sad and said, “Octo, this is your birth mark, this is what makes you who you are and makes you an individual.” Octo thought and thought about his special mark. He stood in front of the mirror and made his octagon. Again he was embarrassed by his difference and he turned bright red. Then all of a sudden he realized he looked like a stop sign. He laughed and laughed because no one else could look like a stop sign.

Then one day the seas started roaring and Octavia told Octo “There’s a hurricane coming, we have to evacuate to the cave.” All the sea creatures were scurrying about not knowing what to do or where to go to be safe from the storm.





Octo swam to the mouth of the cave and bravely showed his octagon stop sign. He used his tentacles to form an arrow. The other sea creatures saw this and swam into the cave where they were all safe until the storm passed.

“Hurray for Octo!” all the sea creatures shouted. To thank Octo for his bravery the other sea creatures decided to make Octo the Storm Patrol Leader. From that day forward, they relied on Octo to show them the evacuation route and guide them to safety during a storm.