A STRUGGLE FOR THE TREASURE



THE ASTORY BOOKS

THE

STORY

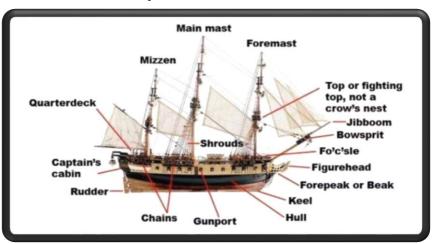
Reading is COOL!!!!!!



Parts of a ship:

 Before reading this book, you must know the parts of a pirate ship.

Observe the picture below:



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PART 1

THE GOLDEN SHOP

Ch. #1: The Golden Shop Ad

"Hello! I am Tim, and tomorrow we are going to have a grand opening at "Golden Shop". There is everything you would need to buy! Come and buy things, if we see you buy things regularly in our shop, we'll give you one free 250ml mango Juice! The shop is on street no.6 in London." I said.

Harry closed the radio mic. "Well Tim, I think you made a good advertisement. After all, people are listening to the radio more than in previous months." Said Harry, quite cheerfully. "Thank you, Mr. Harry. When will you release this ad?" I asked.

"As you are my friend, I'll release it to the radio signals as soon as possible, maybe tonight." Harry answered and I nodded, with full hope that my shop would succeed. Then I moved towards the exit, and then onto the road.

Ch. #2: Our House & Me

While walking to my home, I was too excited to see the arrangement of my shop with my father, Jim, who is an old but polite and honest man. And I am "Tim Bill", nearly an adult or a young man and son of Jim. I am a simple and honest person. First, I and my father had one small piece of land to farm. After five years, we got a lot of money and sold our land to open a new shop. As we got to know that shop keepers earn more than farmers.

After a while, as I entered the shop I noticed that it was guite clean. My father rushed in from the kitchen and said, "Hello Tim! Good to see you. Look, I have settled the shop entirely." He showed me the building. On the ground floor, was the shop. There were racks in the corners and one small rack filled with our juice packets of 250ml in the middle. As the whole back side of the room was occupied by the racks, the front corner was occupied by the counter table. Stairs were going up from the front left corner of the building. We climbed up the stairs and there was our bedroom. Two single beds, one in the front right corner and one in the front left, and a small table between them. Windows at right and left corners with beautiful red curtains. In the back left corner, the bathroom. In the middle left was the stove. At the right of the stove was a cupboard with mugs and dishes. At the left of the stove was a basin and soap to

wash dishes. And at last, one water tanker on a table at the middle right side of the room. A small terrace was also connected to the middle right side of the room where our small mango tree was placed in a pot.

"I liked your setting. All good." I said. Father nodded cheerfully. We soon saw that the sun was setting and fog arose. We all slept in our beds. We slept quite early as we will have the grand opening of our shop tomorrow.

Ch. #3: The Grand Opening

In the morning, we woke up and got ready for the big day. My father sat down at the counter table for his work. I sat on a chair near the entrance to assist clients when in need. We posted a sign entitled right outside the Shop,

"GRAND OPENING SALE, 30% OFF!!!"

Then, we hopefully waited for customers to come. Within two hours, 15 customers came, which was not bad for a new shop, but we needed more. Customers did come and at 8 O'clock, we closed the shop, locked the wooden door, and went upstairs to listen to the radio as usual. Twenty-five customers came that day and we earned a lot of money from them. We slept before 9:00 a.m., as we were tired.

Ch. #4: We Were Ruined

"Morning Tim. Tim?" My father asked me when he saw me nowhere but then calmed when he heard the sound of snorting from the blanket.

Then, my father went downstairs and opened the shop and sat in his place, the counter table. After a moment, I also came down and sat in my regular place.

The whole day had passed and no customer came to the shop. "Why there are no customers?" Asked my sad father. "How would I know?" I answered. We saw that another shop has opened in front of ours' and all the people are going there. "People only go to more big, and modern places." My father said, facing towards that shop. And I nodded.

A whole week passed, and no customer came. We started to eat less and reduced the use of things as we had very little money left. We were nearly ruined.

Ch. #5: The Map Our Hope

Tomorrow, we woke up and got our work as usual. Then we again waited for customers to come. All was quiet and boring. In the first six hours, we just saw pigeons flying here and there, but after that, before evening, we saw a weird and strange-looking person, wearing a blue coat, running in the street because a dog was chasing him. As he crossed the road, a piece of paper, folded with a rubber band, fell from his coat's pocket. He didn't notice as he ran away.

I saw that the man just ran away, and disappeared from the road. I wanted to see that paper so I secretly went forward and picked it up. Then I went inside our shop and locked the wooden door. "I have a paper. Let's check what's inside it." I said to my father. Then we both went upstairs.

Then we came to the table and put the map on it. I took out the rubber band and opened the paper.

The paper had torn corners and it was so old that its colour was brown. It felt rough to touch it.

Finally, we observed it. It was a treasure map! The map showed an island which was 46 miles away from the beach of London. The island was quite small as the map showed that it covers 14 miles². There was something

written in the down left corner. It was too small and had rough handwriting. It was "Westward from the beach of London." "This map must have been made by a pirate. My school friend's father was a pirate and had an ugly writing style." My father informed me.

"How about we go find it?" I asked. "Isn't this dangerous?" My father replied. "No, nothing will happen. We'll just go, dig the treasure, and come back. Simple!" my father said and continued, "But we are only two." I got an idea and said, "How about we take Harry too!" "Who?" My father asked. "Harry the radio reporter." I said. "Oh! That's great. We'll meet Harry tomorrow, let's sleep." My father took a yawn and we both were tired but also excited.

Then we both went to sleep. I put that map in the draw and locked it. While I was in bed, my mind was so filled with passionate thoughts about the map that I could not sleep for half an hour. It was our final hope.

Ch. #6: Welcome Harry!

The next morning we woke up and just ran to Harry's shop. We left our shop alone, locked and secured. We both finally reached the radio station.

"Hello, Harry?" I shouted. Then Harry came out, wearing a fine black coat which gave him the look of an educated and well-mannered person. "Hi, Tim. Good to see you. Is he your father?" He asked pointing towards my father. "Yes I am!" Replied my dad, quite cheerfully. Harry continued welcoming, "Hi Uncle Jim. Happy to..." My father interrupted, "Harry, we don't have enough time for this, come with us quietly. Questions, later." My father said and Harry obeyed him at once and asked no questions. My dad was not bad after all.

We crossed the roads very quickly and arrived home. I opened the lock and when all got inside, I locked the door again. We went upstairs, my father and Harry sitting on chairs and I brought mango juice for them, and one glass for me too. I relaxed after drinking the juice and joined the two gentlemen.

"Ah!" My father said after drinking the juice. "What's the matter, Uncle Jim, why did you bring me here?" Harry asked and my father smiled and said "Oh Harry, relax. We have found a treasure map! And we want to take YOU with

us! Tim! Show him the map." I brought the map and put it on the table.

Then my father explained all the things to him about the map. "So... would you like to join us?" My dad asked. "Sure!" Harry answered. "Great!" I shouted, "So now, plan for the ship. Who will buy the ship?" "Well, I have enough money to buy a medium-sized ship. So, leave it to me." Harry said. "Okay, Harry will buy the ship and will become a shipmate, but none of us knows how to sail a ship." Harry replied to my statement, "Well, I'll hire a Captain for you tomorrow and will bring him here by evening"

Ch. #7: Captain Fred

As it was night, we slept in our home, Harry slept with us on a carpet which we placed on the floor, as we had no extra bed. The next morning, we woke up and worked as we planned. We packed and managed our things for the trip. Harry left early in the morning and just said, "I'll be back in the evening with a captain." So we all were on our work.

We started at 10:00 a.m. and finished at 4:00 p.m. "Phew, finally, all work done!" I said to my father. Who nodded and said, "I'm tired. Let's take a nap." I disagreed with this option and replied "No. If you want to, then take it but I will not." After that, he fell asleep, and I ate lunch, quiet and alone.

In the evening, I and my father sat together and listened to the radio. Suddenly, we heard knocking at the door. I opened the door downstairs and said, "Who's there?" Harry came in and said, "Come in, Captain Fred! Don't be shy." A man, over 6 feet tall, came inside and said, "I'm not shy. I was just waiting for my invite." He said.

After that, Harry, I, the captain, and my father Jim, sat around a circular table to make a plan for the voyage. "So, what's the plan?" Fred asked. "We are going on a trip to an unknown island." My father replied to him. Fred asked again, "For what?" My father said, "We have found a treasure map!

And we are going to find it! You, Fred, will be the captain, I and Harry will be ship-mates and Tim will be the cook." Fred said, "Who'll be the first mate?" "First mate?" I asked. Then Fred replied, "Yes, the first mate, is the mate who has more responsibility on the ship and gets more respect." Then my father said, "Hmm... How about we toss so it will be fair?" "Good." Harry agreed. Then except Fred, all three men tossed and my father, won. "So I'll be the first mate." My father said.

"What about the ship?" Fred asked. "Harry is responsible for the ship as he said." My father said. Then we all slept, as it was night. Well, our captain was slightly cool, as well as honest I think. I dreamed of my home, playing with my mother, who died when I was six.

PART 2

THE SEA ADVENTURE

Ch. #8: The Visit at the Dock

The next morning, we all woke up early and had a delicious breakfast which my father made. Then we all picked

the packed things to take them to the dock. We all put our things in a chariot which Harry took on rent for one day to ship the stuff to the ship at the dock. I, Harry, and my father were shipping the things to the chariot and Captain Fred rode the chariot to the dock. While Fred was on the road, we were busy packing other things.

After two, or maybe three hours of shipping, Captain came back and said, "All things have been shipped to the ship. So now let's go." Then we all sat inside the chariot and Fred rode the horse to ride us to the dock. There was a strange smell in the chariot because too many things were shipped in the chariot and all the thing's smells were mixed up into a strange smell. "Tim, did you lock the shop's door correctly?" My father asked, and I nodded to him.

After, ten minutes, we arrived at the dock in London. We all got out of the chariot and took a breath. The air was fresh near the sea. Suddenly, a poor old man arrived and said, "Is Harry with you? He took my chariot for rent." Then Harry came forward and said, "Thanks, now you can take it." The old man nodded and sat on the horse. When he was just about to go, my father stopped him and asked, "Hey you. What's your name?" "I am Ben. I provide pick and drop service in this chariot." The man introduced himself and continued, "Well, what's the matter? Why did you stop me?" My father whispered to him in his ear but we all could listen to him saying, "We are going on a treasure hunt, and I would

like you to join the voyage with us." I saw the two men shaking their hands as they accepted the deal.

With Ben, we were 5 people for the voyage. He was added as a shipmate.

After meeting Ben, we walked towards the ship. We climbed up, with the help of a rope, and reached the deck of the ship. "Let's sail!" Captain exclaimed.

Ch. #9: The Ship's Turn

"Let's sail!" Exclaimed Captain Fred very cheerfully. Then, before starting our work, we all took a look at the ship. It was not big, but enough for us. First, we went to the back side of the deck and saw stairs going up from the left side of the cabin door, which was in the middle of the wall. Then we went upstairs. There was the steering and a lever for the anchor. There was also a bench in a corner.

Then, we went inside the cabin. On the left side of the cabin were a table, four chairs, and a lamp to create light. There was also a chandelier hanging on the roof for more light. On the right side, was a huge chest in which the map, compass and all navigational things were been put. Then, we went outside.

Then, at the front end of the deck, were stairs going downwards. We went downstairs. There was a room going straight ahead. It was divided into two sections. The first section, had six beds, three on one side.

Ahead of every bed, there was a single-door tall cupboard so everyone could put his things in the cupboard with his bed, but Captain Fred would sleep in his cabin, as he said to us before. All beds and cupboards were divided equally by a thin wooden wall. Then, we walked ahead and entered the second section. It was the kitchen of the ship. All food items were in the cupboard of the kitchen. There were five gas cylinders, each having a capacity of 5kg, for cooking.

Then, we went to the deck again. There were three poles, one for the foremast, one for the mainmast, and one for the mizzen. Captain called us into the cabin. Captain

pointed towards a double-sized chest and said, "We'll put all the treasure in it." Everyone agreed without any argument.

Then, we all get to our work. Ben informed us, "I have woken from 6:00 a.m. and I am extremely tired so I am going to sleep." Then, he went to sleep in one of the beds. I went to the kitchen, as I was the cook. My father, Ben and Harry were walking around the deck putting things at their places, as they all were shipmates. Captain Fred was at the steering wheel to control the ship. Finally, the anchor was off, and the small vessel began to move. I was very excited about the voyage, full of thought that we'll be no longer poor, but very rich.

We had five guns, five pistols and six cutlasses. There were also two canons, each for one side, with one hundred and twenty cannonballs. All were stored in a room at the forecastle of the ship.

Ch. #10: Our Voyage

All that day, we were busy talking, working, playing, resting etc. At first, I went to the kitchen and put all the food and kitchen stuff in places where I wanted. Captain was at the steering. Jim was in the cabin, observing the map and

had a compass in his hand. Ben was asleep in his bed. As he said to us when we were on the deck "I have woken from 6:00 am and I am extremely tired so I am going to sleep." Harry was looking here and there, far away from the ship with a telescope. He was searching the island, but it was still out of our sight.

Nothing strange had happened on this voyage till now. Eventually, the dock of London got out of sight, and we entered the open sea. The sun gleamed above our heads, but it was not too hot because of the cold water currents.

In the evening, all, except me, sat on their beds waiting for their dinner. I was in the kitchen, working hard on the chicken pie, but no one knew that I was making something delicious. After some time, I came inside, with pie in my hands, and said, "Delicious Pie! Chicken pie. I made this because our first day of the trip passed well and everyone worked hard. So I made a surprise for them." Harry replied, "Nice." Then, Ben added, "I have never eaten a pie in my life." He got water in his eyes and said, "I always prayed to get a pie because I like it. Now, I think, god has given me an answer!" Then, I divided the pie into equal five pieces. After eating, I picked up all the dishes, washed them, and then came to my bed to sleep. All slept and the ship was moving smoothly in its direction.

Ch. #11: Captain Red

The next morning, we all woke up and ate breakfast. Then, everyone went to their work. I was in the kitchen, washing dishes. Suddenly, I heard footsteps and whispering from the deck. I discontinued washing dishes and went to the deck, as I was curious to see what was happening.

So, I went upstairs and joined the crew which was gathered at the right side of the deck and was watching something. "What's happening here?" I asked. Then, Captain Fred replied, "Look, that ship, it is following us for the last five hours." He pointed towards a ship. It was extremely huge and was also scary. Suddenly, we saw ten people assembled at their deck and watching us. I saw who their captain was, he was wearing the captain's hat. He was wearing a red coat, a dark red shirt under it, and red pants. His one eye was covered with a red pirate eye patch. One of the crew mates was the same person who ran from our Golden Shop's street and accidentally left his map there. He was still in his blue coat. We heard the man calling, "Red! Look at that boy, I saw him in a shop. He picked the map." From that sentence, we came to know that their captain's name was Red. Red asked, "Ah, that boy? Are you sure, Bob?" He asked pointing towards me. Then the man replied, "Yes sir!" Now we have come to know that the man in the blue coat was Bob. "Well then," Red said, "HEY! YOU ALL!!!" Captain Fred asked, "Us?" Red continued, "Yes! We know you all have the map! Give it back. It belongs to us! Give the map to us and surrender without any delay or we'll attack after 10, 9, 8..." Then Captain Fred exclaimed, "STOP!!! We are bringing it and then you can come and take it."

Captain, my father, and Harry went to the cabin and Ben and I were still on the deck, guarding the ship with guns

in our hands. It took a longer time than usual. All of a sudden, the ship took a hard right and its main mast, foremast and mizzen, all were suddenly opened at full length and the ship began to run away from them. Then we heard a cry from the other ship, "Don't let 'em ESCAPE!!" I could see them moving their canons towards us. I cried, "Hurry! They are going to attack us!" Captain Fred heard me and said, "I am on the steering, you all go and defend the ship, IMMEDIATELY!"

Ch. #12: The Sea Attack

We moved our two canons towards them. Harry and my father were controlling the canon. I and Ben were having guns in our hands. I also kept a pistol in my pocket in case of emergency. Suddenly, we heard Red shouting, "Fire!!!" Then all five canons boomed and came toward us. Two of them

went over, but the third came and crashed on the surface of the ship's deck. Fourth came and broke the window of the cabin. The fifth, was worse, it came flying and broke the whole roof of the cabin.

Then, Harry and Father fired the canon, one landed on their deck, and the other killed one man by hitting and pushing him towards the sea. Canon balls kept flying in the sky, one landed here on the deck, and one landed there on the deck. I and Ben were firing guns at their men. Although we killed five of their men and wounded two, they were still around twenty or eighteen men.

After a while, dark clouds came over the sky and the wind bloomed fast, like the air which comes before a storm or heavy rain. Although the ship was moving very fast, we still couldn't get rid of them, as they were following us. Their ship was much bigger than ours. Suddenly, light rain started.

The light rain, after a moment, became a storm.

There was lightning in the sky. Suddenly one of the cannon balls, I saw, was coming towards me. I ran here and there, but it was not my lucky day. The cannonball came and hit the plank on which I was standing, and I fell into the sea.

"HELP!!! Father!! Help!" I yelled but it was too late, at least, my father listened to my voice and ran towards the left side of the deck and looked down at the sea. "Son!" He yelled, but in vain I was drowned in the water.

I saw the plank floating on the deck. I swam towards it and lay down on it. As I was feeling extremely weak, I became unconscious. I kept floating on the water with the plank.

Ch. #13: I Met a Man

After a long time, I became conscious. I was still tossing in the sea. I saw an island, as I had nowhere to go and I was stuck, I swam towards it. Finally, I reached the shore of the island and put the plank beside a rock. The island was all sand. There was no sign of dirt, but it was quite big. As I was searching here and there, I saw some trees, a couple of yards away.

After a while, I entered the orchard of apple trees. There were so many apples on them and I was hungry, so I climbed up the trees and took some apples. Then, I came down and started to eat them. I ate three or maybe four apples, as I was hungry. All of a sudden my ears heard someone coming and whistling.

Suddenly, the whistling my heart beat fast, but then, he again started whistling and moved forward. I thought cheerfully, "I have a pistol." All of a sudden I stood up and said, "FREEZE!!! Stay where ever you are! Otherwise, I'll shoot!" Then he just stood there and didn't move.

At first, he was staring at me angrily and was just about to move, but then, he saw my pistol. Then, he fell to his knees and said, "Please! Don't shoot. I am a plain man. I live here!" I said, "I am Tim, who're you?" The man said, "I am Joyce. I have been living here for the past sixteen years!" From that sentence, I realized that this young man is not an enemy. The man was wearing a shirt and jeans pant. He had a beard too. So I sat down with him. I put my pistol in my pocket. Joyce said, "Where did you come from, Are you alone here?" I answered him, "Yes, I am alone. I have been stuck on this island." Joyce nodded and said, "Well Tim, What's the story, tell me. How did you come here?" Then I told him the whole story of what happened in the past few days and he listened very carefully and with great pleasure. "As I was

hungry, I took some apples to eat. Then I met you." I ended the story.

"Hmm..." Joyce said, "For what was on this voyage?" Then, I replied, "We were going on a treasure hunt. We have a map, but it is still on the ship." Then, I asked "Well, now it's your turn, tell me about you. How did you come here and why alone?" Joyce nodded and said, "Tim, sixteen years ago when I was seven years old, my mother got a job offer to be a cook for a voyage. So my mother accepted it and she took me too, as there was no one at home." I asked. "Where was your father?" Joyce sighed and replied, "My father, Billy Anderson, died when I was four. When I and my mother got to the ship, we were, without delay, sent to the kitchen. We had to sleep in the kitchen. One day my mother and the ship's captain started to dislike each other because the captain was rude. One night, the Captain and some of the men came into the kitchen and threw me out into the sea through the window." I interrupted. "What happened to your mother?" That question made Joyce cry a little bit, but then he continued, "I was lucky that I knew how to swim and the night was quiet, no storm. I only saw one man taking out a knife and then, one scream from my mother." I said, "Oh, I'm sorry." Joyce again continued, "Then I saw this island, like you, and came here. And Tim, do you know, I can drink salt water?" I was surprised and asked, "What?" Joyce smiled and continued, "After six years on this island, there was no water to drink, so I tried to drink the salt water. Not straightly, I first stain it to a mug which I had in my pocket, and then drink it." "Ugh!" I said, "How can anybody drink salt water?" Joyce replied, "I can." Then, I took a deep breath and said, "I don't know how to get out of here. Then, Joyce said, "Everything, will be okay."

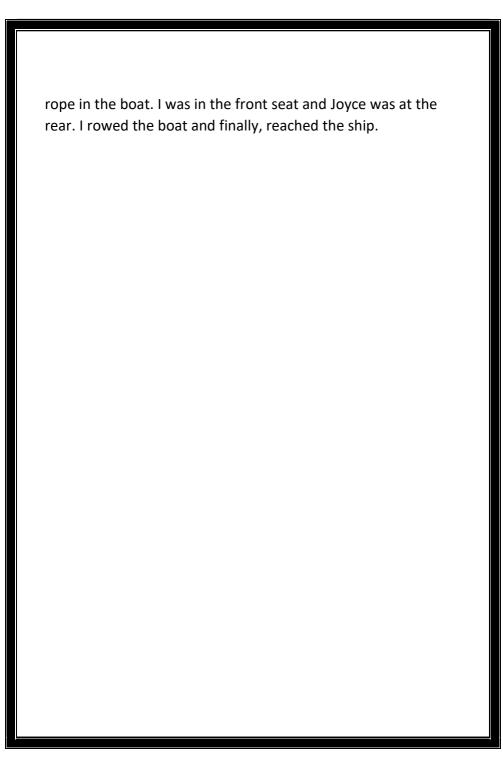
Ch. #14: A Return at the ship

I and Joyce sat down. "My throat is dry," I said, "Isn't there any freshwater, I will not drink the salt water like you." Joyce said, "Well, there is a small lake, I think on the north side of the island." Then we both walked towards the north side and stopped when we found a small lake. It was a spring actually, but Joyce says that it's a lake. Then I drank a great amount of water, all greedily and quickly, as I was thirsty.

"Ah..." I said as I felt much better, "Wait, Joyce, why do you drink salt water, if there is a source of fresh water?" Then Joyce answered, "Well, I found it five years later since I started to drink salt water. So I liked it more than this one, but I can still drink it if I want to."

I saw birds flying in the sky. As they moved, I turned my face, but then, I saw our ship! "Hey! That's our ship!!! I am not too far!" I exclaimed, Joyce also noticed the ship and said, "Oh, it must be half a mile away." Suddenly, I got an idea and said, "Hey Joyce! How about we add you to our voyage? You'll get an equal share of the treasure and you can finally go home!" Joyce was glad to hear that, but then he said, "Will your friends let me come?" Then I answered cheerfully, "Absolutely! We also have one empty bed and cupboard on the ship, so you can come. We are already five and our enemies are around eighteen. So if you'll come, we will get support!" Joyce agreed with me and said, "How we'll get there?" It was a noticeable question. I suddenly said, "We'll make a boat of our own."

Joyce agreed. Then, we cut down a tree. And made the wood into the shape of a boat with the help of Joyce's knife which he always put in his pocket. Finally, we made our boat. It was a small row boat with two seats and one paddle to row. Then we put our boat on the water for testing and the boat didn't sink! We sat down on the boat. We also put a



PART 3

THE ISLE OF TREASURE

Ch. #15: At the Island

We came near to the ship and I threw the rope up and it was tightly stuck on something. I climbed up the ship with the help of the rope and Joyce was still down. He tied the rope with the boat to pull it up. Then, he came up and we both pulled up the row boat.

Finally, we took a look at the ship. There was no one and nearly all things vanished, "Oh no, It can't Happen!" I cried, "I think all people are killed by the other crew!"

Suddenly, we heard someone coming up with the rope and saying, "Oh I forgot my pistol up there." The man came on the deck, he was my father! "Tim! Where were you gone?"

My father exclaimed when he saw me. Both were glad to see each other. "Uh... Who's he?" My father asked, pointing towards Joyce. Then I explained the whole story of what happened to me when I fell from the ship.

"Where's the other ship and our crew? Tell the story of your side" I asked my father who said, "First come with me, and you too, Joyce." Then Joyce replied, "Okay." Then we descended with the rope and got out of the ship. We sat in a row boat on which my dad came. The boat which I and Joyce made was on the deck of our ship.

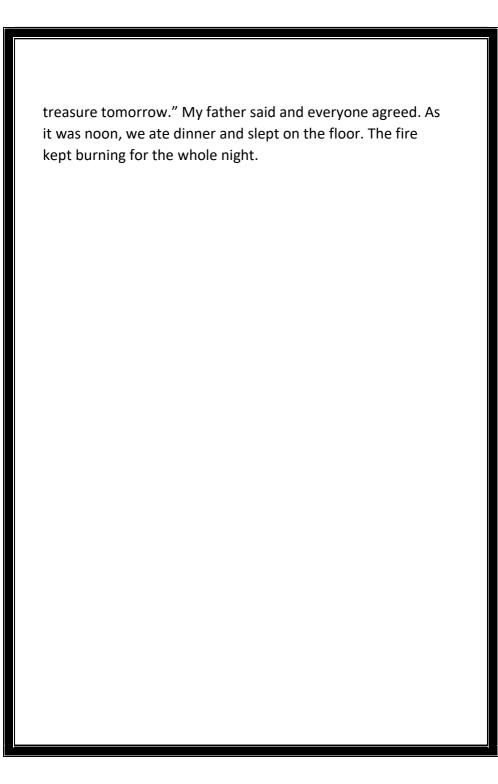
My father rowed the ship to the island. I and Joyce were sitting. Finally, we reached an island, which was just

four or maybe five meters away from the ship. We jumped out to the land and walked forward. "Follow me." My father said. "Which island is this?" I asked. My father answered, turning his voice a little low, "This is the place where we sailed to. The Isle of Treasure." Then I asked, "Oh, so this is it! Have you found the treasure..." "Questions Later!" My father interrupted. Then we kept walking. Joyce whispered to me, "Well, your father is not bad but a type of fierce person."

Finally, my father stopped. We were in front of a cave. There was a very narrow entrance to the cave, and a person of six feet, like my father, had to bend down to go inside. We all came in and saw our crew sitting there! They were sitting next to the fire, which was the only source of light. All the fighting stuff was at one corner but the food was at another corner. We had two tankers of water, each having twenty litres of water.

We also sat down, next to the fire, with our crew. Everyone was fine except the captain. He was having a bandage on his head. "What happened to you? Captain." I asked. "I just fell while running upstairs. Just an accident, nothing else." Captain Fred replied. Everyone asked questions of me where were you gone, what happened, etc. They also asked about Joyce. I told the story to them at once and they stopped speaking.

Then, I asked the captain, "What's your story, where was the other ship gone?" The captain began, "When you were gone, we all were horrified but were busy in the fight as one mistake could defeat us at that time. We kept firing at the other ship. Their cannonballs were nearly useless because ninety percent of their cannonballs did not hit our ship, as we were moving fast. The two cannonballs from our side flew towards their ship and one hit their main mast's pole. Their whole main mast was destroyed and was in the water. The second hit the side of the hull with a different angle that tilted the ship and all men fell into the sea. The ship's deck was filled with water so it also sank into the sea." Meanwhile, Harry distributed one glass of water to everyone. Captain Fred just drank water and continued, "We all were glad to get rid of them. While the ship was sinking, we saw its flag. It was a flag of Jolly Roger, but the skull and bones were red." Then, Harry whispered to me, "Because their captain's name was Red." Then I continued to listen to the captain, "From their flag, we came to know that they are pirates." Then, we just slept in our places. Your father was crying in his bed. The next morning, we reached the island, anchored the ship, and found a good hiding place, this cave, which we needed because we were still not sure whether they were dead or not. After that, we shipped our stuff here. Your father forgot his pistol so he went back to the ship to take it. Then, he came back with you too." He pointed towards me and Joyce and ended the conversation. "We'll find the



Ch. #16: The Treasure Hunt

The next morning, we woke up and ate chicken for breakfast. "I, Jim's father, Harry and Tim will go to find the treasure." Captain decided, "Ben and Joyce, you two will stay here." Everyone agreed captain's command with no complaints.

Then, the captain took one gun and a cutlass. My father took two guns, both hung in a cross shape at his back. He also took one cutlass. I just had two pistols and one cutlass. Harry had one gun and one cutlass. There was still one gun, two cutlasses, and three pistols left in the cave. Harry was holding a bag with five wrappers with a capacity of 25 kg. In my bag, were four shovels.

My father said, "I can use two guns at a time. Look" Then he grabbed the two guns, one in one hand, and fired both at one time. We appreciated him for this skill and then moved out of the cave. Captain opened the map. "All right, we must be here." He pointed at a mountain on the map, "Then we must move north-westwards to find the treasure. So follow me, this way." He pointed right. Then we started to move. We all were alert while walking. Suddenly, we saw a bush shaking. We stopped and readied our weapons. All of a sudden, we heard firing and bullets hit my father. "NO!!!" I shouted, but in no time, my father died. It was a great loss for me. First, my mother when I was six, and now my father. I was an orphan.

Suddenly, ten people jumped out of the bushes. They were the pirates. "Were you not dead?!" Harry asked. "Oh no. We swam and came to the island. Only six mates were dead." Said their captain, Red. Then, they reloaded their weapons and attacked. We were three and they were ten. It was a tough fight, but we were not winning the fight. Captain got a cut on his hand.

Suddenly captain shouted, "Run from here, HURRY!" Then we all jumped away from that area. All of a sudden, a bomb blasted. All men fell and moved no more. Red escaped and he ran into the bushes, away from us. Harry fired his gun towards him but none of the bullets hit him and Red got out of our sight.

We picked up my father's body and went back to the cave laid him at a side and covered him with a blanket. When Ben and Joyce saw him dead, they got in sorrow too. Then, Joyce came ahead and patted me on my back. "Everything will be all right. Everyone has to die one day. If not now, then on another day. It depends on us what we did in our lives, not when and how early we die." he said, and everyone noticed him but didn't say anything.

Then, we washed our faces and moved out of the cave again. We followed Captain, who was leading us. Finally, we reached the place of treasure according to the map. We took out our shovels and everyone started to dig. After, nearly, ten minutes of digging, my shovel hit a metal type

thing. "Oh, I think I found something!" I shouted as I was very excited. Harry and Captain, both gathered around me. I saw a wooden handle. "Help me to pull it up!" I said pointing towards the handle. Then, both helped me to pull it up and we took out an old sea chest. It was locked so we couldn't open it. "Careful!" Captain said. We both got aside and the captain broke the lock with his cutlass. "Wow, skills." Said, Harry. Then, the Captain opened the chest.

The chest was full of gold. "GOLD! The chest is full of gold! I can't believe it!" Harry shouted in excitement. "Our poverty will be finally finished." I said. Harry replied, "Our?" Then I said, "Oh yeah, my poverty. I wish my father could see me rich."

"Okay take out the bags Harry! Let's take it to the cave." Captain said. Then we took our bags and filled the bags with gold. All five bags were filled with gold. "Let's take all the gold back to the cave." Said, Captain Fred. Then, we started to move back to our cave. I and Harry were dragging two bags of gold, while Captain took one, as we had five bags in total.

Ch. #17: The Fall of a Captain

While walking back towards the cave, I noticed that there was silence in the area. We kept moving forward until we saw a parrot. "It's cute." Harry said, then, the parrot flew away.

Then, we again started to move forward. All of a sudden, someone near us fired a gun and three bullets came and all hit the captain's head. In no time, he also passed away. Now, our captain, Fred, was also dead. Captain Red jumped out of the bush and said, "Nice! Now it's your turn." I was very angry and said, "You also killed my Father!" I took out my pistol and fired at him continuously. "STOP! He's dead." Harry said. Then, I stopped firing. "He's dead. Finally. I have taken revenge for my father's death. Now, I can take a breath." Harry was surprised by watching me when I was in full anger. "You don't look strong, but you are when you want to." Harry commented.

I asked, "Now, who'll be the captain." Then, Harry replied, "Well, I think you must be entitled as our captain. You are great, who can live as an orphan, can fight as a warrior, and can lead us as a captain." The sentence which Harry said motivated me. Then, I moved towards Captain Fred and wore his hat. "Fred was a great captain, but I can be one of them too." I said to myself.

Then we again picked up our bags of gold and moved forward. Harry was dragging Captain Fred. We left Captain Red where he was. Finally, we entered our cave and put the gold bags aside. Ben and Joyce were sad to hear that the captain was dead. We told them the whole story. They also accepted me as their captain.

PART 4

THE RETURN TO HOME

Ch. #18: Our Voyage of Return

Finally, our treasure hunt was over. We lost two lives in it. As I was captain, I was in the row boat. Harry, Ben, and Joyce were bringing the bags of gold. It took two rounds of

the rowboat to the ship to ship the gold. Although, it took five rounds for the other stuff and supplies to be shipped to the ship.

Finally, we all were aboard. The row boat was hanging at a side. My father and Captain Fred's body were in the cabin beside the cupboard. Everything was put in its place. I was in the cabin, understanding the map. Harry became the cook. Joyce and Ben were shipmates, no one was the first mate by the way.

Finally, I understood the route to our home with the map. So I went upstairs and held the steering. Finally, the anchor was up and the ship started to move. Everyone was happy, but the sorrow of the death of my father was still in my mind.

This time, our voyage was boring. Nothing happened, nothing was done. Just sailing the ship. We had opened the foremast, main mast, and mizzen at full length. So, the ship will move fast and we'll reach London quickly.

After a few hours, I shouted, "Everyone, come to my cabin. Let's divide the share." I was already in the cabin, and then, everyone came inside. "Take a seat," I said, and all of us sat down around a square table. "Okay, we have a total of one hundred and twenty-four kg of gold in total." I started to talk, "We are four in total, and we are going to divide equally. So, everyone will have thirty-one kg of gold. Harry, go and

put all the gold coins in a corner. Joyce, bring the weight measurer, the big one. And Ben, you, bring a glass of water." I ordered and everyone went to their work and I was sitting.

After a while, everyone came and Harry said, "We have done our work, captain." Then we all sat around the weight measurer and started to divide. Finally, we made four bags containing thirty-one kg of gold, one for each. Then, the work ended, and everyone went outside of the cabin. I was at the steering, Harry was in the kitchen, Joyce was taking a nap, and Ben was also in his bed, reading a book.

Near noon, mice were running in our stomachs, and at the same time, a smell of cake was coming from the kitchen. We all went to the bed gallery and sat on our beds. Harry came outside from the kitchen and brought a chocolate cake. Harry said, "I made an effort on it." "And that's why it is delicious." Said Ben while eating. Then Joyce said, "I haven't eaten something else than apples for sixteen years!" Then, I added, "Good job Harry!"

After eating, we all slept in our beds. "Captain Tim." Harry said, "Will you not sleep in your cabin?" I suddenly stood up and said, "Oh, I forgot." Then I went to the cabin and slept in the bed there.

I dreamed my father and mother, both came to the ship to say bye last time. I was crying but in my heart.

Ch. #19: Back to Home

The next morning, we all woke up, ate eggs for breakfast and went to work. The foremast, main mast, and mizzen were again opened at full length. In the afternoon, Harry shouted, "We are not far from London! We're going to

reach the dock later!" Everyone was happy to hear that good news.

After a few minutes, when we were less than fifty meters far from the dock, I pulled the anchoring lever down and the anchor fell into the depth of the sea. We took out our row boat and came near to the deck. After a long time, I had finally stepped into my home city, London. We all picked one bag of gold, as decided. We met last time and everyone went to his home, except Joyce.

Joyce was standing with me and said, "I have no home. Hey, can I live with you?" He asked. I thought, "Hmm... I will again get a partner for my shop." Then I accepted his deal and went home.

After a while, we reached home, the Golden Shop. We put our gold in our cupboards. I told him everything about my shop and he agreed to work with me. "Time to upgrade this shop," I said. Then, I spend half of my gold to upgrade the shop. Now it was modern, cool, and comfortable. As my father said before "People only go to more big, comfortable, and modern places."

Now people started to come to our shop and many got the free mango juice deal. We all were happy. I said, "Well, you will be my partner for now, and I am happy that I am not alone."

Now, Joyce, I, Ben, and Harry, all were rich and were living happily and peacefully. We also meet each other, as a friend, every Christmas day. Everyone was happy.

Ch. #20: The End?

"So kids, this was my adventure. Did you like it?" I said. Then Robert said, "Cool Grandpa!" And Jim also agreed and said, "Grandpa, is this story real?" I laughed and said, "Yes my grandsons. I was an adult when I had this adventure,

my father died, then Captain Fred, and then I became the captain. Look our portrait is still hanging on the wall." I pointed towards the portrait, hanging on the wall, on which, Harry, Joyce, Ben, and I were sitting together on a bench.

"Where's Uncle Joyce?" Robert asked. Then I answered, "He has gone outside, to bring fruits for you!" Both children shouted, "Yeah!"

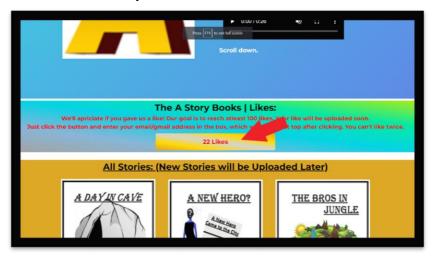
So, this is where the story ends. Tim has grandsons and is old enough. All are rich.

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Note: Winter season in the whole story.

Writer: M. Ahmed

Type: Adventure, Struggle, Fight

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