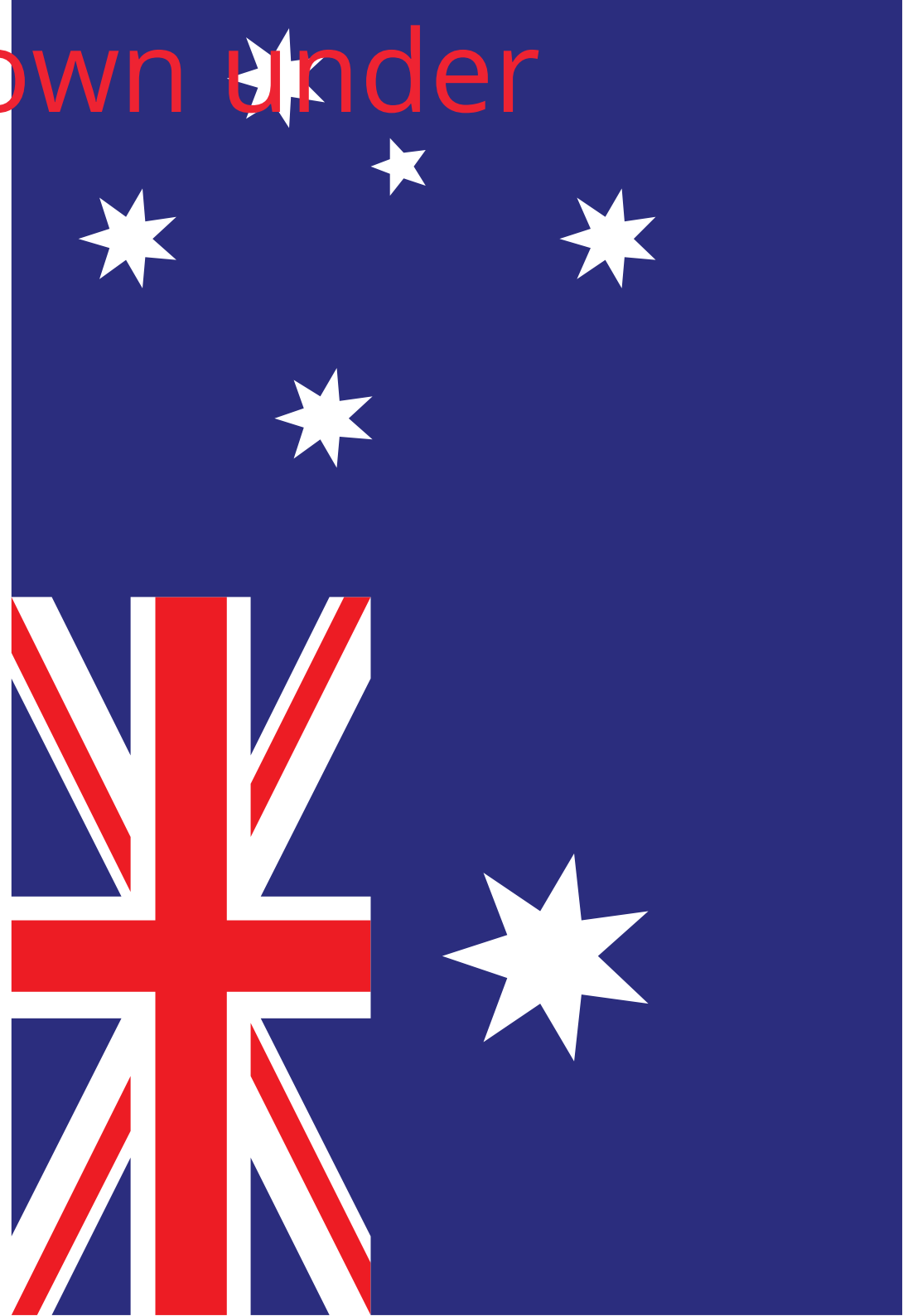


To a Land down under



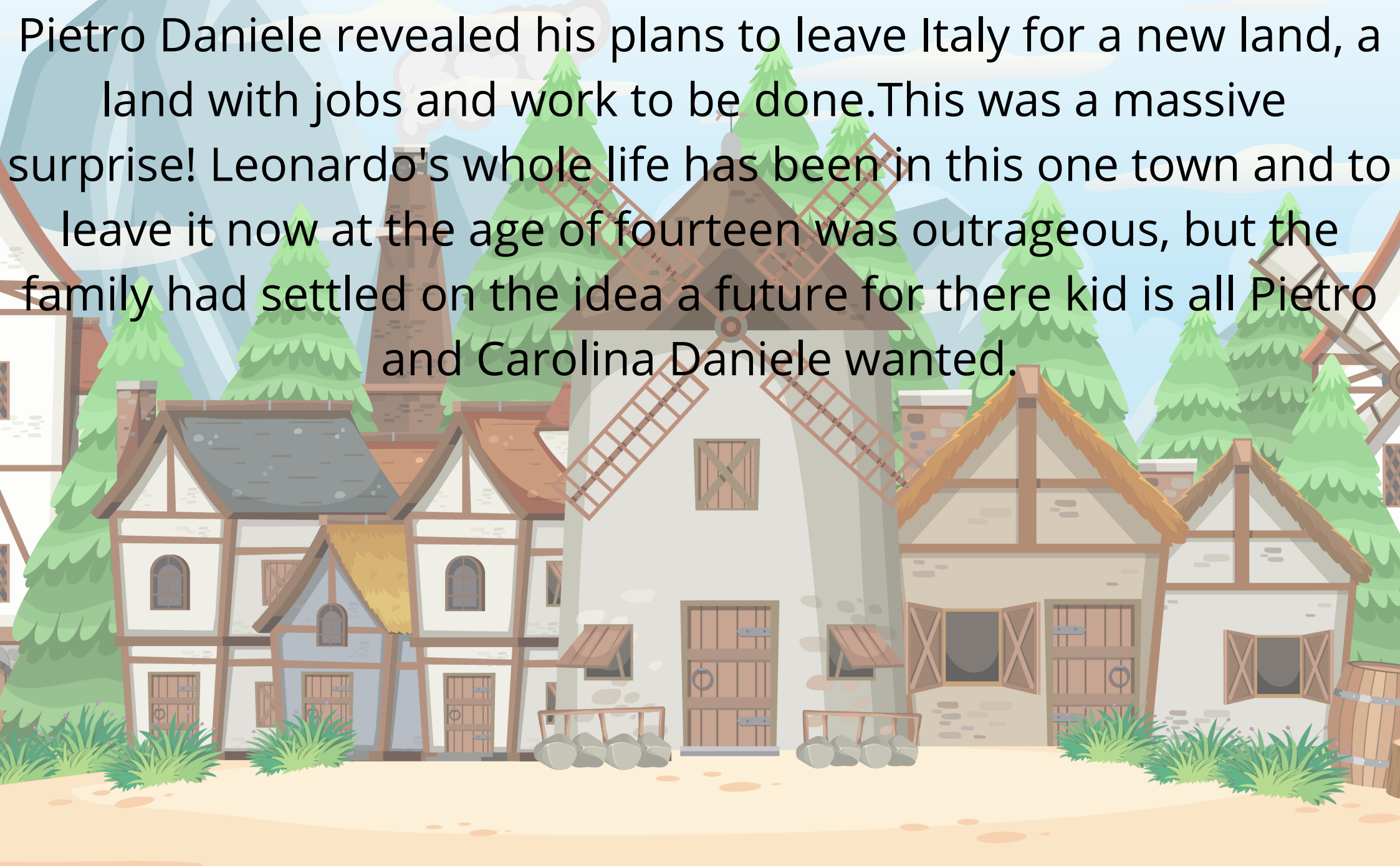
By Leo Crapis

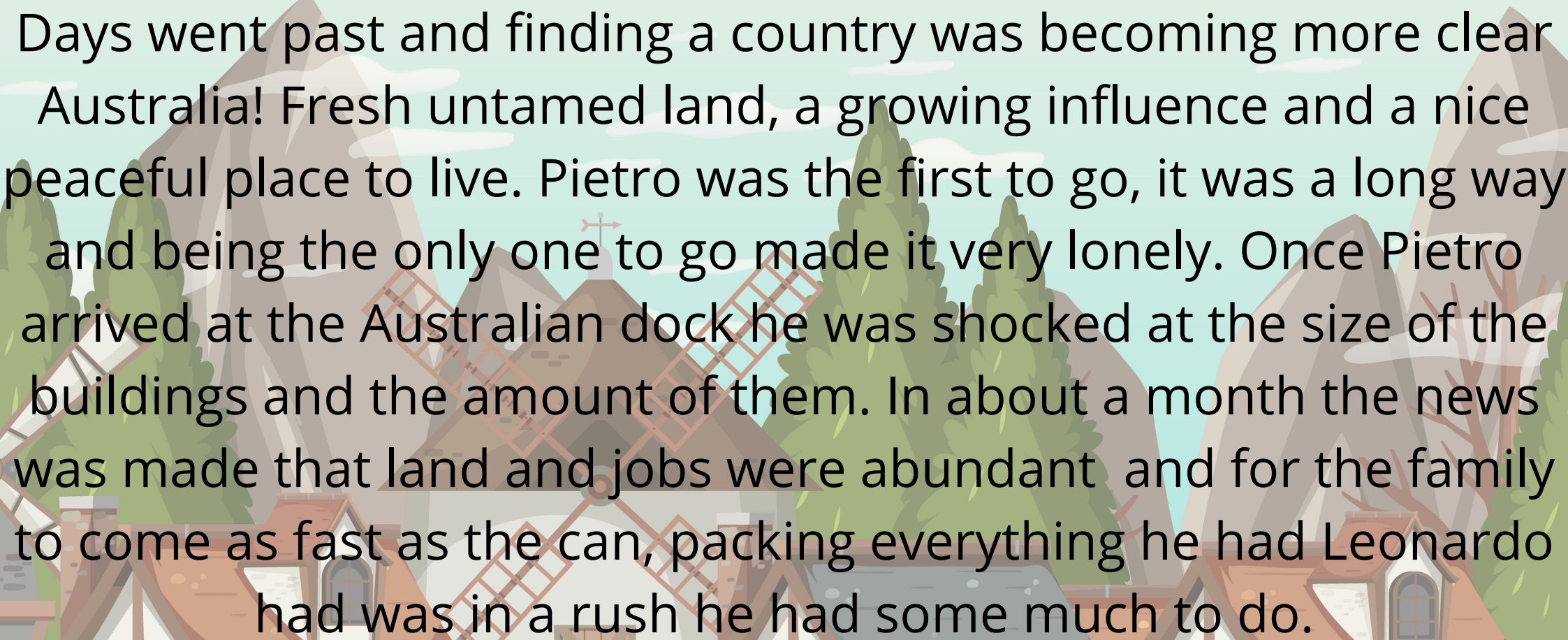


Before the great journey

Before the journey, life was calm as a forest and there was plenty to do. But a dark future was ahead, one where the country of Italy will fall apart. This was a concern to the Daniele family who began to think of the years coming.

A young Leonardo Daniele in a peaceful town loved Italy but it was not safe and jobs were harder to get. One day his father Pietro Daniele revealed his plans to leave Italy for a new land, a land with jobs and work to be done. This was a massive surprise! Leonardo's whole life has been in this one town and to leave it now at the age of fourteen was outrageous, but the family had settled on the idea a future for their kid is all Pietro and Carolina Daniele wanted.



A vibrant, cartoon-style illustration of a village. In the foreground, there are several half-timbered houses with white walls and dark brown wooden frames. The houses have various window styles, including arched windows and small awnings. A large wooden door is visible on one of the houses. In the background, a tall, brown windmill with a lattice structure stands prominently. The landscape is filled with green trees and rolling hills under a light blue sky. The overall scene is bright and cheerful.

Days went past and finding a country was becoming more clear
Australia! Fresh untamed land, a growing influence and a nice
peaceful place to live. Pietro was the first to go, it was a long way
and being the only one to go made it very lonely. Once Pietro
arrived at the Australian dock he was shocked at the size of the
buildings and the amount of them. In about a month the news
was made that land and jobs were abundant and for the family
to come as fast as the can, packing everything he had Leonardo
had was in a rush he had some much to do.

After saying one last goodbye to his town, Leonardo was ready. Awaiting the boat was hundreds of people, all in the same situation. A strange feeling in Leonardo occurred, he felt empty like a hole in his heart, leaving his country made Leonardo think a lot more ,what was going to happen and why. When the ship arrived he took a look at his family ,the only thing he had. Standing on the ship he held on to his sisters right as the ship drifted away.

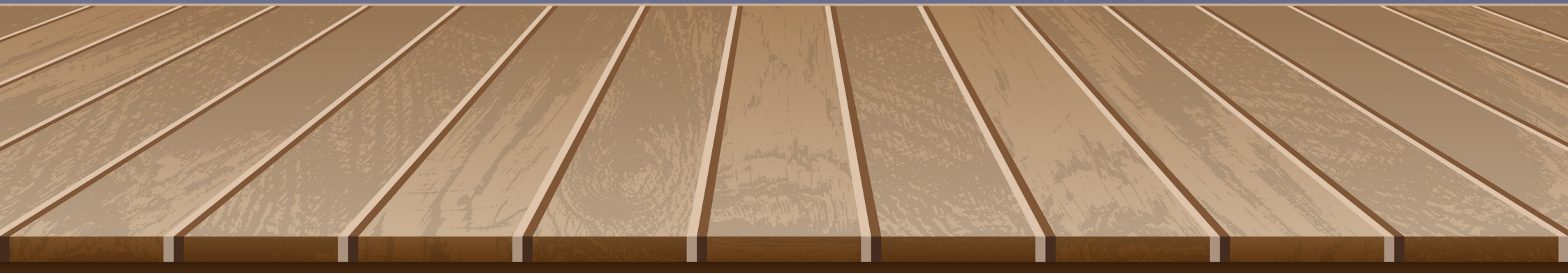


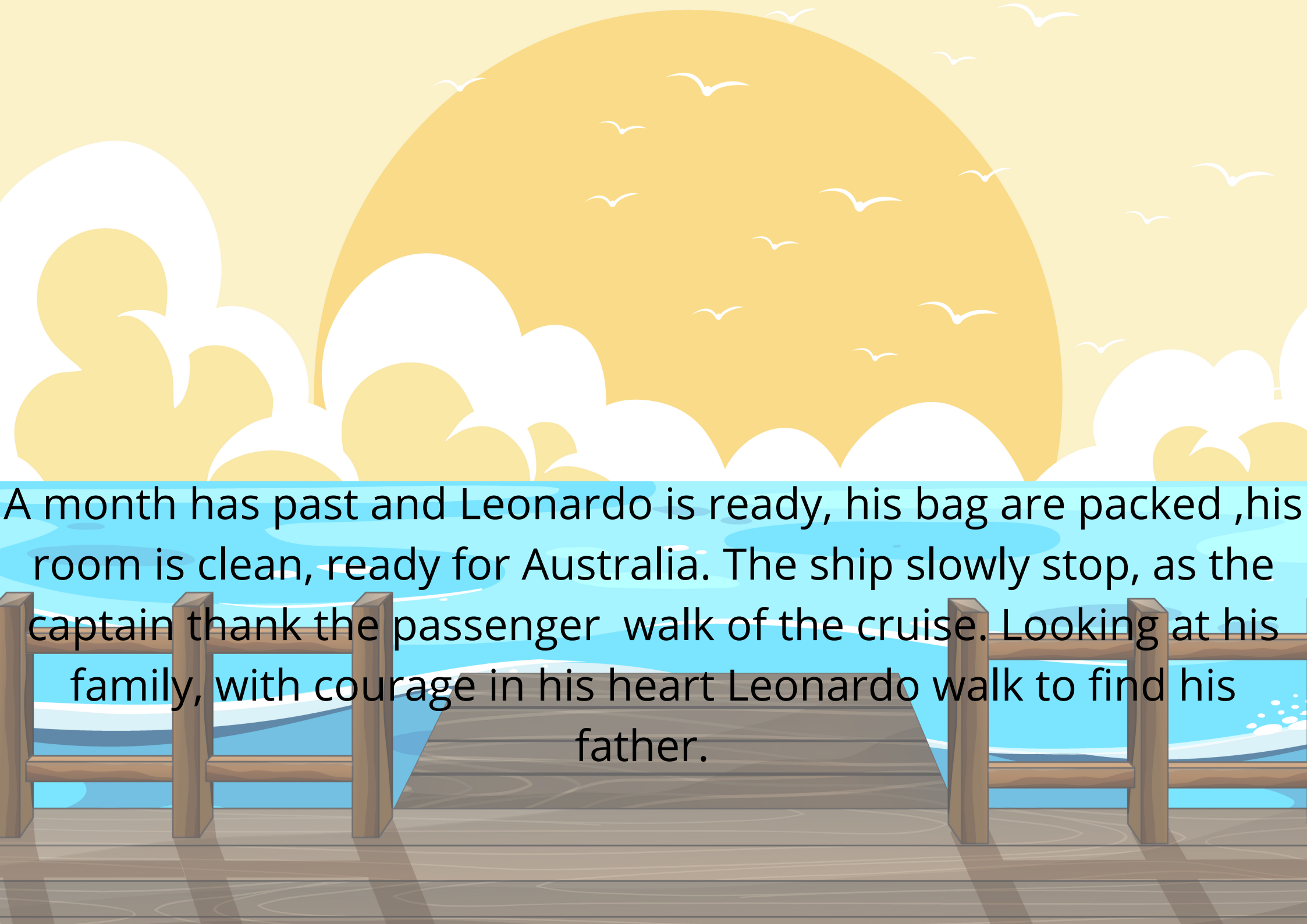
During the journey



During the first hours of the journey Leonardo felt a new world open up, there was a million things to do and hundreds of people to talk with. There were kid's to play and have mischief with and a massive ship to go run around. At dinner people would play a game that when the ship rocked, you had to make sure that no plates fell off. In the day at the pool, Leonardo and his friends tried to make the biggest splash, but they never beat the adults.

In the afternoon just before bedtime, Leonardo looked up in the night sky, looking at the stars made Leonard think. Australia sounded like a nice place but will he fit in? What will he have, family, friends, but what if he is not happy, what if he lose his chance of finding his place. These thoughts kept him thinking all night.





A month has past and Leonardo is ready, his bag are packed ,his room is clean, ready for Australia. The ship slowly stop, as the captain thank the passenger walk of the cruise. Looking at his family, with courage in his heart Leonardo walk to find his father.

A week passed and Leonardo is getting used to Australia but the Australians aren't used to him, he was bullied for his inability to speak and write in English, his culture and his last name. This didn't bother Leonardo. He knew how to deal with these type of people. Everyone else in Leonardo's family were comfortable in Australia, spreading their traditions and using the new food that Australia has.

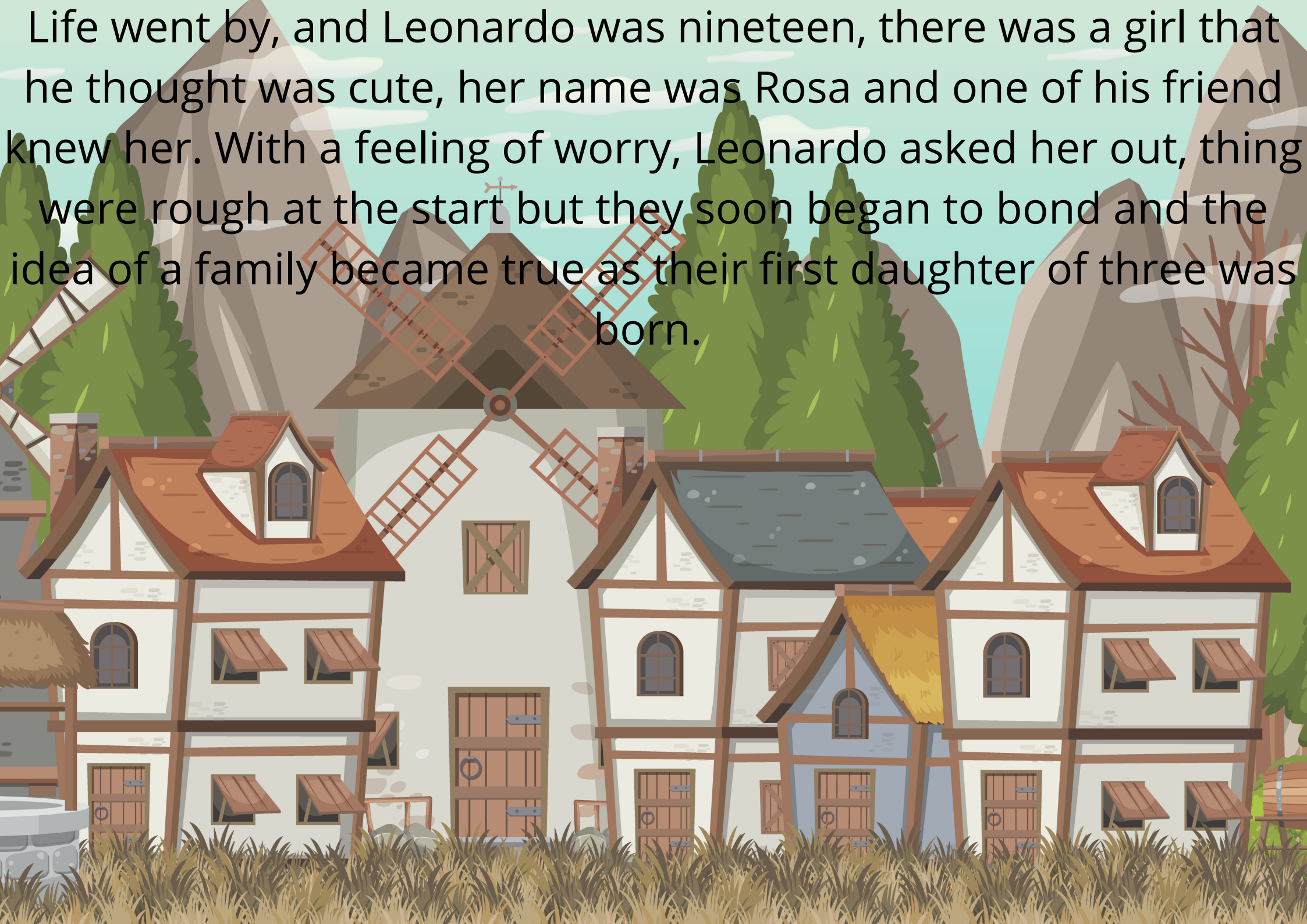


After the Journey

The background of the slide is a stylized illustration of a city park. In the foreground, there is a light blue path with several wooden benches and black street lamps with glowing yellow lanterns. In the middle ground, there are green bushes and several large, leafy trees. In the background, a blue city skyline with various skyscrapers is visible against a white sky.

Walking in Australia was a shock the, size of of the buildings ,the amount of people and the developed technology all around them. eventually they found his father, Leonardo was filled with happiness, finally he could see him and they had so much to say, what there trip was like, how well did it go and what they were going to do now.

Life went by, and Leonardo was nineteen, there was a girl that he thought was cute, her name was Rosa and one of his friend knew her. With a feeling of worry, Leonardo asked her out, thing were rough at the start but they soon began to bond and the idea of a family became true as their first daughter of three was born.



Memories



Sometime, Leonardo's he thinks of his past, what it was like before Australia. Back in his home town, with his friends they were misfits and caused pranks on the town's people. He remembered the local food and the drinks they had, the fresh fish, and the muscles they boiled and ate.

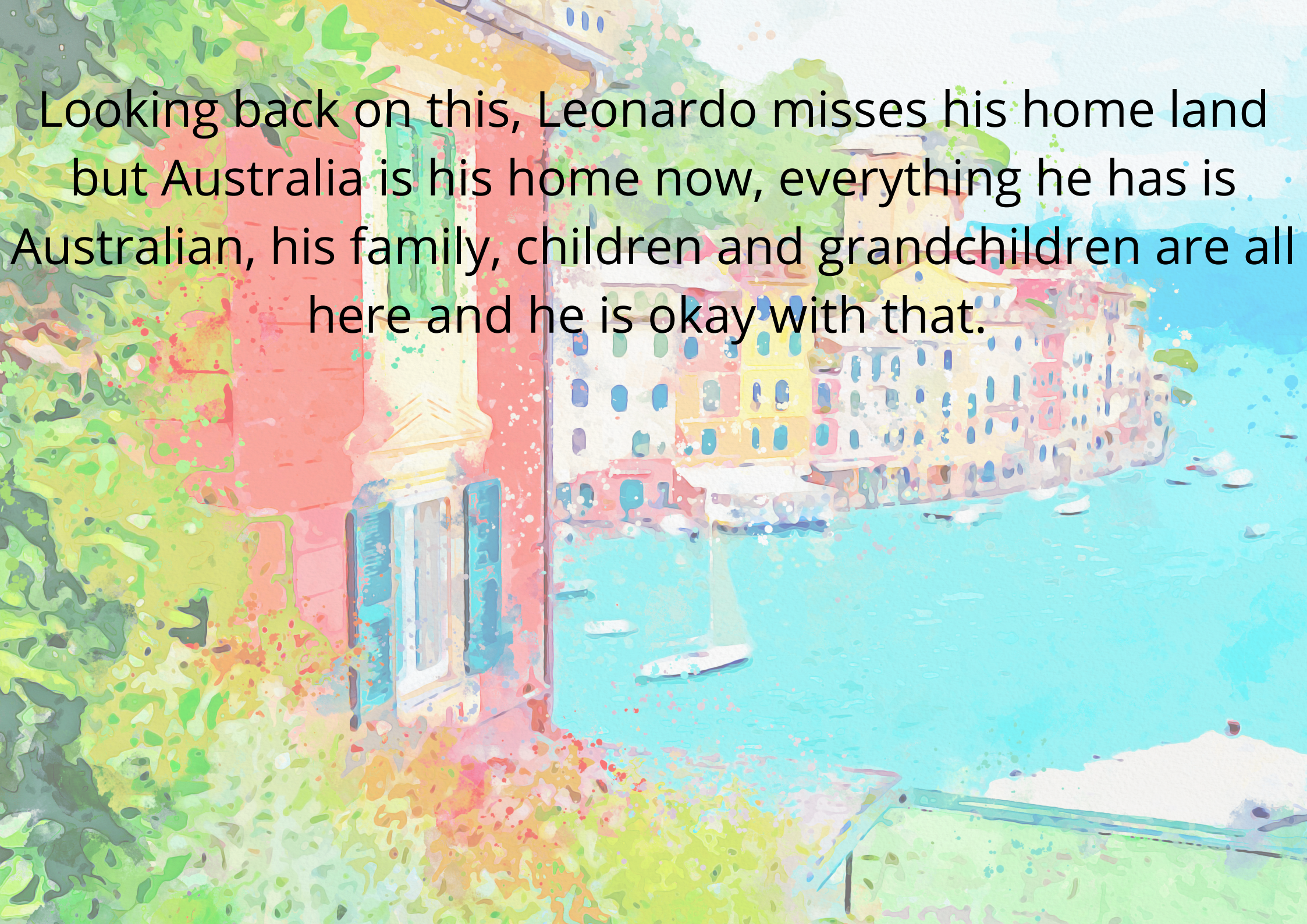
When Leonardo looks back at his life in Italy, he remembers the the calm mountains, the feeling of the wind and the stream that flowed down into the river, and how they used to swim and play in it. He hears the cry of the forest birds and the crunchy, dry leaves he and his friends played in.




Leonardo remembers, talking in his native dialect and the feeling of truly communicating with his friends and family.



Looking back on this, Leonardo misses his home land but Australia is his home now, everything he has is Australian, his family, children and grandchildren are all here and he is okay with that.





In a land ravaged by war and corruption a family desperate for peace and land eventually finding Australia but a strange feeling of wonder and worry fills them. Will they make it? How will it go and what will they be in this new world?