

CITY SECRETS

# Sinking City

Matt Sims



high noon books

The background of the page is a faded, sepia-toned map of Venice, showing the intricate network of canals and streets. The map is centered behind the title and the table of contents.

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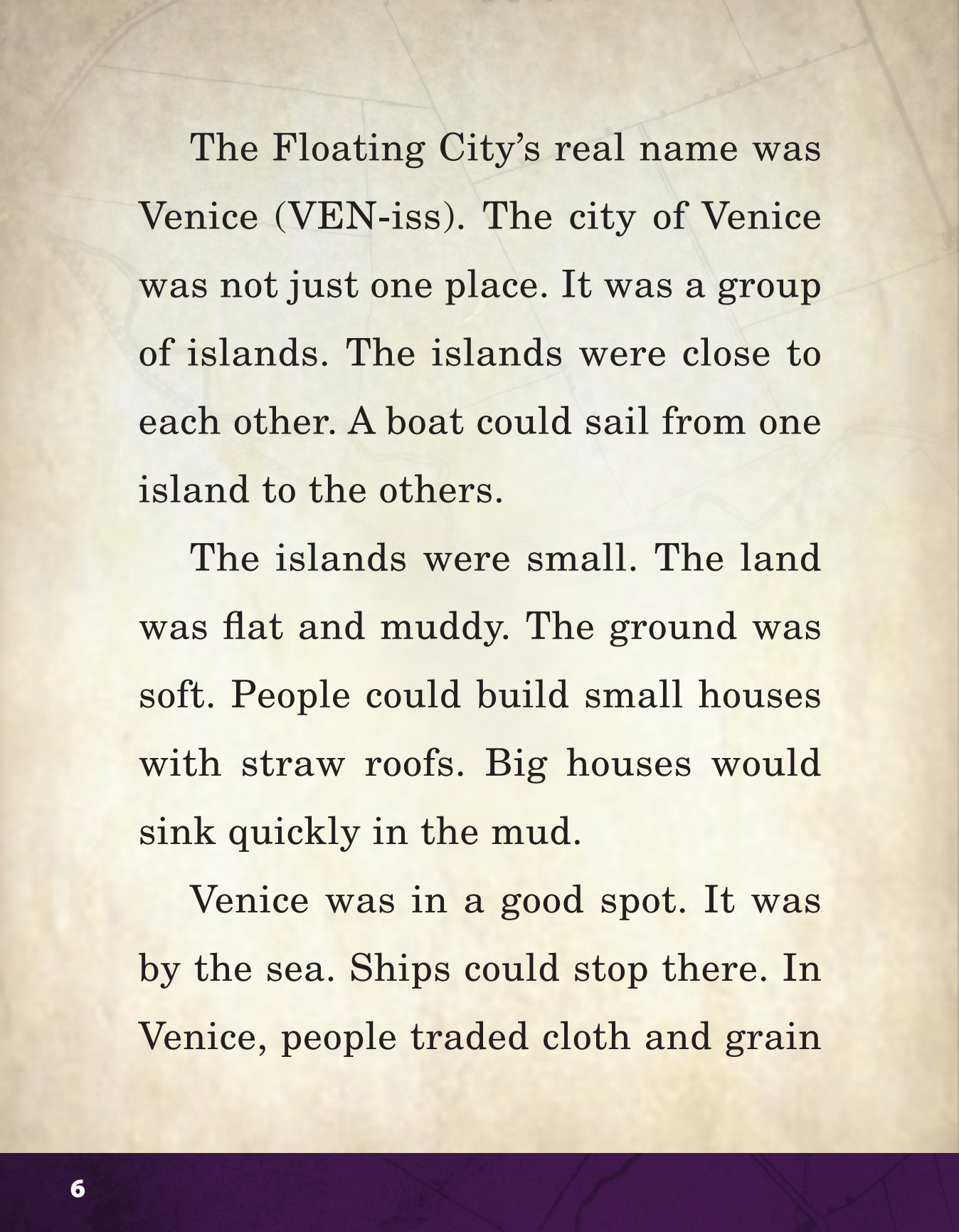
# A Hiding Place

An army marched over the land for many miles. Then they came to the Floating City. They wanted to attack. They could not. They were stopped by water. They had no boats.



The Floating City



A faint, stylized map of Venice is visible in the background, showing the intricate network of canals and islands. The map is rendered in a light, sepia tone that blends with the page's background.

The Floating City's real name was Venice (VEN-iss). The city of Venice was not just one place. It was a group of islands. The islands were close to each other. A boat could sail from one island to the others.

The islands were small. The land was flat and muddy. The ground was soft. People could build small houses with straw roofs. Big houses would sink quickly in the mud.

Venice was in a good spot. It was by the sea. Ships could stop there. In Venice, people traded cloth and grain



## The islands of Venice

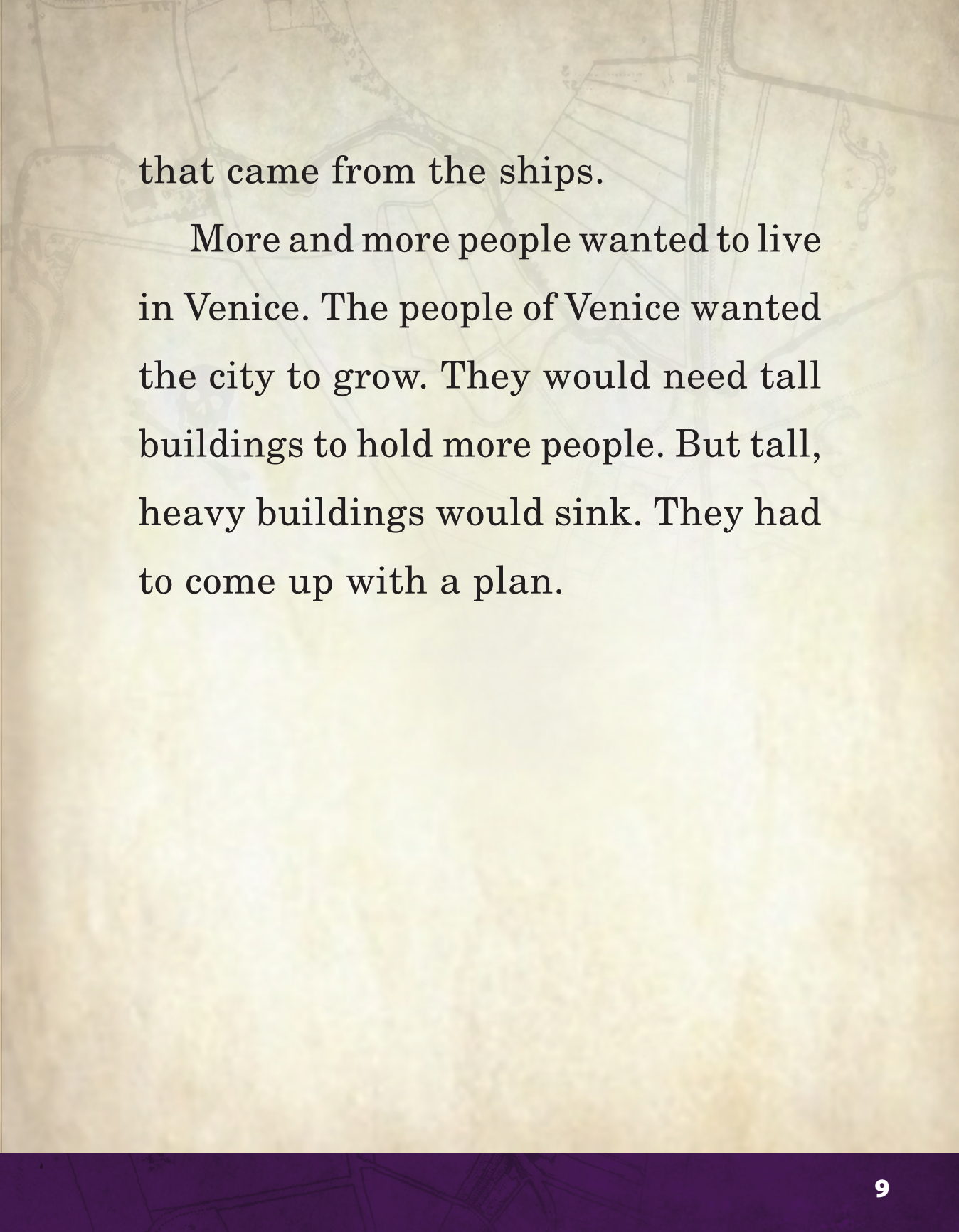






Workers unload  
wine and cloth.



A faint, sepia-toned map of Venice serves as the background for the page. It shows the intricate network of canals and the outlines of various islands and the mainland. The map is centered behind the text, with the city's layout visible through the paper's texture.

that came from the ships.

More and more people wanted to live in Venice. The people of Venice wanted the city to grow. They would need tall buildings to hold more people. But tall, heavy buildings would sink. They had to come up with a plan.



# High Frequency Words

a	how	them
and	into	there
around	it	they
as	just	to
but	like(d)	up
by	make	want(ed)
came	no	was
come	not	were
could	one	with
do	stop	work(ed)
find	that	would
from	the	
good	their	