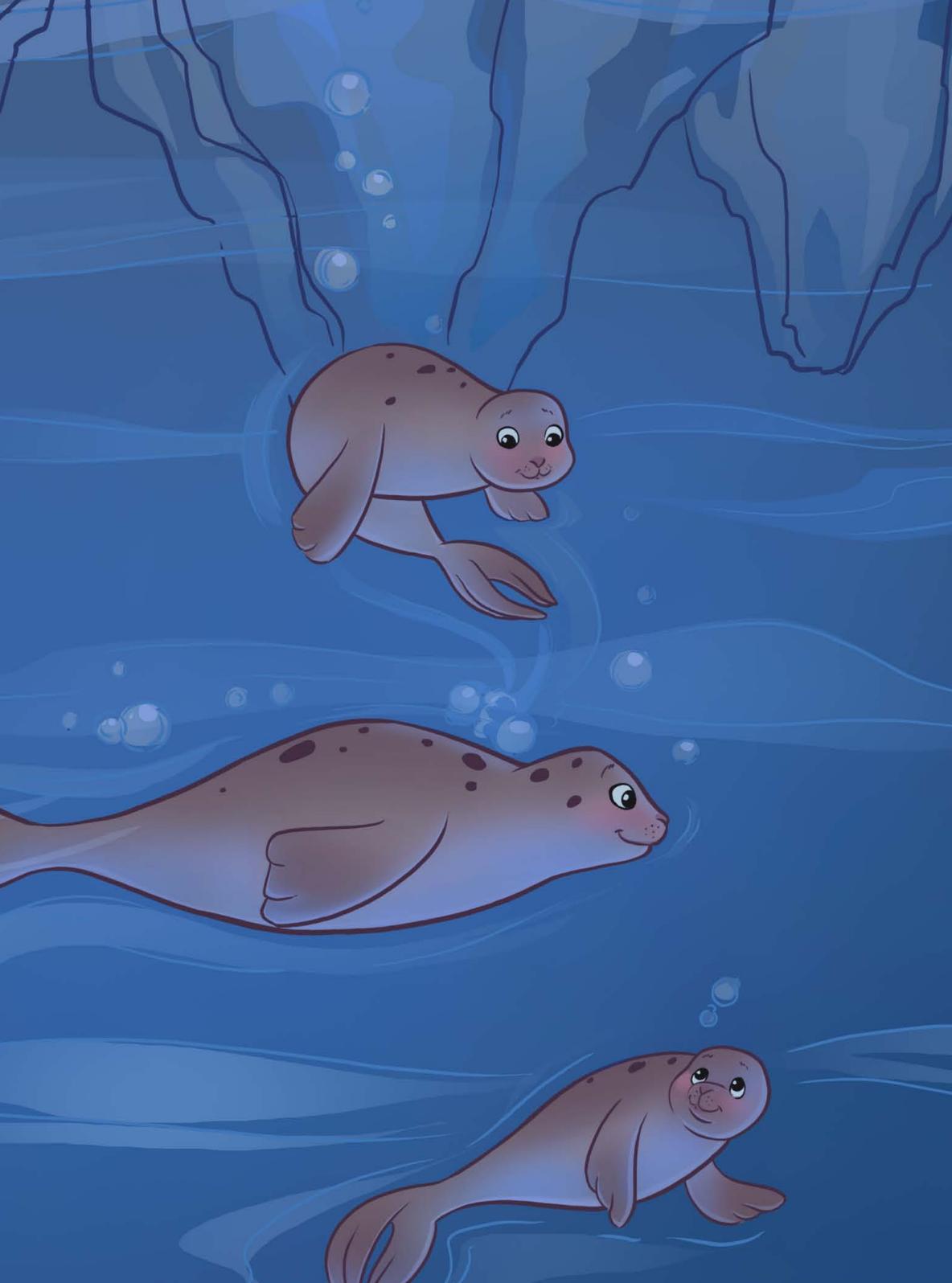


THE ADVENTURE OF SHAWNIE O'GRAY AND THE WHALE





Shawnie O'Gray was a fast little seal,
The fastest little seal on the berg.
He slipped through the water like a speedy
submarine,
While the granny seals gasped, "My word!"

But Shawnie O'Gray had a problem: sometimes
He waited too long to obey
When Mother would call or give him a job—
Uh-oh! Shawnie would delay and delay.

Now Shawnie O'Gray wanted to be good,
But swimming and playing was such fun.
And when his friends asked him to stay,
He'd think, *I'll just obey when I'm done.*

Shawnie O'Gray had this lesson to learn,
And he got it down pat one day.
While Shawnie was racing his friends in the
water
An orca family came swimming his way.

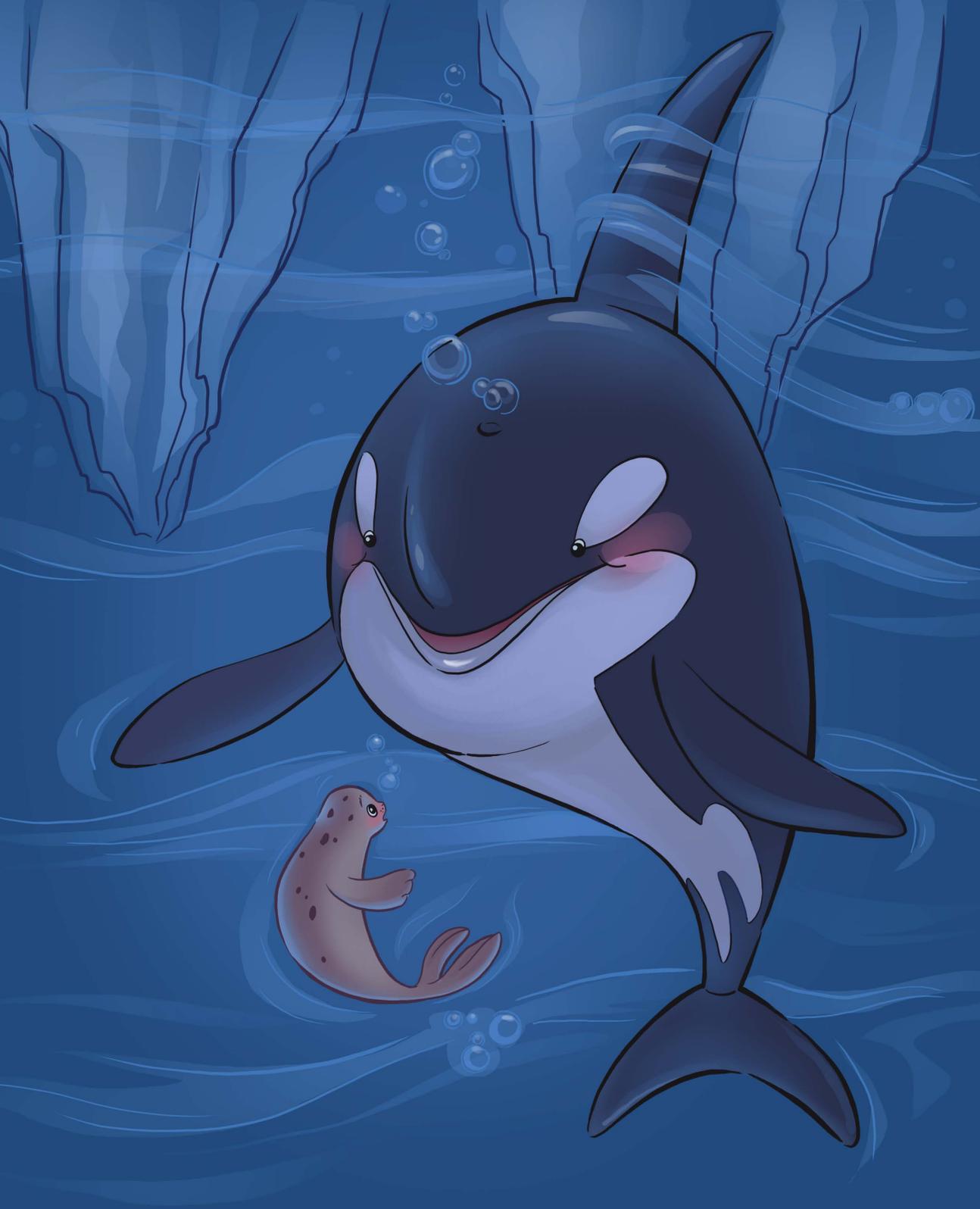


(Now orcas are whales with big appetites,
And they like to have seals best of all!)
So when Mother saw the whale, she hopped out of the water.
And to Shawnie O'Gray she did call.

But Shawnie O'Gray didn't follow;
He continued on with his racing.
The other calves got out, but Shawnie played on,
Heedless of the danger he was facing.

Shawnie's mother started to pray
As her calf was heading in the direction
Of the big orca daddy who drew ever closer
And had a rumbling in his midsection.

Shawnie O'Gray bumped straight away
Into the big daddy orca and froze,
"I should've obeyed," said Shawnie O'Gray,
As he stood with the whale, nose to nose.



Then Shawnie O'Gray saw the whale
smile,
He even began laughing too.
"I have a boy," the whale said kindly,
"Who is learning the same lesson as you.

"Don't worry, but do remember this lesson,
It's best to obey right away,
When your parents say now, there could
be a reason
Why it wouldn't be safe to delay."

The big daddy orca took his leave,
And Shawnie praised a whole bunch.
He prayed that he would remember this
lesson,
And hoped the whale would get a good
lunch.