In Margaret Mahy’s book, *The Horrendous Hullabaloo*, a colorful story is told about a pirate, his aunt and a parrot. It is a rollicking, rhythmic tale. Peregrine the pirate has brought his ship into port and is off to yet another party, leaving his aunt and parrot at home. Bored to tears, they decide to throw their own horrendous hullabaloo! On goes the aunt’s patchwork party dress, in the fly the parrot’s feathered friends, and soon the whole neighborhood is dancing wildly to the playing of a fiddle. At last aunt and parrot are enjoying a very special and exciting hullabaloo of their own. The party has turned the town upside down…and turned the tables on a selfish pirate.

Renowned storyteller and award winning distinguished writer, Margaret Mahy, tells the story while Patricia MacCarthy, children’s illustrator, captures the festive atmosphere and swirling action of an unforgettable party with richly colored batik paintings.

So grab your little pirates, make up a batch of “rumblebumpkins” (known by pirates as chocolate chip cookies) and enjoy this magical, mysterious call to the sea that no pirate’s aunt—-or young child—can resist.