

Boys Who Grew Up to Change the

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Chesley Sullenberger



Confucius

Chesley 'Sully' Sullenberger (Born 1951)



Flight 1549 had just taken off from New York's LaGuardia airport when it struck a huge flock of squawking geese. Both engines cut out. The plane was 3000 feet in the air and travelling at 250 miles per hour.



Thankfully, the passengers on that flight were under the watch of Captain Sully, a devote pilot who'd been flying planes for over forty years. He'd wanted to fly since he was five years old.



An illustration of a pilot in a cockpit. The pilot is shown from the side, wearing a blue uniform with yellow stripes on the sleeve and glasses. He is holding a microphone in his right hand and a control yoke in his left hand. The cockpit is filled with various instruments, including a primary flight display (PFD) and a multifunction display (MFD). The background shows a blue sky with white clouds.

'We're heading back to the airport,' Sully told ground control.

Then he realized they couldn't make it.

'We'll head to a runway at the next airport instead,' he said.

Then he realized they wouldn't make that either.

The only remaining option was the Hudson River.

It was a terrifying decision to make. Only one other plane had ever landed in the river and it had crashed, killing its pilot.



'No one would have blamed Sully if he'd tried to turn back to the airport, but he could see that going back just wasn't an option.

'Brace for impact,' he announced over the tannoy.



Miraculously, Captain Sully managed to land the plane in the river. If he'd brought the plane in at an angle that was even slightly wrong, it would have broken in half, and people could have died. But no one did.

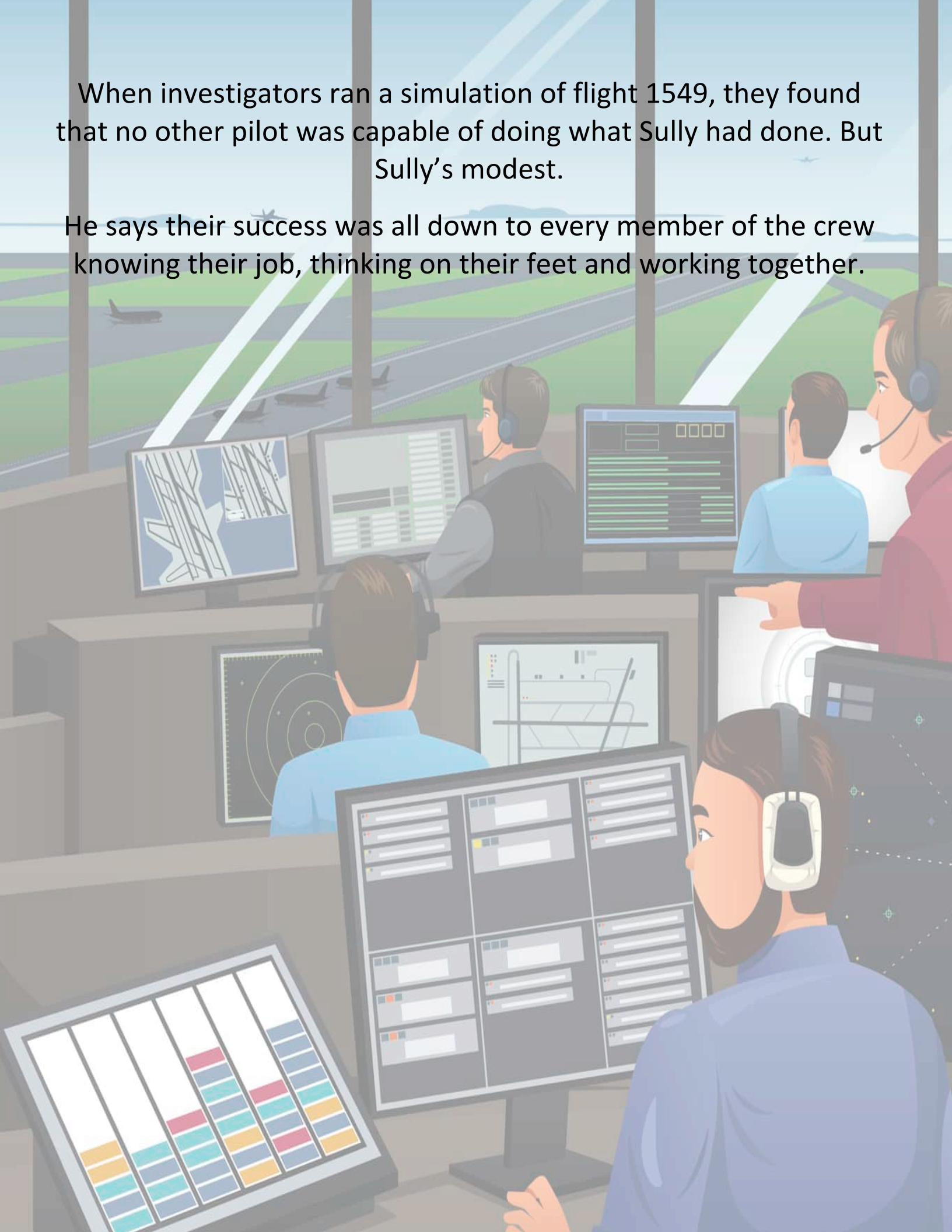


The crew safely managed to evacuate every passenger on board. Captain Sully was the last person off the plane.

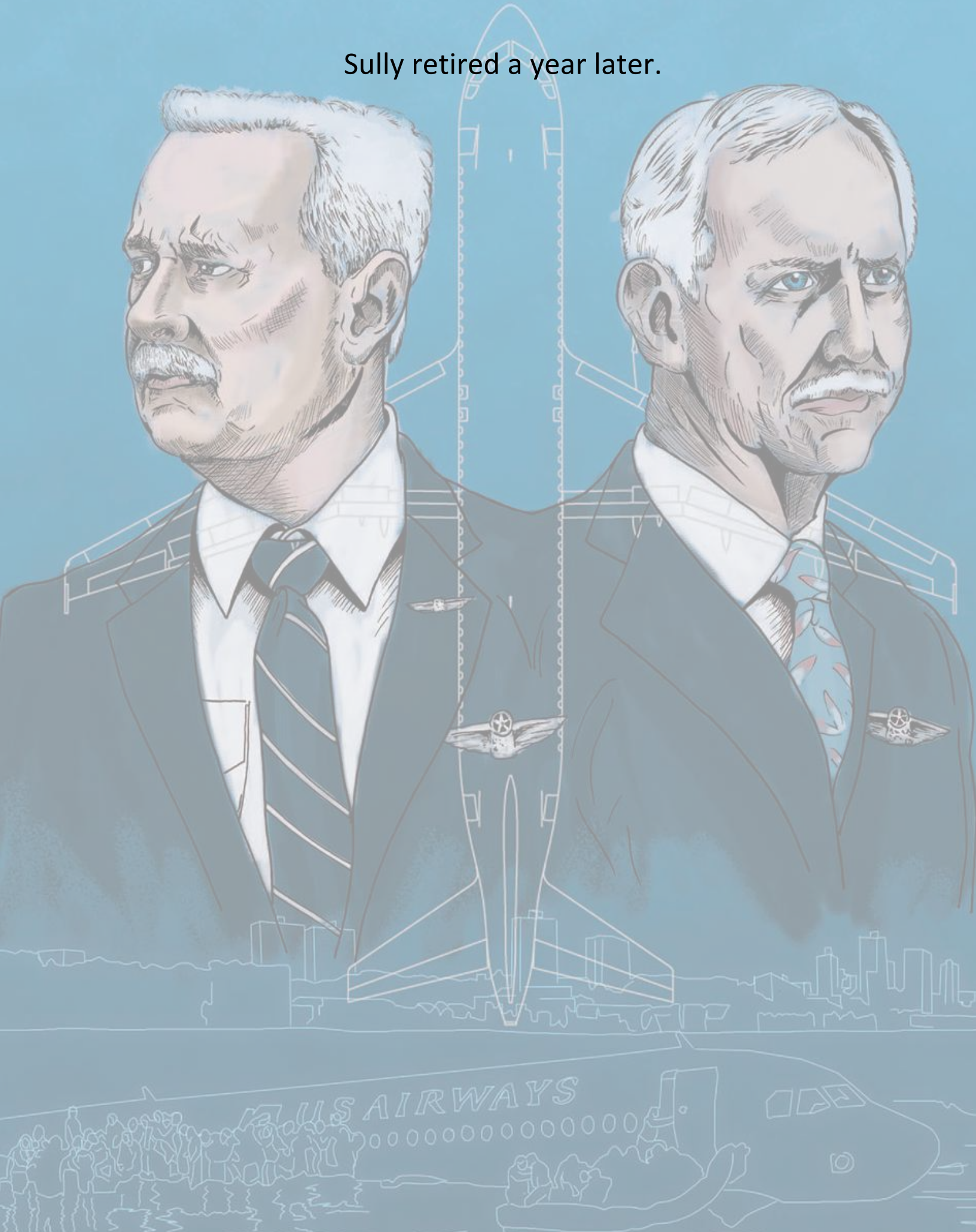


When investigators ran a simulation of flight 1549, they found that no other pilot was capable of doing what Sully had done. But Sully's modest.

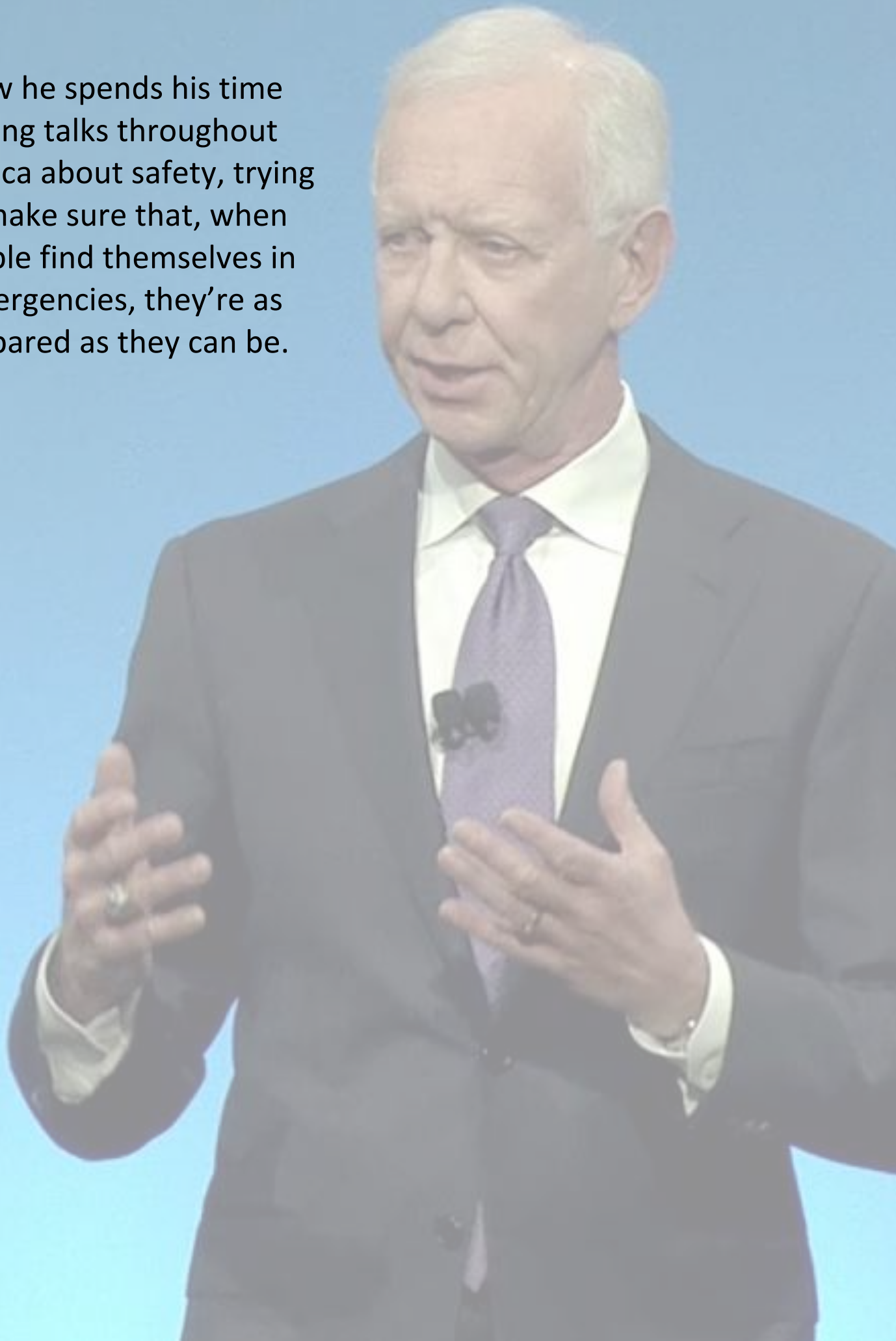
He says their success was all down to every member of the crew knowing their job, thinking on their feet and working together.



Sully retired a year later.



Now he spends his time giving talks throughout America about safety, trying to make sure that, when people find themselves in emergencies, they're as prepared as they can be.



Confucius

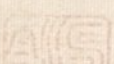
(551 BC – 479 BC)



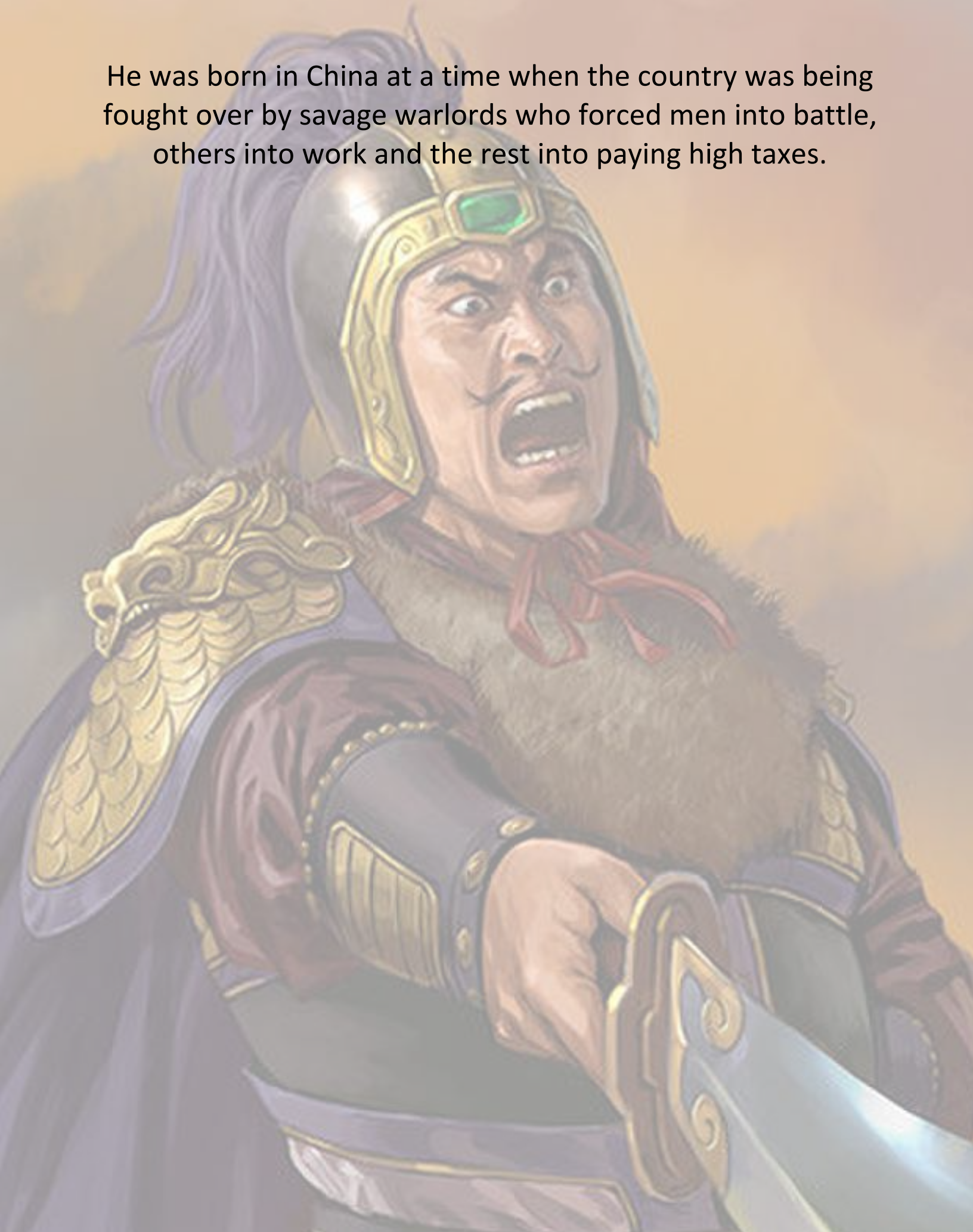
Confucius said,
'Everything has
beauty, but not
everyone sees it.'



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He was born in China at a time when the country was being fought over by savage warlords who forced men into battle, others into work and the rest into paying high taxes.



As a teenager, he looked after farms nestled in the mountains.
He spent his time thinking and coming up with ideas.



When he became an adult, he left home to travel China, spreading his ideas.



Confucius said,
'Wherever you go, go
with all your heart.'



孔子
卷之八
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He taught that leaders should lead by doing what's right and good, instead of chasing power or money. He said that those in power had a responsibility to look after their people.



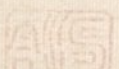
The warlords were against him, but their people felt like they had finally found someone who would speak out for them.



Confucius said, 'What do you not want done to yourself, you do not do to others.'

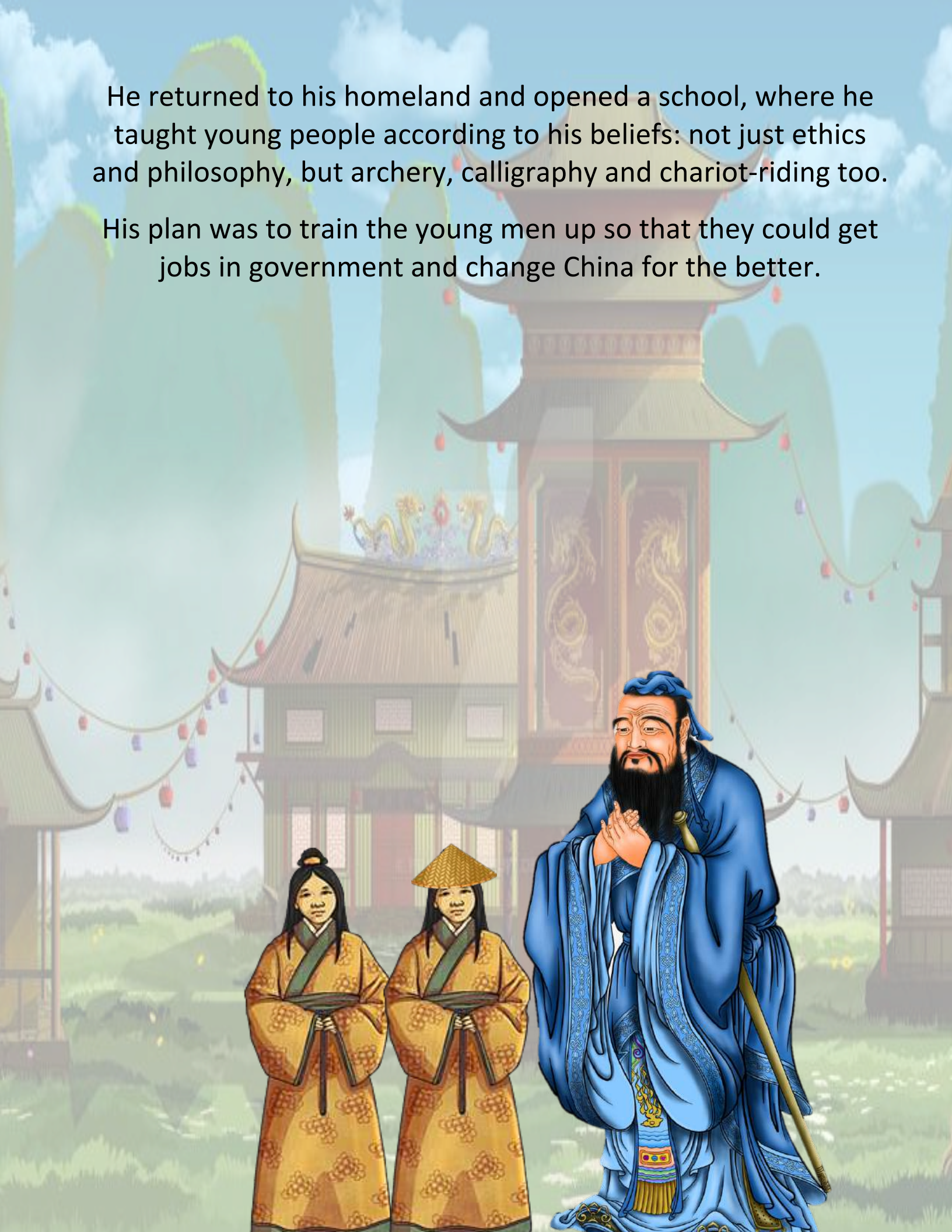


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He returned to his homeland and opened a school, where he taught young people according to his beliefs: not just ethics and philosophy, but archery, calligraphy and chariot-riding too.

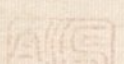
His plan was to train the young men up so that they could get jobs in government and change China for the better.



Confucius said,
'Choose a job you love
and you will never
have to work a day in
your life.'



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Despite threats from vicious and violent warlords, Confucius never stopped speaking out for what he believed in. his teachings were so powerful and wise that people today sill turn to them when they need guidance. You'll find them everywhere, from classrooms in England, to temples in Japan.



