

He took one and started to cut the chains. It was hard work, and it hurt his hands. But after a minute or two the chains fell to the floor.

Suddenly, Jack heard a sound behind him. It was Will Turner.

"What are you doing here?" asked Will. He looked at Jack. "Oh, you're the pirate. People are looking for you."

He took a sword.

"Is that a good idea?" asked Jack.

Will didn't speak. He put up his sword and looked at Jack.

They fought. Jack was quick, but Will was quick, too.

"You can use a sword!" said Jack.

He turned and ran to the door. But Will was too quick for him.

He threw his sword at the door. It went over Jack's head. Jack tried to pull it out, but he couldn't. And now he couldn't open the door.

He turned to Will and smiled.

"That was good," he said. He looked at the other door to the store. "But you're between me and that door. And now you have no sword!"

Will took another sword and they fought again.

"Do you make these swords?" Jack asked.

"Yes, and I use them for three hours a day after work, too," Will answered.

"Why don't you find a girl? It's more exciting," Jack said. He took out a gun. "Now, move away from the door," he said.

Behind Jack, Will saw his boss, Mr. Brown. In Mr. Brown's hand there was a bottle. Slowly, the blacksmith moved his arm up. And then he hit Jack on the head—hard.

Jack fell to the ground.

Norrington arrived with his sailors. He looked down at Jack.

"Good work, Mr. Brown. Remember this day. On this day Captain Jack Sparrow *almost* got away!"

Mr. Brown looked at the glass on the ground.

"He broke my bottle!" he said.

Chapter 5 Pirates in Town

It was night, and there was a thick fog in Port Royal. Through the fog came a ship—a tall, black ship. It carried the skull and crossbones.

In her bed in the Governor's House, Elizabeth tried to read. She couldn't sleep. She saw the fog, and she thought about the pirates and the ghost story.

Down in the town, Will left the store and stood in the street. Everything was quiet—too quiet.

In his cell, Jack sat and thought. What could he do? How could he get out of this place? He looked out at the harbor and at the fog, but he wasn't afraid.

Suddenly, there was a loud noise from guns.

"I know those guns," Jack thought. "It's the *Pearl*!"

He heard the guns again. And again. Jack looked down at the town. It was on fire! Smoke came from the houses and the stores. People ran out into the streets.

And then, out of the smoke and the fog, the pirates came. They ran through the town, with their guns and their swords and their knives. They started more fires, and carried things away from the houses.

Will ran back into the store and took a sword and a knife. Then he went outside again.

"Elizabeth," he thought. "I have to help Elizabeth."

He started to run to the governor's house. But he didn't see the man behind him. The pirate hit him, hard, on the head, and Will fell to the ground.

Upstairs in her room, Elizabeth looked out her window and saw the fire and the smoke in the town. Then she looked down and saw two pirates at the door of the house. What could she do? Where could she go?

One of the pirates looked up. Ragetti was very dirty, and he only had one good eye. With it, he saw Elizabeth.

"Look, Pintel," he said. "Up there!" Pintel looked up and smiled.

The pirates ran up the stairs. Elizabeth was afraid and quickly closed her bedroom door. The pirates hit the door, again and again. After some time, they broke the door and went into the room. But they couldn't see Elizabeth.

Suddenly, Elizabeth ran past them and out of the room.

She ran down the stairs and into the dining-room. The pirates ran after her. She looked for a gun, for a sword, but there was nothing there. She heard the pirates on the stairs. Where could she go?

There was a small closet at the back of the room. She went in and closed the door, very quietly.

The pirates came into the room.

"Come out, little girl," called Pintel. "You have something, and we want it."

"The gold is calling to us," said Ragetti. "Come out."

In the closet, Elizabeth didn't move. She had the gold medallion in her hand.

And then, suddenly, the door opened, and there was Ragetti. His one eye looked at her.

"Hello, little girl ..."

Chapter 6 On the *Black Pearl*

The pirates took Elizabeth to the *Black Pearl* in a small boat. When they climbed out, a man came out of the fog.

"Good day," he said to Elizabeth. "My name is Barbossa. I'm the captain of the *Black Pearl*."

Elizabeth looked around her. There were pirates everywhere. She was afraid, but she didn't show it.

"I am Elizabeth Turner." She didn't want to use her name. "I want you to leave Port Royal," she said. "Leave and never come back."

The pirates laughed.

"I'm sorry," said Barbossa. "But that isn't possible. We're looking for ..."

"I know!" shouted Elizabeth. She ran to the side of the boat and then showed them the gold medallion. "You're looking for this! Come near me and I'll throw it in the water."

The pirates didn't speak. Their eyes were on the medallion.

"I know you want it," said Elizabeth. "I know this ship. After eight years, I remember it. Now go and never come back!"

The pirates watched her, carefully. Elizabeth tried again. With the medallion in her hand, she looked down at the water.

"I'll throw it away now ..."

"OK, OK," said Barbossa. "You win. Give me the medallion, and we'll leave."

Elizabeth gave him the gold medallion.

"Stop the guns!" shouted Barbossa. "We're leaving." He looked at Elizabeth. "And, Miss Turner, you're going to come with us."

"But you have to take me back!" Elizabeth said.



"I'll throw it away now ..."

"No," said the pirate, and he smiled. "I stopped the guns, and we're going. But I'm not going to take you home. You're going to stay with us!"

Chapter 7 On the *Dauntless* and the *Interceptor*

When Will Turner woke up, his head hurt. But he thought only of Elizabeth. He ran to the governor's office.

He found the governor, Norrington, and the two sailors.

"The pirates have Elizabeth!" he shouted.

Norrington looked at him.

"Mr. Turner," he said. "You're a blacksmith. This isn't your fight. Please go."

"We have to find her," Will said.

"Of course we do," Norrington said. "And we will."

"Jack Sparrow!" said one of the sailors. "He knows about the *Black Pearl*."

"Go to Sparrow. Ask him!" shouted Will. "We can follow the ship! He can take us to it."

"Mr. Turner," said Norrington. "Please leave us. Now!"

He turned away.

Will ran to Jack's cell.

"Hey, you! Sparrow! Do you know the pirate ship—the *Black Pearl*?"

"Yes ..." said Jack.

"Where does it go?"

"It sails from the *Isla de Muerta*—the Island of the Dead. You know the stories. But why ask me?"

"They took Miss Swann," said Will angrily.

The pirate smiled.

"Oh, so you *did* find a girl ..." he said. "But what can I do? I'm in here."

"I can help you," said Will. "I can get you out of here, and then you can help me!"

Jack Sparrow thought about this.

"What's your name, boy?" he asked.

"Turner. Will Turner."

"Turner? OK, Mr. Turner. I'll help you. But first, I have to get out of this cell."

Will smiled. He was a blacksmith. He could open a cell door!

When Jack was free, he and Will went down to the harbor.

"What are we going to do?" asked Will.

"We're going to take that ship," said Jack. "The *Dauntless*."

"Take it? You're crazy!"

But Will followed Jack. The two men swam to the ship and climbed up the side. There were sailors on the ship.

"Don't move!" Jack told them. "I have a gun! I want this ship."

The sailors looked at Jack, then at Will. They started to laugh.

"But this is a big ship," one of them said. "You can't sail it with two men!"

"We can try," said Jack. "Now, leave!"

The sailors looked at Jack and Will. They looked at the gun. And then they got into a small boat and left the *Dauntless*.

From the *Interceptor*, Norrington saw Will and Jack on the *Dauntless*.

"What?" he thought. "You? But how ...? And where are you going on my ship?"

He turned to his sailors.

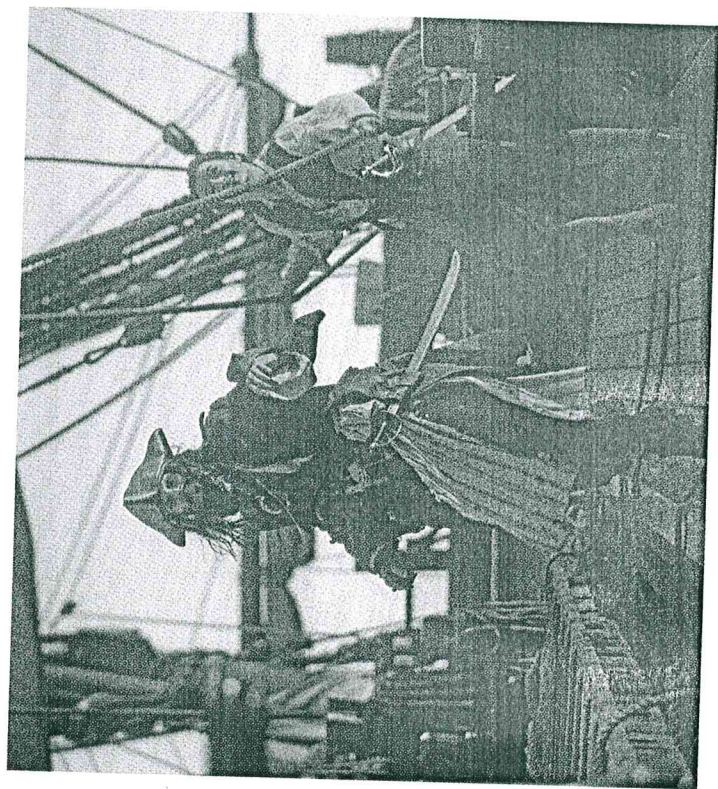
"Quickly," he said. "We have to catch the *Dauntless*. Now!"

The *Interceptor* was a faster ship, and minutes later it was near the *Dauntless*.

"Let's take them!" shouted Norrington.

He and his men went onto the *Dauntless*. Only one man stayed on the *Interceptor*.

Norrington's men looked everywhere.



"Where are you going on my ship?"

"Find them! I know they're here!" the captain shouted.

But Jack and Will weren't on the *Dauntless*. They were now on the *Interceptor*.

"Hello," said Jack to the only sailor there.

The man looked at him. He looked at Jack's sword. And he looked at Jack's gun.

"Can you swim?" asked Jack.

"Like a fish," said the sailor.

"Good!" said Jack and threw him in the water.

Commodore Norrington and his men saw the sailor when he fell.

"Stop them!" Norrington shouted. "Stop them!"

But it was too late. The *Interceptor* sailed out of the harbor.

Chapter 8 Dinner with Barbossa

Elizabeth sat at a table on the *Black Pearl*. There was a lot of food on the table—bread, fruit, and meat. Captain Barbossa sat at the other end of the table.

"Are you hungry?" he said. "Please eat."

Elizabeth was very hungry. She took some bread and some meat and started to eat.

"Have a drink," said Barbossa.

Elizabeth drank. Then she looked at the captain.

"You're not eating!" she said. "Is something wrong with the food? Are you trying to kill me? You eat it!"

She gave the captain some bread, but he didn't take it.

"I can't eat it," Barbossa said unhappily. "I'd like to. I'd love to. But I can't."

He took the gold medallion from his coat.

"This gold, Miss Turner, is very old. The Aztecs gave it to Cortés when he arrived in the Americas. There are many, many more of these. And the Aztecs put a curse on them.

"We found the gold on the *Isla de Muerta*," said Barbossa. "We took all of it. We bought food and drink with it. But then, suddenly, we couldn't eat and we couldn't drink. When we took the money, Miss Turner, the curse came with it."

The captain suddenly looked happier. "But now we can end the curse. We had to find all of the gold. Then we had to put it back on the island and give some blood. For ten years we looked for the gold on every ship and in every town ..."

"And now you have all of it," Elizabeth said.

"Yes. With this gold medallion, we have all of it. Thank you." She thought for a minute.

"You have everything, and you're going to be free of the curse. So why am I here?"

"There's one more thing. You're Elizabeth Turner, the daughter

of the pirate Bill Turner. He was one of us, but he isn't with us now. We have to have your blood!"

Elizabeth didn't understand, but she was afraid. Her blood?

She jumped up and tried to run. But Barbossa stood in front of her. She took a knife and pushed it into him. Then she ran outside. She closed her eyes. Her blood! What could she do?

She opened her eyes and saw the pirates at work. Then she looked carefully. They weren't men—they were skeletons!

Barbossa was behind her.

"Now, Miss Turner, you can really see us." He smiled. "Yes, Miss Turner, we're all ghosts. You're in a ghost story!"

Chapter 9 The Island of Tortuga

Will helped Jack on the *Interceptor*. The weather was good, and the wind was strong.

"You're not a sailor," said Jack. "You're a blacksmith. Where did you learn about sailing?"

"I worked on a ship when I was a boy," said Will. "I came from England. I wanted to find my father—Bill Turner."

"Is that right?"

"You knew my father," said Will. "I asked for your help when you were in the cell. You weren't interested. But when you heard my name, you said yes."

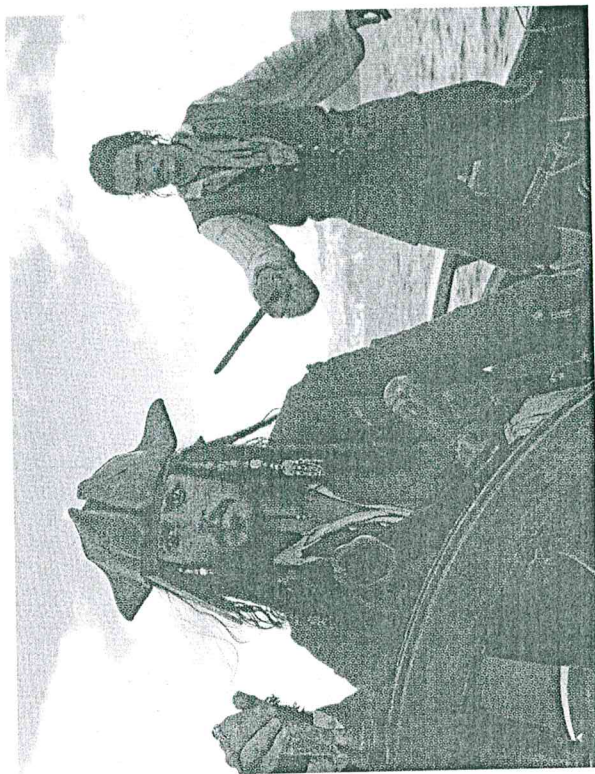
"Oh, I knew him," said Jack. "Everybody knew Bill. He was a good man. He was ... a good pirate."

"No!" shouted Will. "You're wrong. My father wasn't a pirate."

He pulled out his sword.

"Put that away," Jack told him. "Why are you getting excited? Your father was a pirate, Mr. Turner. A good man, but a pirate. Now help me with this ship."

They arrived at the island of Tortuga.



"My father wasn't a pirate."

Tortuga was a small, dirty place. It had a harbor, some houses, an old store, and four bars. Bad men and pirates went there. They wanted to drink and to find women.

"Come with me," Jack said to Will. "We have to find some sailors for our ship."

They went into a bar and found an old man. His name was Joshuaamee Gibbs. He was asleep, and he had a bottle in his hand. Jack kicked him.

"Wake up, Mr. Gibbs. We have work for you."

Slowly, Gibbs opened his eyes. "Oh, it's you. What do you want?" Jack moved near to the old man. He didn't want Will to hear their conversation.

"We're looking for a ship," he said. "The *Black Pearl*."

"The *Black Pearl*?" The old man sat up. "That's not smart, Jack Sparrow. You know the stories about the *Black Pearl*. Do you think Barbossa is going to give you his ship?"

Jack laughed. "Oh, I think he will," he answered. He looked at Will, and the old man's eyes followed his. "I have the boy and they want him."

"That boy?"

"The child of Bill Turner. His *only* child."

Joshamee Gibbs didn't speak. He thought about Jack's words. And then he smiled.

"Ah, I understand," he said. "His only child. I think I can find some sailors for you now."

Gibbs did his job well. Some of the sailors were small; some were tall. Some were fat; some were thin. Some were smart; some were stupid. But they were all good sailors. They stood in front of their captain.

Jack looked at them. Then he showed them the ship.

"There's my ship, the *Interceptor*," he said. "It is a fine ship, a fast ship. Sail with me, and at the end you can have it! What do you say?"

The sailors shouted, "Yes!"

Jack stopped in front of a sailor in a very big hat. Suddenly a hand came out from under the hat and hit him. Jack fell to the ground. The hat fell, too—and showed a woman's face.

Jack stood up.

"Hello, AnaMaria," he said.

"You took my boat!" she shouted.

"Ah ..." said Jack slowly.

"And where is it now? Do you have it?"

"No, I don't. But this ship is better." He turned to the men. "Get ready!" he said. "We're going to sail. And AnaMaria will give you your work."

The sailors ran onto the ship, and the *Interceptor* left Tortuga.

Gibbs and Will sat and looked out at the ocean.

"Do you know Captain Sparrow well?" Will asked.

"Oh yes," said Gibbs. "I knew him when he was captain of the *Black Pearl*!"

"What? Captain of the *Black Pearl*? But how ...?"

"Listen to the story," said Gibbs. "Jack Sparrow was a pirate, but he was a good man. He found the *Isla de Muerta*—and there was gold for every sailor on his ship. But his sailors didn't want Jack Sparrow. They wanted the gold. So they left him on an island with no food and no water—only his gun."

"They left him?"

"They left him—but he got away. And now he wants to find those pirates, and he wants to use that gun. He wants to shoot their captain, Barbossa!"



The *Black Pearl* was at the *Isla de Muerta*.

"It's time, my dear," said Ragetti.

He smiled at her, but his one good eye watched her carefully.

They put her in a small boat and left the *Black Pearl*. The fog got thinner.

Elizabeth could see a big, black cave.

"Are we going in there?" she asked.

"Yes, my dear," said Pintel.

Chapter 10 Gold!

A short time later, Will and Jack and their men arrived at the *Isla de Muerta*, too. Through the fog, they could see ships—old ships under the water.

Jack turned to Gibbs. "Stay here with the men," he said.

Jack and Will got into a smaller boat and started to go to the island.

"Do you see that?" said Will. "There! A cave, I think."

The boat moved slowly into the cave. It was very dark, and the walls were wet. Jack and Will didn't speak. On their left, they saw