

Chapter 12: Getting Tradewinds  
out of the water... but to  
where?

150-189 (longest chapter yet!)

11/20/18

I felt bad leaving without resolving the problem. The boat was leaking worse than before and the pump would come on every twenty five minutes and pump for about 3 minutes. That's a lot of water coming in & going out. I bought the best Interstate Marine battery I could. I left the battery a new rule 2000 pump and 20' of marine wire on the boat. I said a few prayers and headed to Shore.

On shore I ran the engine out of gas. Then went to the corner of the parking lot where I had parked the little dingy trailer I bought from Clay.

The trailer was not set up for the dingy so I

Went to the lumber yard & bought some 2x4s & a sheet of P.T Plywood. I made a quick deck on the trailer then barked it down the boat ramp. I dragged the dingy on to the trailer hauled it out of the water into the parking lot. I strapped it on and headed to Peter Storage unit.

Nov 20<sup>th</sup> 10:45am

I'm at the jet Blue gate waiting to fly to St Thomas.

When I got to Moss Creek self storage. I unlocked the back gate then parked the trailer with the Zodiac on it where my truck had been stored. I covered the boat engine with tarps & tied them down. Then I relocked the fence & headed for RT 95 south. The plan was to ship the tocoma down to

St John so I would have a reliable truck. I had wanted to bring a heavier F350 dump truck but it just couldn't make it happen to many breakdowns the F350 has me way-way over extended. Without the help of my sister Patty I would not be able to get this far.

I stopped in edgewater pa I took everything out of my truck and organized it. I went back up to Jacksonville packing up tile that was to be shipped to St John.

Pam let me use her garage to sort things out. The Toyota needed to be 100% empty. Only a jack & spare tire were allowed in the truck when it gets shipped. Pam let me store the tools

& equipment I used on Tradewinds in the corner of her garage.

one Morning I got a <sup>email</sup> text from John & Cooper. He said he was about to draft the letters & put an a listing post in the newspaper. Then he said we would wait six or seven weeks and I should get a clear title to Tradewinds. My heart sank. I got right on the phone and called John

the receptionist answered I said I would like to talk to John Jr. John came on the line. We said our Hellos quickly I was pulled over on the side of Rt 95. I asked if we could put things on hold. Please don't file anymore paperwork at this time. I went on to tell him How Tracy had gotten me into a really tight spot. I told him I was

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so close to getting the boat out of the water to a safe place. I don't want to own that boat until its on dry land. The vision of the title coming through and then the boat sinking to the bottom of the river sent shivers through my body. John said no problem we can let it sit for now. I don't think it will effect the process. I think you're smart you can't ~~a~~ don't want that liability. If Tracy had told me the truth that day He and Ashley and I stood under the Bridge I would have walked away. I gave him a \$2500.00 deposit on good Faith almost a year and a half later I have spent upward of 25K on tradewinds. Its beginning to seem like a marriage.

Dec 5<sup>th</sup> 7:00 am 154

I'm sitting at a picnic table behind Pickles in Coral Bay. I've been up and at it ever since I got here to get Max's Formed up and all the steel rebar layed down today I am going to go see Oscar in Cruz Bay. My Toyota truck is here in St Thomas. Now I have to clear it through Customs.

When I first got back to St John it was close to 7pm when I made it from the St Thomas airport to Red Hook. I ran into Trent. We talked a bit. Coming off the Ferry Tracy & Ashley were ~~on~~ at the Ferry to pick up Trent. I talked briefly with Tracy. I gave him the overall state of the Tradewinds.

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I texted Lido asking how things are on the river.

Tues Dec 11<sup>th</sup> 5:45pm

I am working down in Coral Bay getting ready to pour a roof slab. two days ago Tracy called me He said he wanted money. I told him I've spent upwards of 24K keeping Tradewinds floating I told him that I could not give him any more money that this whole deal has me over extended and that any money I can come up with will be used to get the boat out of the water and safe & sound on dry land. I expect that move will cost another 5000.00. I told Tracy that I had no intention of taking ownership of Tradewinds until it's out of the water. He neglected to tell me anything about the rotten center Board

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Trunk. He told me the boat had been cold molded. good for another 100 years. When I was in Hilton Head I was talking to Peter Maddox. Peter told me about the work he did on Tradewinds. After talking to him about the cold molding he told me he put on two layers of cedar strip then fiberglassed over that. I know there is a lot of rotten wood through out the inside of the boat. Some of the ribs down around the centerboard & trunk are rotten pieces missing. The Engine Bed is shot full of rot at least one of the motor mounts is not connected to anything.

Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 7:30 am

I am sitting behind Pickles at the Blue Pini table having breakfast. Yesterday I mailed Clay a check for \$500.00 to show my Gratitude for Keeping

miss tradewinds afloat. <sup>157</sup>

Dec 18<sup>th</sup> 6:30 am

the morning sky is spectacular.

I got a text on Sunday from SAM. He said He was going to cut up the sailboat.

Seidlemann next weekend, then He wants to sell the trailer. I called and we talked. I asked How much He wanted for the trailer He said its got to be worth \$1000.00. I said done deal. I'll buy it.

Now I'm dreaming about how to motify the trailer.

12/26/18

almost the end of the year. Clay texted that he recived the \$500.00

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check. He said tradewinds was holding up. He got a Captian position for the next two weeks but Lido was looking after the fleet.

Sat Dec 29<sup>th</sup> 8:am

I'm sitting at Pickles. I have been trying to make a plan to get the boat out of the water and on to Dry land. Sooner than latter.

Sat Jan 12/19 7:30 am

Last week I got an email from John Cooper Townsend He was checking in. He asked if I knew when I might be taking the Boat out of the water. I got back to him that the plan was to try to get it Hauled around Feb 8<sup>th</sup>. Now I need to get in + ch

With Skull Creek Marina working around the 8th for the arrival day in Hilton Head the 8th is a Friday, I'll try to haul it on Monday the 11th that would give me the 12 for the move to ~~the yard~~ **SAM**'s yard - the 13th & 14th to secure it. then be on the road on the 15th -

Sat Jan 19th / 19 7:30 am

I am again at Pickles in Coral Bay. I sent Clay a text inquiring about Tradewinds. My Plan is to call Skull Creek this morning and see if they can haul the boat around Feb 12th that is a Tuesday. So hopefully we could get the boat out of the water & on the trailer then move it to its spot at **SAM**

thurs Jan 24th

I called Skull Creek Marina I talked to Kristy we began to E-mail. I told her I would like to haul the boat around Feb 12th that is a Tuesday. I told her I had a truck and a trailer and was hoping to schedule the move of the boat so I could have it at its new destination and tucked in by Friday. My plan is to fly to Boston on Feb 1st then drive the dump truck down to Hilton Head on the 9th. I would bring a welder and whatever I thought I needed to modify the trailer. In the afternoon I called Skull Creek back. I talked to Jill. She assumed I had hired a Big Boat Transport Co. When I told her that I needed a couple hours to do some

modifications to the trailer  
 She said "no way" you can't  
 do any work anywhere on  
 our property. We pull the  
 boat out on the Travellift  
 set it on the truck trailer  
 and we remove our straps  
 the Boat Transport Co is  
 responsible for securing  
 the boat on the trailer  
 and has to have its own  
 Commercial slus. I explained  
 that the boat had to go on  
 its own trailer Bee "you  
 can't do any work in our  
 yard. My heart sank I  
 was more or less back  
 at step one. I had been  
 sitting on the side of Centerline  
 road because I had no  
 cell reception where I  
 was working out East -  
 I started the engine  
 ready to go back to work

Something told me to call  
 Peter Maddox. I shut

the engine off and looked  
 for his card. I found it in  
 my wallet. I called and  
 Peter answered. I told him  
 the conversation I had had  
 I told him my tale of woe  
 I told him how I had come  
 down in the Fall to get the  
 boat hauled and safe but  
 everybody has so many rules  
 and regulations that they can't  
 help. I talked about the  
 shape the boat was in  
 that it was leaking badly  
 through the rotten centerboard  
 + runk,

After painting my picture  
 I said any suggestions?  
 Peter said yes why don't you  
 stay where you are and let  
 me haul the boat and put  
 it in **SAM** lot.

"that would be absolutely  
 amazing" I said "well  
 slm an amazing person"



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His reply, I called my sister Patty at the end of the day. I told Patty how things were looking. Bleak then after talking to Peter I have fresh Hope

Patty is my support system. When I'm not sure how or if I can pull it all together she helps me talk it out. Time & time again over the years Patty has helped me out financially. This time she has my back. She is in agreement with me that this big step of getting Tradewinds out of the river and trailered over to [redacted] is paramount.

**SAM'S**

Jan 27<sup>th</sup> 7:30am I'm sitting having coffee at the camp in Coral Bay. I came up to the House. Nancy was in the kitchen. I had texted her yesterday afternoon telling her I was

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Plane Feb 1<sup>st</sup>. She tore into me told me I was crazy it was never going to happen "Walk away" "you nuts if you ran by me I would have told you" "you crazy". She asked "How much money do you have into that thing?" "Over 20 grand I told her. "And you will spent another 20 then it will all go to the dump." "What are you going to do with that boat even if you fix it?" "I'm going to charter it." "then you need a Captain license and you will have to buy insurance" "How much is that going to cost?" "Men never listen" Nancy walked off.

An hour later Nancy says, "Why is it leaking?"

I explained that the centerboard trunk was rotten the whole bottom of it was completely shot

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"That's going to cost a  
fourth." "How you gonna  
fix it?" I began to explain  
my plan and that I was  
still not sure the best  
way to fix it the whole  
Centerboard Trunk needs to  
be demoed out down to  
the Hull. "You better install  
a wheel chair ramp because  
you gonna need it before  
you're done."

Weds Jan 30<sup>th</sup>  
7 am I'm at Pickles  
Today I finish metal roof  
repair at Long Island  
Mike's House in John's Folly.

Fri I'm on a plane to  
Boston. Yesterday I got  
a text from SAM <sup>Mr</sup>  
he told me that the trailer  
that Tradewinds is to trans-  
ported on is at Peter Madd  
shop. That tells me he is

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on it. Peter told me that  
the first move was to do  
some Welding and move  
the screw pads into different  
configuration.

My job is to get together  
the Cash to pay for the boat  
move. I'm hoping that it  
doesn't cost more than  
\$4000.00 I've been working  
seven days a week and  
I'm tired!

Feb 1<sup>st</sup> 11:00am  
I am sitting on the  
People Ferry in Cruz Bay.  
Heading to Red Hook and then  
to the Airport. It's 85° Here  
It's Cold up north Yesterday  
was 8° It's warming up to 17°  
degrees today tomorrow is suppo-  
sed to be close to 30° I am  
suffering from some anxiety.

The reason for this trip is to  
finally get Tradewinds out  
of the water and safe on dry  
land.

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a lot has changed now the Peter Maddox has taken charge of the Boat Move. I am so glad to be leaving St John its been a hard trip. I worked 7 days a week lived in a tent. I was surrounded with disfunctional people. I did well but I need to take care of myself.

the further I get from St John the anxiety seems to be disapating - I never thought long Custom & T.S.A. lines could be therapeutic. I must say I'm looking forward to the cold

While I was sitting in the terminal waiting for the plane Tracy called. He was trying to make a car deal with Rent. Unfortunately the title to the car is in my name.

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My flight gets to Boston to late to catch the last ferry to the Vineyard. I'm going to take the bus to Hyannis then stay at Fred & Cheryl's

We are flying at 30,000 feet experiencing turbulence - this is the most relaxed I've been in a month.

Feb 2<sup>ND</sup> 2:00 pm I am sitting in a chair on the Ferry to the Vineyard - I stayed with Fred & Cheryl last night in Yarmouth. My Anxiety has disapated. Now I'm just tired I feel like I could sleep for 3 days.

Tradewinds.

I picked up the Phone to call Peter Maddox then I thought about it. I decided to call on Monday.

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Tues Feb 5<sup>th</sup> 6:00 am

Yesterday morning I called Peter Maddocks. He told me the <sup>new</sup> screw pads and modifications to the trailer was in process & that the welder was on his way. I asked him if he would like me to send him some money. "Send me \$1750.00" I sent out a check for 2000.00 So so happy that this haul out is in his capable hands.

Weds Feb 13<sup>th</sup>

7:30 am I'm on the Vinnyas it snowed a little yesterday then turned to rain and now its a little warmer I haven't heard a word from Hilton Head. I almost called the other day but I decided it would be better to wait until I hear from Peter.

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Mon Feb 18<sup>th</sup>

No word from Hilton Head, the weeks pass. I started to call the end of last week then thought better of it. Best to be patient.

Mid Morning Clay called from Hilton Head. I told Clay I hadn't heard from anyone. Clay asked if he could go by Peters Shop and see what the situation was.

I called Clay after dinner. He told me that he went by Peter Maddocks shop and Peter seemed to be having problems putting things together. He ~~said~~ told Clay that the spot where Tradewinds was to sit in dry dock was no longer available. I had heard none of this - Peter said also that he received the

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check but had not cashed  
it. He said He was going  
to call,

Tues 2/19

all last night I was  
running scenarios through  
my head. The best I could  
come up with was if Peter  
could haul the Boat on  
the Marine Railway then  
I could work on the engine  
pull the centerboard up into  
the Cabin of the boat and  
fiberglass over the center-  
board opening - that would  
stop the leak.

I am its 18° outside -  
I'm sitting at a table at  
the Black Dog. There is  
an old train car outside  
the window. I'm taking  
advantage of Heat &  
Hot coffee.

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Peter Maddock called me  
this morn. He told me that  
SAM was losing  
his lot. Peter went out to  
tell me that SAM leased  
that spot from a gentleman  
who passed away. The family  
is not going to honor his  
lease, and is kicking him  
out. "We have to find a new  
spot for your boat," I'm  
not moving it twice.

I ran my new plan  
by Peter about getting  
on the railways and  
fiberglassing over the  
centerboard opening on  
the bottom of the boat.  
The Railway is booked out  
past April He told me.

I talked about possible  
fixes in the water. foam  
expandable - or saw dust  
something from Underneath  
He said saw dust will  
work. It will slow it

down anyway. Well its still all Band-aids and at some point I'm right back where I started. The boat needs to come out sit in the sun & Dry out to the point where it can be done properly.

OK Peter said "let me makes some calls and see if we can come up with another spot,"

Feb 27<sup>th</sup> 9:15 am sitting at the Jet Blue gate in Boston waiting to fly to St Thomas

I received an email from John Cooper Townsend asking about the Haul out static for tradewinds. I emailed back that we had lost the spot to put tradewinds at **SAM** lot. I told him at this point Peter Maddock was looking for a

new spot.

March 15<sup>th</sup>

I have been keeping in touch with Clay. I held off on calling Peter Maddock because I did not want to be a pain in the ass. Clay stopped by Peters shop around the beginning of the month he said the trailer was there but that not much was happening. I talked to Peter a week later he said He was not sure where to put the boat. I kept Clay up on my lack of progress. For almost a month Peter did not cash the two thousand dollar check. a few days ago I noticed it had been cashed. This made me hopeful. I waited three days then today I called Peter the phone went to Voicemail I left a message. I'm in Coral Bay I have a month to go before I finish

up here. All I can do is pray.

March 20, 19

Last night I was talking to Patty. Clay had told me about a Marina called Green Cove Springs Marina. She had found it on the Web. She said it was a friendly place affordable and you were allowed to do your own work. Perfect I thought.

But first lets go back a few days. Three days ago I talked to Peter Maddock on the phone. I told him I was rethinking the whole situation with the boat. If it were to be hauled out in Hilton Head the masts pulled out and frailed away then at some point it would need to go back into the yard the the

Masts put back in the boat re launched. At double the expense. Hilton Head has no Boat yards that are user friendly. The more yards I talk to the more I understand why people abandon boats. Just walk away and let some one else clean up. The other maybe even scary scenario is they lift the boat and it crumbles or suffers damage. I called Peter to tell him I no longer want to haul the boat. I want to stabilize it on its mooring. A while back we had talked of the possibility of having a diver release bugs of Saw dust under the boat into the centerboard slot to slow or hopefully stop the leak. After talking to Peter informing him that I had given up hope of ever finding

anywhere near the Hilton  
Head Water front, to dry  
dock the boat. We talked  
about possible in the  
water solutions, Peter  
said the water was still  
really cold but he would  
find a diver who could  
release the saw dust.

After I hung up with  
Peter with no hope that  
I could ever get out of  
the water in Hilton Head I  
began thinking about the Marina  
on the St Johns river. I  
texted Clay. He ~~so~~ texted  
that the Marina was called  
Green Cove Springs.

I called in the morning  
the phone rang & rang no  
answer, I called back in  
the afternoon a woman  
answered she told me they  
~~was~~ would not deal with  
a wooden boat, "no way

sorry" I told her that the  
Hull had been cold molded  
"The boat was built out of  
wood we won't touch a wooden  
boat those are the owners rules  
good bye"

Red Hook  
Waiting I began writing this in  
the parking lot for the Barge  
to St John. Now I'm half  
way across, I believe I  
need to get a good solar  
electric system on the  
boat. But first I need  
to get the engine wired  
up proper get the filters  
changed out get the  
fuel tank cleaned and  
dispose of all the old  
fuel.

It looks like I'm going  
to South Carolina

Thurs March 21<sup>st</sup> It's a beautiful  
day here in Coral Bay cloud-  
less a little hot. I was  
tossing & turning all last



night in Regards to Miss Tradewinds. How do justify dumping thousands of more dollars into a boat I may never own. Tracy really got me in a fine mess. I remember Tracy telling me He had clear paper work but it all got washed overboard in Hurricane Marilyn, the story was his girlfriend was staying on the boat and had everything out of the cabin and on deck so she could clean. She had a pendentios attack and had to be rushed to the Hospital. While she was in the Hospital Hurricane Marilyn came full force and washed everything over the side including His DPER paper work. "I just have to file one more piece of paperwork I'll have it done in three weeks.

I can't find any boat yard that will help me out. I have called so many. Nice people the same story. Integrity issues - and the fact that so many people have abandoned their old wooden vessels left to rot away.

This morning I have decided that I should get a real solar system house hold current so I can plug in and do work on the boat in the water. Also I need to get the diesel engine up & running.

I emailed John Cooper and told them of my plan after explaining that my other plans had not worked out. Now I need to do research on line about Solar!

Sunday March 24

Sitting in Cruz Bay waiting for friends. I just got off the phone with Clay he said He was looking at tradewinds and she is still floating

music for masts

Last night I was at a party for Silver Cloud. I saw Trent and I told him how much trouble I'm having trying to get anything done on the Boat.

I have to stop the leak before I can work on anything else. Trent introduced me to Adren & Trish. She told me the people were awesome the place was awesome they let you do your own work.

Funny she as the woman who answered the phone asked one question is it a

wooden boat? I said it was but that it had been cold molded - she was real short & hung up on me. I called right back but she couldn't get off the phone fast enough.

Tradewinds is still floating!

Everything I heard is the folks at Green Cove Springs are the best. I have to assume the Universe want tradewinds to travel North not South and leave it at that.

3/28 <sup>thurs</sup> all quiet no news from Hilton Head. I have been trying to talk with my sister Patty. She has been traveling through Fla. Seems one or the other always has a bad connection.

On Monday Morning I

sent out an E mail to John Cooper telling him to please go forward with trying to get a clear title on Tradewinds.

I asked if he needed more money He said yes. I mailed him a check for one thousand

Fri April 5,

The other day I received an E mail from Fij Cooper. She sent me an accounting. From the accounting I can see that John had sent Mail Dabnt a certified letter and posted the boat in the newspaper.

Yesterday I saw Trent we caught up on things

I texted Clay this morning

Clay texted back that Tradewinds is floating, the pumps are working and the solar panels are charging the batteries!!!

April 13<sup>th</sup> Today is my Birthday-

Two nights ago I got a text from SAM. He asked how things were going. I responded that I was having a hard time getting things moving but that I am not giving up. He texted back the next morning "Good Luck" He went on to say He has been seeing the legal notice about Tradewinds posted in the paper.

4/18 Thurs

Last night I got a text from SAM that said he has secured a new spot and that Tradewinds

once again has a place to sit & dry out so we can begin the process of fixing the rotten center board delmia

I called **SAM** back He told me How the guy he was leasing the land from sold the property without telling him anything then died the week after that. **SAM** told me that the new owner was a real prick

the new owner has sided a lawyer on him telling him he has twenty days to vacate.

I was happy for **SAM** to hear he had a new spot.  
Fri 4/19

this Morning I called Peter Maddock, We talked and He told me He may pull Tradewinds out as early as next week. I am hoping the deed will be done by June 1st.

I called my sister Patty and told her the latest change of events. She & Karl <sup>are</sup> ~~were~~ leaving ~~the~~ next ~~week~~ <sup>day</sup> for ITALY.

4-20

I texted Clay this morning telling him that Peter said he should be able to move the boat out of the water in a couple weeks. Clay said all is well for now and that he is going to Oregon for a week to visit his Mother

4/25 6am slm at Pickles - yesterday I received an Email from John Cooper - He said he was proceeding with the application for a clear title with the S.C. DP&R. I need to download the app sign it & mail it back to him.

4/27 Sat 6:am

I received an Email from

John Cooper at the end of the day yesterday. He reminded me to sign the application & get it back to him. I replied that he would have it soon its in the mail.

4/30/19 2:30 pm I'm sitting at Pickles. I have a flight to Boston on May 15<sup>th</sup>. I am holding my breath that tradewinds stays safe long enough to get hauled out and set safely in a sunny spot to dry out. Not much I can do except pray.

May 2<sup>nd</sup> 19

I got a little worried about tradewinds so I texted Clay. He called me and told me that the boat was floating. He said

he would go over and take a look inside.

At the end of the day yesterday I received an email from John Cooper. He said he received the signed title. He was sending it in to DP&R. He told me that they wait 30 days from the date of the last newspaper post then will issue the title.

As things are looking good on the tradewinds front,

May 7<sup>th</sup> 9:am I'm sitting at Pickles I fly from St Thomas to Boston on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Its been quiet. I havent heard from Peter Mudd, Clay or John Townsend Cooper this week. No news is good news. Its always

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a rush to store everything  
away before leaving here.

May 10th 7:00 am clam at  
pickles. While I was working  
up at Max's yesterday I  
got a call from the  
South Carolina DPER  
The woman told me that  
everything was in order  
that she was sending  
the <sup>new</sup> title for Tradewinds  
out in the mail today  
I am going to have to  
look back to see when  
this process began. I  
remember in my <sup>first</sup> <sup>great</sup>  
conversation with John  
Cooper. He said if you  
have me do this it will  
cost you a substantial  
amount of money. You can  
do this yourself. I  
explained to him that I  
did not live in the area  
and I believed it was  
more complicated than would

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meet the eye.

Sat 5<sup>|||</sup> morning clam at Pickles

Ever since I got news of  
the clear title I have been  
thinking I should be so  
happy. Instead my mind  
is telling me I'm on the  
road. A new road, an  
uphill road, and I'm  
the news is great a  
milestone for Tradewinds  
but a whole set of new  
realities appear on the  
radar screen. The boat  
is still sitting at mooring  
on the Broad Creek. It  
is still leaking. Hopefully  
she will be out of the  
water safe & sound in  
Steven Miller's yard sooner  
than latter.

Weds May 15<sup>th</sup>

I am sitting on the ferry