

# Treasure Island



Rudyard Kipling



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## Notes About the Author:

*Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894)* was a popular Scottish novelist, poet and writer.

His best known books are *Treasure Island* (1883), *A Child's Garden of Verses*, and *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*.

## Chapter 1

### Stranger in Town

Jim Hawkins was an eleven year old boy. He lived and worked with his mother at the hostel they owned. He looked like any other boy his age, but his life was similar to none. Although he was young, he had been through many more dangerous adventures than most older people had.



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How is Jim's life different from other people's lives?

Mrs. Hawkins was angry at their cowardice. She said she would go alone with her boy back to the hostel to see what she could do. She also wanted to take money from the Captain's box because he had stayed in their hostel for many days and had not paid anything.

Jim and Mrs. Hawkins returned to the place and locked the door behind them. The place was dark and scary. They lit a candle and went to the Captain's room.

They found the box and opened it. There, they saw many gold coins and some old papers. Mrs. Hawkins sat on the floor and started counting the coins. Jim told her to take all the money and run because he heard footsteps coming towards them.

But his mother refused to take more than the Captain owed her. She reminded her son that they should be honest, even with dead people.

“But he does not need the money now and we do!” **exclaimed** the boy.

“Honesty pays, dear. It surely does,” replied the **righteous** mother.

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**Why did not Mrs. Hawkins take all the gold and run?**

Governor told him he was the bloodiest and most frightening pirate ever. He added that people said Flint had a treasure buried in an unknown place.

The doctor went through the documents Jim gave him and found the treasure map. It was a map of an island that was shaped like a fat dragon standing up. There were many red marks and arrows on the map showing the place of the treasure.



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Draw a picture of Captain Flint.

## Chapter 3

### The Hispaniola

Preparations for the journey began. Jim passed the following days at Dr. Livesey's house. The Governor went to Bristol to rent a good ship.

One day, Jim and the Doctor received a letter from the Governor, telling them he had found a great ship, called *the Hispaniola*. The Governor added that while looking for sailors for the journey, he had been lucky enough to meet John Silver.

He wrote that Silver was an experienced **seafarer** who lost his leg in a battle while serving his country. The Governor **pitied** him and decided to make him the cook of *the Hispaniola*.

He added that John Silver helped him choose the whole crew and advised him to dismiss the ones the Governor himself had chosen. Silver thought the Governor's men were "a bunch of inexperienced kids."

The Governor sounded happy with the sailors Silver appointed, as they looked tough and professional.

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Who is John Silver?

Silver chased the boy but Jim's body was smaller, which helped him run faster. Jim hid behind a tree and saw Silver giving up the chase and returning to where he came from. The lad was very proud of himself for having escaped a dangerous man like Silver.

He stopped for breath for a few seconds and when he looked around, he saw that he was in a totally strange place. He was lost and was certain that his life would end in one of two ways: he would either be killed by Silver, or he would starve to death because he did not know the way back to the ship and had nothing to eat. Neither version appealed to him.

Then, as if the poor boy had not had his fair share of panic, he suddenly saw something that made him scream with horror.



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Jim understood that Ben used to work on Captain Flint's ship with John Silver many years ago and he had heard about the treasure buried on this island. Three years ago, he was working on another ship and, when it passed by the island, Ben suggested they would all go off board and search for Flint's treasure. The captain of that ship did not like the idea but the sailors welcomed it. They spent two weeks looking for the treasure but found nothing. Then they all turned against Ben for wasting their valuable time. They decided to punish him by leaving him on the deserted island with only a gun and a few tools. Ben added that he had been living on wild goats since then.

When Jim realized that Ben was not a bad man, he told him his whole story. Ben offered to help him in return for being taken back to England on *the Hispaniola* and given one thousand pounds.

When Jim asked Ben what kind of help he was offering, the **latter** replied that he had made a small, simple boat, which they could use to go back to *the Hispaniola*. Before Jim could ask any more questions, they both heard the sounds

How could Ben help Jim?

## Post-reading Activities

### Chapter 1

- A. Describe the stranger.
- B. Explain the negative effects of drinking.
- C. What would you do if you found a box full of money?
- D. Arrange the following according to the events that happened first:
  - 1 The Captain arrived in town.
  - 2 People refused to help Jim and his mother when they heard the name Flint.
  - 3 Jim and his mom heard strange sounds of people trying to open their door.
  - 4 Jim and his mother found a box.
  - 5 The Captain dropped dead.
  - 6 The Captain drank more than usual one night and talked about pirates who were after him.

### Chapter 2

- A. What did Jim find in the box?

## Glossary

acquitted	majority	severely
assessing	mingle	slipped
cannonballs	murmured	spring
coil of rope	outnumbered	steer
confessed	panic	suspicious
crept	pirates	swamp
daggers	pitied	traitor
dead meat	puzzling	trial
disappointment	ragged	unfolding
due	rebuked	unfortunately
easygoing	relief	unload
exclaimed	revealing	urging
furious	righteous	uttered
gloating	roam	well-equipped
gutlessness	running out of	
hallucinate	seafarer	
latter	sealed	
loose	servant	



Golden Classics is a series of Leveled Readers which introduces students to the most well-known International classics through a carefully graded text and illustrations. Each text offers a wide range of activities that encourages readers to ask, discuss, and respond to questions individually or in small groups. Higher thinking skills are addressed on each page in the form of an open-ended question. Each reader is bundled with activities and a glossary at the end of the book.



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