

Yo Ho!
I'm Hedgie! Come
play a treasure hunt
game with me!

30 miles to the
main land

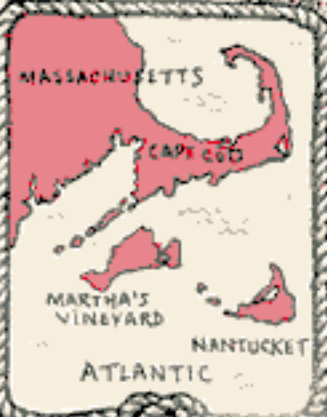
Great
Point light

Comet's Nine Lives

Comet's Nine Lives takes place on
Nantucket Island, once a famous
Whaling village.

If you want to play the treasure hunt
game, just turn the page. I'll ask a
question, and you discover the answer
hidden in the pages of my book. You'll
learn things most kids only find out
after visiting the island.

Jan Brett



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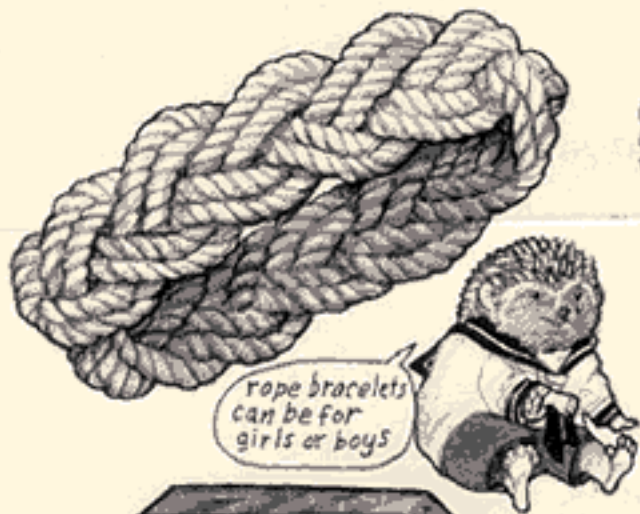
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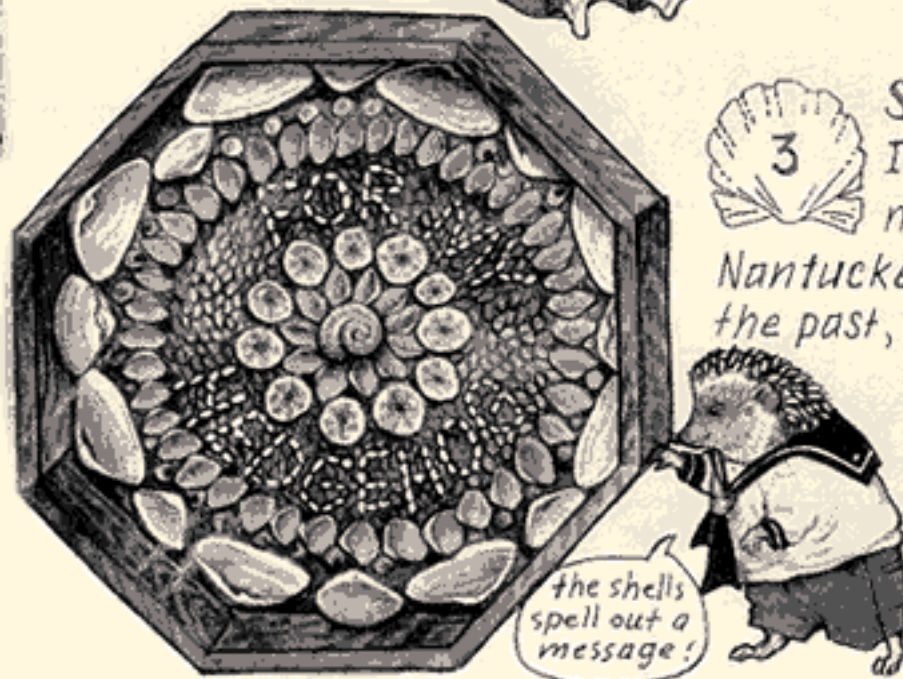
LIGHTSHIP BASKET

1 Many years ago, sailors on the Nantucket lightship wove rattan baskets like this. Now artisans recreate them. You'll see an ivory-like carving on the lid. Inside the owner's name is carved on a quarterboard *Hedgie*. The artist signs the bottom. Can you find a dog carrying one somewhere in *Comet's Nine Lives*?



TURKS HEAD BRACELET

2 At the beginning of summer my sisters and I would ask a big kid to weave a turks head bracelet on our wrist. We would keep it on until the first day of school in the fall. Can you find a dog with one on?



SAILOR'S VALENTINE

3 I first saw these artworks made from shells at the Nantucket Whaling Museum. In the past, sailors would bring one back to a loved one. See if you notice my version of a sailor's valentine.

HEDGIE'S ANSWERS



Thank you for playing my treasure hunt game! You are absolutely *hedgeseent* (that means being bright-eyed and keenly intelligent, attributes associated with hedgehogs!)
by Hedgie

1 There are 4 dogs carrying Nantucket lightship baskets in *Comet's Nine Lives*. You found them on page 7, 14, 17 and 23. If you lift up the dust jacket you'll see the case of the book. Jan made it look like a lightship basket, too.



In my opinion, a nice hedgehog profile would be the perfect top for a basket



yes!

2 A turk's head bracelet is worn by the beautiful Maisie, the yellow labrador retriever on page 14.

3 Jan's version of a sailor's valentine can be found on page 4, 10, 16, 20 and page 24. She is all worried because her directions for finding a sailor's valentine got kids looking for one like in her sketch. I hope you'll see one in the Nantucket whaling museum some day.



I've never actually seen a Nantucket red tie!!

4 Dogs wearing Nantucket reds are on page 7 (2 dogs) page 13 (2) page 15 (2) page 19 (2) page 20, 21, 22, and 23 (2 dogs). If you thought the actress has on a Nantucket red ballgown and slippers, you have more imagination than Jan!

5 If you guessed hurricane warning, you were right, right, right!

6 The bottle washes up on page 27.

I'm going to try this message in a bottle stuff!



7 Jan's self portrait as a dog is on page 6! She's smiling because she's signing a book. That's a big compliment for an author. There are some great book stores on Nantucket.

8 Wow! page 16 Jan's *pièce de résistance* ... me!

9 The Sheepdog sea captain appears on page 3, 6, 9, 13, 14, 18, 20 and 30. On page 30 he's hoisting alphabet flags that spell S-E-A-R-C-H O-V-E-R. By the way, hold off decoding the flags on page 25 until *Comet's Nine Lives* is reprinted. Jan goofed. (The flags are supposed to spell "Cat wanted".)



moi: a piece de resistance!

10 Scrimshaw is recreated on page 6, 8+9, 10+11, 12+13, 14, 20+21, 30+31, and 32. If you are curious about the green border on page 22+23, it's called shagreen. It's made from a shark's skin.

11 On page 26+27 Sea glass decorates the border.

12 On page 15 You'll find navigation lights in front of the ice cream shop.



Thanks for playing treasure hunt!
Here's one last tidbit about the book. Jan named the cat "Comet" in honor of Maria Mitchell, a famous astronomer born on Nantucket. In 1847, she became the first woman to discover a comet.

Thanks for playing treasure hunt with me,
Hedgie



NANTUCKET REDS

Walk around Nantucket and you'll notice people with shorts, jackets, skirts and hats made from faded pinky-red cloth. They are called "Nantucket Reds". Can you find any in my book?



WEATHER FLAGS

How does a sailor know when bad weather is coming? The sailor looks for weather flags. When Comet strolls down the beach in his 7th life he doesn't see what important warning?



MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

The sheepdog sea captain tries all kinds of ways to find a friend for his lonely lighthouse cat. In the border panel, you can see that he throws a message in a bottle into the ocean. What ever happens to it?



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Perky Pumpkin

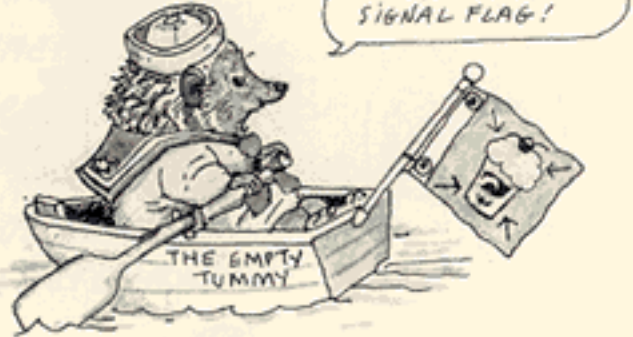


SELF PORTRAIT

All the dogs in *Comet's Nine lives* are modeled after friends' pets. My siberian husky, Perky, is supposed to be me. Where is she?



Jan as a dog...



FIND THE HEDGEHOG

The hedgehog is an animal I find fascinating. Often I put one in my books. Where is the Hedgehog in this book?



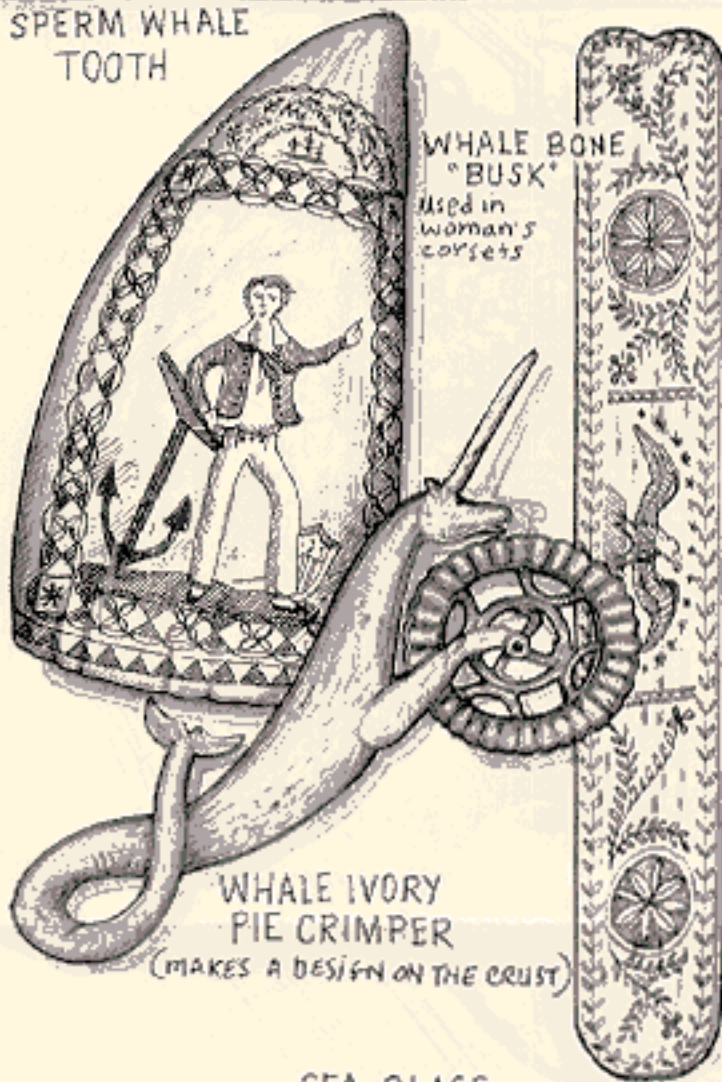
THE SEACAPTAIN

You will notice the seacaptain by the lighthouse in the border panels of my book, but he appears in other places too. Where else does the sea-captain pop up?



THE SIGNAL FLAGS ON THE LIGHTHOUSE SEEM TO BE SPELLING SOMETHING...

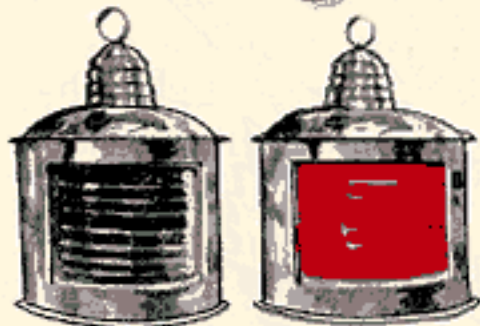
SPERM WHALE TOOTH



WHALE BONE
"BUSK"
Used in
woman's
corsets

WHALE IVORY
PIE CRIMPER
(MAKES A DESIGN ON THE CRUST)

SEA GLASS



NAVIGATION LIGHTS



SCRIMSHAW

In olden times whalers carved whale teeth and whalebone. You can see many curious and beautiful examples of scrimshaw in the Nantucket Whaling museum. Today, artists who want to continue this tradition must use antique or fossilized ivory.

Look carefully at the borders of my book. You will see some decorations that look like scrimshaw.

easy pie recipe:
make pie - crimp
pie crust - eat pie.



SEA GLASS

When glass bottles fall into the sea, the waves and sand smooth them into pretty glass pebbles. Look to find the sea glass in *Comet's Nine Lives*.



NAVIGATION LIGHTS

On ship, lights on board tell other boats where you are. Then you don't bump into each other in the dark! In my book, you can find red and green navigation lights in an unusual place.