

# ***THE ENL COLLECTION***

## **A PIRATE ADVENTURE**

Upper Intermediate

Hal Ames

**A collection of short stories  
and worksheet exercises for students.  
English as a New Language**



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The ENL Collection – A Pirate Adventure  
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## ***About the author***

*Hal has enjoyed creating easy to read stories for most of his life. He has transformed this love of writing into useful tools for learners of English as a new language.*

*He began teaching English as a new language when he lived in the Philippines. He began teaching Korean students both face-to-face and via the internet.*

*Upon his return to the United States, he has continued to teach English as a new language to students in Korea, Japan, China, France, Germany, Russia, Estonia, Uzbekistan, Thailand, Brazil, Lithuania, Mexico, Israel, and The Philippines. His students have ranged from 6 years old to 60 years old.*

*He emphasizes that language is about communication and that understanding the function of speaking another language is very valuable in today's society.*

*These stories have been used in his classes to increase vocabulary and comprehension through using fun and exciting adventures. Originally they were created for a summer English camp, where he was the director.*



# *A PIRATE ADVENTURE*

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# *THE 'NEW HOPE'*



Jason Wellington lived in a large city by the sea. From his house, which was above the homes and businesses below, he could look out across the water and watch the large ships with their tall white sails come and go as they brought goods from faraway places. He dreamed that one day he would sail away on one of those ships and explore the world. He had daydreams of great adventures in exotic countries. He dreamed of battles against pirates who wanted to capture the cargo on his ship. He would be the hero that saved everyone, and then one day, he would be the captain of his own sailing ship.

Jason enjoyed going down to the docks and watching all the activity as the men loaded and unloaded the ships. He listened as the men working on the docks told stories about strange people and strange places. He heard about the pirates and how badly they treated the people who refused to join them.

They told of a red ship with bright white sails that sailed around the world looking for the richest ships to plunder. The captain of this ship was the famous Captain Horatio, the most feared man in the entire world. His ship, the *'Red Calypso'* had been taking the cargo of merchant ships for many years. The navy had tried to capture him on many occasions, but he always slipped away.

Jason listened carefully as the sailors told their tales of the high seas. Each story made him feel as though he was on the ship sailing with them. He would close his eyes and imagine the places and people in the stories.

Jason was too young to be a sailor. His mother warned him that life on a ship

was not all adventure. Being on a sailing ship was hard work. There were many things to do and the newest member of the crew always had the hardest work of all. It was also very dangerous. Storms, pirates, and other perils had taken the lives of many sailors, including Jason's father.

She told him that the men on the ship cleaned the decks, coiled the ropes, and folded the sails so they were organized, always ready at a moment's notice. Food was to be prepared three times a day, and then the captain would find even more work after all the chores were finished. Life on a sailing ship was very hard work and the days were very long. Weeks might pass before seeing land. The sun would be hot, a storm might blow in, or it would get so cold that a blanket could not keep him warm. The time at sea is difficult.

Even though he knew these things, this didn't stop Jason from dreaming about the sea. He didn't care about the hard work. He wanted the adventure of seeing far-off places and meeting new people.

One day, while Jason was listening to a group of sailors sharing their stories, a man approached him and waved for him to come over.

The man said, "Young man, I have seen you sitting here day after day listening to these men talk. I think you are eager to join them. Am I right?"

"YES!" Jason exclaimed. "Of course, I want to go on a ship and sail around the world!"

"Come with me," the man said. "I'll make your wish come true."

Jason followed the man. He was excited.

He asked himself, "What could this man mean?"

Was he really going to sail on a ship? Was his dream going to come true?

The two of them walked along the dock in silence. Jason had never been to the end of the docks before. The farther they walked the more excited and nervous Jason became.

They came to a small brown building with a big sign on the front. It said, 'FAR EAST SHIPPING COMPANY'.

Jason looked out at the sea from the end of the long dock. Tied up at the pier, across from the building, was the biggest ship he had ever seen. It had four tall masts with the sails neatly strapped to the yardarms as they swayed in the wind. It looked beautiful against the blue sky and the white clouds that were floating gently above.

The man led Jason into the office. There was a very big man in a grey coat sitting at a desk, writing with a feather pen.

Without looking up, he said, "Sit down, I'll be with you in a minute."

Jason found a broken chair in the corner, sat down, and looked around the office. It wasn't much to look at. There were papers pinned on the walls behind the man at the desk. All the furniture looked old and very used. The window had a crack in it, and it was very dirty. In the middle of the desk was a small lamp, but the wick was not lit. On each of the corners of the desk, there were stacks of papers. Other than that, the room was very plain.

The nice man who had brought him to the office left, leaving Jason alone with the big man who continued to work at his desk.

After what seemed like a very long time, the man behind the desk looked up and said, "Hello young man, my name is Mr. Garnes. Mr. Roberts tells me that you want to be a sailor someday. Is this true?"

Jason looked up at Mr. Garnes very surprised, and answered. "Yes sir, that's my dream!"

"Well, I have an opening for a cabin boy on one of my ships that leaves tomorrow. The boy who was supposed to take the job got sick, so I need a replacement right away. The ship will be back in time for you to start school in the fall. Are you interested?" Mr. Garnes asked Jason.

"Of Course! What do I have to do?" Jason questioned.

"You'll have to get your parent's permission before we can do anything. Here, take this paper home to your parents and have them sign it. Bring it back to me today, and then we'll get you the things you'll need for the voyage," Mr. Garnes informed him.

“My father died at sea, so he can’t sign it. Can my mother sign it for me?” Jason asked.

“That’ll be fine, just get it back to me before I leave tonight, or I’ll have to find someone else to take the job,” Mr. Garnes directed him

Jason took the paper and ran all the way home.

Jason burst into the house breathing hard.

“Mom! I’ve been offered a job as a cabin boy on a ship. Mr. Garnes at the Far East Shipping Company gave me this paper for you to sign so I can go. Will you sign it please?” Jason begged his mother.

Jason’s mother took the paper and read it. She had a very sad look on her face as she sat down at the table and looked out the window staring, at nothing in particular.

Looking back at Jason with tears in her eyes, she said to him, “Jason, you know that your father went on a voyage and he never returned. I don’t want the same thing to happen to you.”

“Mom, you know this is what I have always wanted to do. I’ll only be gone three months. When I get back I’ll know if this is what I really want to do. Please let me go!” Jason pleaded with his mother.

“I’ll think about it and answer you tomorrow,” his mother replied.

“I have to bring it back today. Mr. Garnes said he needs to know right away so he can get the things I need for the voyage. The ship leaves tomorrow and I need to be ready,” Jason continued.

His mother said sadly, “I’ll answer you after lunch. Go to your room and get ready to eat. I have a lot of thinking to do.”

Jason went to his room. He got onto his knees next to his bed and said a prayer asking to go on the trip. When he was done, he quickly grabbed some of the things he wanted to take with him and put them into a bag, along with a picture of his family. He was packed and ready to go.

At lunch, no one spoke. Jason’s little sister was even quiet for the first time.

At the end of the meal, Jason’s mother spoke up.

“So, Jason, is this what you really want to do?” she asked.

“Yes mom, more than anything else in the whole world. Please can I go?” Jason begged again.

His mother looked at him with tears in her eyes.

“I guess I really don’t have a choice. Someday you will be old enough to go off on your own, so I guess you need to find out if this is what you really want to do with your life,” his mother said, pulling him close to give him a hug.

She continued, “I’ve decided to sign the papers. You can go on the voyage, but I’m not happy about this. I know if I don’t sign them, you will be miserable all summer. I’ll pray for your safety every day.”

She then bent over and kissed him on the forehead.

Jason finished the last of his food and then ran out of the house toward the docks. He ran all the way to the Far East Shipping Company. He opened the door without knocking carrying the paper in his hand.

Panting and out of breath Jason stated, “I have the paper! It’s signed by my mother. I can go work for you and go on the voyage!”

Mr. Garnes laughed, “You made it just in time. I was beginning to wonder if I needed to find someone else.”

Jason sat down in the old chair and waited for Mr. Garnes to put some papers in piles on his desk. He was looking for something. Then he found it.

Mr. Garnes gave Jason a list of things he would need to buy at the local supply store. He would need shoes, rope, soap, extra shirts and pants, a hat, a bedroll to sleep on, and dishes on which to eat. He gave Jason some money to purchase the things he needed.

The next day Jason got up early and went to the general store to buy his supplies. When he was finished getting the things he needed, he went home. His mother had breakfast ready and the family was sitting at the table. Jason quickly washed up and then joined them. Everyone was asking Jason about the journey he was about to take.

“I don’t know anything other than the ship’s name is the *‘New Hope’* and that it leaves at seven o’clock tonight. We’ll be gone about three months. I don’t even know where we’re going,” he told his family.

After breakfast, he finished putting all his clothes and supplies together. He was ready to go.

The rest of day was spent making sure he had everything he would need. His mother knew what his father usually took with him, so she was a big help. She also showed him how to pack things so it would take up less space.

After dinner, he went down the stairs very quietly only to find his entire family waiting for him to say good-bye. After many hugs and kisses, Jason left the house for the dock.

The *‘New Hope’* was tied up at the end of pier twenty-five. Jason knew exactly where to go. When he got there, he looked high into the sky. The masts of the ship were so tall they seemed to touch the clouds.

A sailor met him when he tried to board the ship.

“And who might you be, young man?” the man asked.

“I’m Jason Wellington and I’m the new cabin boy,” Jason replied proudly with a big smile.

“Are you Henry Wellington’s son?” the man asked.

“Yes I am. Did you know my father?” Jason questioned the man.

“Did I know him? We were on the same ship together for many years. Too bad what happened to him,” the man informed Jason.

“You know what happened to my father?” Jason asked

“Didn’t anyone ever tell you?” the man asked surprised.

“No, we were just told he was lost at sea,” Jason answered.

“I’ll tell you all about your father when we have more time. You need to get aboard. The captain doesn’t like it when the crew is late. Go to the front of the ship where one of the men will show you where to bunk,” the sailor directed Jason.

Jason walked up the long ramp that led to the deck of the *‘New Hope’*. He was

not paying attention because he was thinking about what the man had said about his father, when he tripped over a rope and ended up sprawled out on the deck. The men looked over at him and laughed. Jason turned red in the face from embarrassment.

“Where do I put my things?” Jason asked one of the crew members.

The man pointed to a door at the front of the ship.

Jason got up to go where the man had told him to go, and just as he was about to open the door, it swung open so fast that it knocked him down to the ground. Once again, Jason was laying on the deck looking up at the man who had just burst through the door.

“Who are you?” a gruff and angry voice asked him.

Lying on his backside, he answered, “I’m Jason Wellington and I’m the new cabin boy.”

Jason got up and brushed the dirt off his clothes.

“Get downstairs and ask the cook where you should put your things. Come up to the bridge and then the captain will give you instructions on what your duties will be,” the man said, as he moved quickly past Jason toward the back of the ship.

Jason walked past the big burly man and went down the stairs into the belly of the ship. When he got to the bottom he saw an open door to his right and looked inside.

“Is the cook here?” Jason asked.

“That would be me. Who are you?” the cook responded.

“I’m Jason Wellington, the new cabin boy,” Jason answered.

“You wouldn’t be Henry Wellington’s boy, would you?” the cook asked as he looked at the boy from head to toe.

“Yes, did you know him?” Jason answered once again, surprised that someone knew his father.

“I knew him well, until he was taken by the pirate Captain Horatio. That was about five years ago, I think,” the cook said.

“Captain Horatio!” Jason blurted out. “He was taken by Captain Horatio?”

“That’s correct. I’ll tell you more about it later,” he replied as he stirred something in a big black pot. “Put your things in that closet over there to your right. You’ll sleep under the counter at the back of the kitchen.”

Jason put his bag where the cook told him and then looked under the counter at his bed. It was a thin mattress filled with straw. There was just enough room for him. If he were any taller he would not have fit.

The cook then said, “You had better get to the captain for your duties, he isn’t very patient. You can call me Pappy, everyone else does.”

Jason left the galley and went up to the bridge. He passed the men as they were preparing to leave the dock. Everyone was busy climbing up and down the ropes, tying down boxes, cleaning the deck and releasing the ropes from the dock.

“Weigh the anchor!” a big voice from the back of the ship ordered.

Jason asked how to find the captain. One of the men pointed to the upper deck at the back of the ship. He pointed at the man with the big voice.

He climbed the stairs to the bridge. When he got to the top of the stairs, he saw many people moving from place to place and the captain giving orders.

A big man in a blue jacket was holding the big wheel that steered the ship.

“Throw off the lines, prepare to shove off!” the captain yelled out.

“Aye Sir!” came the response.

The large ship began to move away from the dock, the sails unfurled from the yardarms, and the wind began to fill them. A feeling of excitement came over Jason. He was really going on an adventure. The ship would soon be out to sea and he was a part of the crew.

Just then a loud voice yelled out. “BOY! Get over here. I need to give you your instructions,” the captain ordered.

Jason ran over to the captain. “Yes sir, what can I do for you?” he asked.

Captain Fortner was an impressive man. He was tall with thick curly black hair. He had a thin beard with a touch of gray in it. He had on a red and blue uniform with white pants. His hat was large and was tilted slightly to the left. There was a beautiful



saber hanging from his belt on his right side. His black boots had a shiny polish. As he commanded his men what to do, he had a serious look on his face.

The captain then handed a list of duties to Jason for him to look over.

“You can read, can’t you?” the captain asked.

“Yes sir, I can read,” Jason responded.

“You’ll get up at the rise of the sun and you will keep busy until after the sun goes down,” the captain directed. “Get off of my bridge and get to work young man, or I’ll have you punished!”

Jason ran. He was afraid of the captain. He had heard stories about how crew members who did not do what the captain said might be whipped. That was the last thing in the world he wanted to happen to him.

He went to the galley to help Pappy prepare the first meal. While in the galley Jason read his list of duties. He would be busy all day doing the jobs he had on his list.

What he did not expect was the awful seasickness. It took him three days to finally adjust to the motion of the ship. The sailors laughed at him every time he ran to the side of the ship with a green face and vomited.

Even after the sun went down, Jason had many more things on his list to complete. He worked by the light of a candle until his chores were finished.

It would be like this day after day, but Jason didn’t complain. He was on a ship sailing to a far-off place. It was what he had always wanted to do.

**VOCABULARY** (*Match the word to its definition*)

- |                      |                                  |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. crew _____        | a. soft cushion to sleep on      |
| 2. captain _____     | b. substitute, take the place of |
| 3. wish _____        | c. ship's workers                |
| 4. swayed _____      | d. journey at sea on a ship      |
| 5. replacement _____ | e. dock, wharf, berth            |
| 6. voyage _____      | f. skipper, leader, boss         |
| 7. pier _____        | g. dream, desire                 |
| 8. bunk _____        | h. keeps a ship in one place     |
| 9. mattress _____    | i. back and forth in the wind    |
| 10. anchor _____     | j. place to sleep, bed           |

**TRUE OR FALSE**

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| 1. Jason wanted to go on a ship.                        | T / F |
| 2. Jason's father went with him on the trip.            | T / F |
| 3. Jason's mother said he could not go on the voyage.   | T / F |
| 4. The company was called the Far East Trading Company. | T / F |
| 5. Jason had a sister.                                  | T / F |
| 6. The ship was called the New Horizon.                 | T / F |
| 7. Mr. Garnes asked him if he wanted to be a captain.   | T / F |
| 8. Pappy was the captain of the ship.                   | T / F |
| 9. Jason slept under the counter in the galley.         | T / F |
| 10. Jason worked very hard every day.                   | T / F |

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. What was the name of the ship? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) New Horizon
  - b) New Hope
  - c) New Home
  - d) New Harmony
  
2. What did Jason like to do every day? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) wash the floors
  - b) go to school
  - c) visit his grandmother
  - d) listen to the sailors' talk
  
3. Who had been lost at sea five years before? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Jason's uncle
  - b. Jason's father
  - c. Jason's mother
  - d. Jason's aunt
  
4. What was Jason's position on the ship? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. cabin boy
  - b. cabin mate
  - c. assistant cook
  - d. swabby

**COMPREHENSION:** (*Write a complete sentence to answer the question.*)

1. What had Jason always wanted to be?

---

2. How long was the journey going to take?

---

3. Who offered him the job?

---

4. What were some of the jobs of a sailor?

---

5. What time did the ship leave the dock?

---

6. Why did Jason's face turn green?

---

7. What happened to Jason when he first stepped onto the ship?

---

8. Where did Jason sleep?

---

9. Who gave him the list of duties he was to do every day?

---

10. Where was the ship going?

---

# *THE ‘RED CALYPSO’*



A month passed, and Jason was getting stronger. It wasn't taking him as long to do his daily chores as it had when he first arrived. He worked out a system to get them done more quickly. This gave him a little extra time each day to explore and learn about the other duties on the ship. He learned to climb the ropes, unfurl the sails, and many of the other responsibilities of a sailor.

Most of all he liked to climb high onto the highest yardarm and sit with the wind blowing in his hair as he searched the horizon for signs of land or other ships. Sometimes he would sit after dark and look at the stars. He had watched the captain use his sextant. He would point it at the stars to find where they were. Jason wanted to learn how to use the device, but he was too shy to ask.

The weather on the trip had been excellent, but on this day the sky began to turn black and the wind began to get stronger. The captain ordered all the men to stow the sails away and to batten down the hatches to the hold. Anything that might move or fall off the ship needed to be tied down with a rope. The crew knew they were going to be in the middle of a big storm. They had been through this before, so they knew exactly what needed to be done.

Jason followed directions and helped as best as he could.

After the ship was ready for the storm, all the sailors went to their bunks and tied themselves to their hammocks so they wouldn't be thrown from side to side when the ship rolled from the large waves.

Jason crawled into his sleeping spot under the counter, holding tightly to the

sides so he did not get tossed about. He was scared.

Water was leaking from above and everything in the galley was smashing together, making a noise so loud Jason had to cover his ears. It was pitch black in the galley.

The *'New Hope'* creaked and groaned as the waves smashed into the sides of the ship. This went on all night.

It was late morning before the storm settled down. When the sky finally cleared, the sun shone through the cracks above Jason revealing that the day was going to be clear.

Jason crawled out of his small space and went up to the deck. He rubbed his eyes while he looked up at the bright sun, visibly tired from a lack of sleep.

“Ship ahoy!” yelled the lookout from the crow’s nest atop the center mast.

Everyone jumped. Jason went to the side of the ship and looked out onto the horizon. In the distance, he saw a huge red ship with white sails.

One of the men yelled out, “It’s the *'Red Calypso'*. We need to get ready to protect our ship.

Jason thought, “The *'Red Calypso'* and Captain Horatio! He was on his way to take our cargo.”

Jason yelled out, but everyone was already preparing the ship for a battle. The crew put the cannons into place, gun powder barrels were brought up from the hold, and cannonballs were stacked next to the cannons. Jason went below to help.

When he looked out of the portals, used for the cannons, he could see the *'Red Calypso'* approaching.

On the deck of the *'Red Calypso'*, there was the same activity as they prepared to capture the *'New Hope'*. The *'Red Calypso'* was faster than the *'New Hope'* so there was no escape. They would have to fight.

Once everything was in place for the impending battle, silence filled the air on the *'New Hope'*. The crew knew the legend of the *'Red Calypso'*. They also knew that it would not be easy to defend against the weapons Captain Horatio had on his ship,

and he was ready to use them.

The big red ship was gaining on the *'New Hope'*. The captain was on the bridge looking back at the pirate ship using his scope.

“Hard to the starboard side,” the captain yelled out, as he ordered the helmsman to turn the ship. “Prepare the cannons on the port side to fire on my command!”

The helmsman turned the wheel to the left as fast as he could. The ship came around so that the *'Red Calypso'* was coming directly at the side of the *'New Hope'*.

“Fire!” the captain ordered and then a volley of shots rang out making the ship lean to the side. The sound and smell of gun powder filled the air.

“Reload and fire as quickly as you can!” the captain yelled again.

The cannons sent out another round of cannonballs at the red ship.

The cannonballs ripped through the sails on the approaching ship. The jib sail came crashing down when a cannonball hit the base of the forward mast.

The crew of the *'Red Calypso'* was running all over the deck trying to avoid the cannon balls as they dropped out of the sky.

“Fire!” the captain ordered again and white smoke billowed out of the side of the ship again.

The *'Red Calypso'* began to turn so that her cannons could return fire.

“Hard to the port! Unfurl the main sail. Give me all the speed you can muster!” the captain gave out the orders, as he watched the *'Red Calypso'* try to maneuver into attack position.

By the time the *'Red Calypso'* turned to fire its cannons at the *'New Hope'*, the *'New Hope'* had turned back to the right to go the other direction, quickly putting distance between it and the damaged ship.

The three rounds of cannon fire had done a lot of damage to the *'Red Calypso'*, and the *'Red Calypso'* had not fired once. Many of her white sails were badly torn and there was a fire on the deck. The *'New Hope'* pulled away and headed toward the closest port they could find. It would not be long before the *'Red Calypso'* was going to chase them again.

The captain's strategy had worked. The captain of the *'Red Calypso'* had expected the *'New Hope'* to draw alongside and fire their cannons at each other side-by-side.

The *'New Hope's'* captain used another tactic to escape. He knew that if they had gone side-by-side with the *'Red Calypso'*, the *'New Hope'* would have lost.

The *'New Hope'* sailed away as the crew looked back at the ship, which was burning in the distance. They were one of the few ships to ever survive the *'Red Calypso's'* attempt to capture. The captain knew the next time they encountered the *'Red Calypso'* they wouldn't be so lucky.

The ship sailed as quickly as it could toward the nearest harbor. It would take more than a day to get there, so the captain ordered the sailors to remain alert. If the *'Red Calypso'* appeared they would have to prepare for a big fight. A fight they knew they would lose.

Darkness fell and the stars came out. The sky was clear and the wind was at the back of the ship so the ship moved gently up and down as she quickly cruised toward the harbor where they would be safe. The moon was so big it seemed like one could reach up and grab it.

The crew was resting on the deck enjoying some peace and quiet when from above a loud voice yelled out, "Ship Ahoy! Ship Ahoy!"

The crew scrambled from their resting places, went to the sides of the ship, and gazed at the approaching *'Red Calypso'*. In the distance the orange glow of fire lit up the sky. Even though the *'Red Calypso'* was still burning, she was chasing them and getting closer.

Jason climbed up the ropes to where he could get a better look at the *'Red Calypso'* as she followed behind. She wasn't getting closer very fast, but she was gaining on the *'New Hope'*. The captain was giving orders to the crew to prepare for the battle. He was looking for ways to make the ship go faster. The crew began throwing things over the side of the ship into the water to make the ship lighter.

Jason came up with an idea. He quickly climbed down from the mast and ran to



the back of the ship to talk to the captain.

“Sir, I have an idea that might help slow down the *‘Red Calypso’*!” Jason said to the first mate, while breathing hard.

At first the first mate ignored the young man. He was busy making sure that everything possible was being done to save the ship, but Jason would not give up.

“I have an idea. Please listen!” Jason yelled.

“Hold on young man, we are in the middle of preparing for the fight of our lives. I don’t have time for this. Go back to your duties and help the men get ready,” the first mate yelled at Jason.

Jason was persistent, he wouldn’t give up. “If we put some gunpowder into those boxes we are throwing off the ship and put long fuses on them, we might do some damage to the *‘Red Calypso’* once she comes upon them. If nothing else, it will be a distraction to them and it might slow them down just enough so we can get some distance between us. We might even be able to get away.”

The captain noticed Jason on the bridge.

“What’s he doing here? Get him off my bridge! I have too many things to do than to listen to him!” the captain ordered.

“Sir, I think you should listen to his idea. I think he has a good plan,” the first mate said to the captain.

“OK, make it quick. We don’t have much time,” the captain said, as he turned toward Jason.

Jason was now nervous and began, “Well, um... I was saying that...”

“Speak up!” the captain exclaimed looking straight at Jason. “We don’t have much time.”

“Well, I was thinking that if we put some gunpowder into those boxes we are throwing into the sea, and put a long fuse on it, we might be able to do some damage to the *‘Red Calypso’* once she comes upon them. If nothing else, it will be a distraction to them and it might slow them down a little. We might even be able to get away,” Jason repeated what he had said before.

The captain looked surprised.

He said to Jason, “Now that’s not a bad idea.”

Yelling loudly to the crew, the captain ordered, “Stop throwing the boxes into the water!”

He then turned to the first mate, “Give them the instructions on what we are going to do. Make it quick. We don’t have a lot of time before they are upon us.”

The first mate went down to the deck and began to instruct the sailors on what they needed to do. The men sealed the boxes so they wouldn’t leak and then filled them with gunpowder.

There were about twenty boxes. They placed them into the lifeboats and lowered them slowly down the side of the ship. It was very tricky since lifeboats are usually only lowered while the ship is not moving.

The fuses were lit and then the boxes were dropped slowly into the water one at a time on both sides of the ship. The dim glow of the fuses burning, followed behind in the wake of the ship.

Once all the boxes were in the water, they pulled the lifeboats back onto the deck. Now it was a matter of waiting until the boxes exploded to see what the result would be.

The orange glow of the *‘Red Calypso’* followed behind as the dim light of the fuses disappeared into the night.

Suddenly the first of the boxes exploded and the sky lit up like lightning; then another. The outline of the *‘Red Calypso’* was in the glow of the explosions. The next one went off and it appeared that the *‘Red Calypso’* was close enough to the explosion to feel the effects. Then four or five of the boxes went up in flames. The *‘Red Calypso’*, caught in the middle of the surprise, began to slow down. The *‘New Hope’* pulled away. She would now make it safely to the harbor.

In the distance, the final boxes blew up and once again lighting the sky with the *‘Red Calypso’* now burning brighter than before.

The captain of the *‘New Hope’* watched from the stern of the ship with his long

looking glass in amazement at what had just happened.

“Get that young man up here now!” the captain ordered his officer.

“Aye, Sir, right away,” the officer responded and then turned to find Jason.

The officer found Jason on the deck of the ship looking back at the *‘Red Calypso’* with the other sailors.

“The captain wants to see you right now,” the officer told Jason as he pulled on his sleeve to come with him.

Jason climbed the stairs to the bridge where the captain was waiting for him.

The captain saw Jason and then spoke to him, “That was an amazing idea, son. I would have never thought of that. If you hadn’t come up with that idea, the *‘Red Calypso’* would have certainly captured our ship, and we would have lost all of our cargo. You are a hero to all of us.”

He then turned to the crew of the *‘New Hope’* and addressed them, “Jason Wellington is responsible for the idea for the boxes we set on the water. I’m promoting him to seaman second class. He is an important member of this crew!”

Jason was shocked. He was no longer the cabin boy. He was a seaman second class. That meant he could move out of the galley and into a bunk. He would begin to train as a real sailor. He might even learn how to use the sextant, which uses the stars to find out where they are on the map.

Jason found his new berth and put his things under his hammock. One of the men came up to him and greeted him.

Jason remembered that he was the sailor who had greeted him when he first arrived.

Jason asked him, “Aren’t you the man who said you knew my father?”

“Yes, I am. I forgot what I promised you. By the way, my name is Garold Lawson. Come over to the table and I’ll tell you about your father,” the sailor directed Jason.

Once they were seated, Garold began to tell Jason about his dad, “Your father was one of the best friends I have ever had. I would venture to guess that just about

anyone who knew him would say the same thing. He was a hard worker, just like you.

“We were on the *‘Northern Star’*. We had just left Cransbury Shore when the *‘Red Calypso’* seemed to come out of nowhere and locked onto our ship. We didn’t manage get off a single cannon shot.

“The pirates boarded our ship and took what they could from the hold. Then they selected ten men and took them as hostages. Your father was one of them.

“Stories have been told that these hostages are put to hard labor on the ship. If they choose to join the crew, they receive special privileges. If they don’t, they die of starvation.

“I’m not sure if your father is still alive. It was almost five years ago that he was taken,” the sailor explained to Jason.

“Thank you for telling me the story. I’m happy to meet someone who knew my father so well,” Jason said to Garold, and then he went to his hammock.

Jason sat on his bed and then lay down. He fell asleep knowing about his father’s story and that he might still be alive.

The *‘New Hope’* sailed toward the harbor. A few hours later, at dawn, the *‘New Hope’* entered the safety of the bay beside a fishing village. The ship dropped its anchor and the men prepared to go ashore to get supplies, as well as to get some time off from the ship.

Beautiful palm trees that swayed in the wind surrounded the harbor. The sand on the beach was white and looked very inviting. The water was calm and blue. The village on the shore was small and looked like a painting his father had purchased on one of his voyages that hung on the wall in his house. It was early in the morning, but there was a lot of activity around the village.

The crew invited Jason to join them. The small lifeboats were lowered to the water below and the men used long oars to row the boats toward the shore.

Along the beach, there were many small fishing boats. The fishermen were preparing for the day’s work. They had their nets pulled up onto the beach and were rolling them up to place them into their small boats.

The smell of freshly cooked food filled the air. The sailors were ready for a meal other than biscuits and dried beef.

When they got to the beach the villagers came to welcome them. Young children ran around singing songs and the older women brought food. The people of the village were excited to see these strangers. It was exactly how Jason had dreamed it would be. Jason and the crew relaxed on the beach and drank coconut milk, and ate fresh fruit. They laughed with the children and spent time napping. The village was very inviting and it was tempting to stay. The people were so friendly and the food was so good.

Late in the afternoon, the fishing boats began to return. They had had a good day of fishing. The boats were full of fish. The first mate and Pappy selected several different kinds of fish to take back to the ship. Jason thought it would be nice to have fresh fish for at least a few meals.

The sailors were about to prepare for the trip back to the ship when they were startled by the sound of a cannon firing. They turned to look out at the harbor and to their surprise, they saw the white smoke from a cannon rising slowly from the side of the *'New Hope'*. The men had to hurry. That meant that there was something wrong. The men could only imagine, but the first thing that came to their minds was the *'Red Calypso'*.



**VOCABULARY** (*Match the word to its definition*)

- |                       |                                |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. stern _____        | a. device to find a location   |
| 2. stronger _____     | b. tale of a hero              |
| 3. yardarm _____      | c. unfold, releasing the sails |
| 4. sextant _____      | d. back of the ship            |
| 5. crow's nest _____  | e. more strength               |
| 6. legend _____       | f. orders, directions          |
| 7. starboard _____    | g. what a sail is attached to  |
| 8. unfurl _____       | h. box high above the ship     |
| 9. instructions _____ | i. not easy, risky             |
| 10. tricky _____      | j. right side of a ship        |

**TRUE OR FALSE**

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| 1. Captain Horatio was the captain of the New Hope.    | T / F |
| 2. The New Hope was a merchant ship.                   | T / F |
| 3. Jason was afraid of being on a sailing ship.        | T / F |
| 4. Jason had many chores to do.                        | T / F |
| 5. Jason was washed off the ship during the storm.     | T / F |
| 6. Jason was whipped for not doing his work.           | T / F |
| 7. Jason liked to climb the ropes above the ship.      | T / F |
| 8. The Red Calypso was destroyed.                      | T / F |
| 9. The captain of the New Hope fooled the Red Calypso. | T / F |
| 10. Jason liked to eat fish.                           | T / F |

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. What was Jason's idea to stop the Red Calypso? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) throw stones at the ship
  - b) surrender the New Hope
  - c) put gunpowder into the boxes
  - d) sink the New Hope
  
2. Who captured Jason's father? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) Captain Hook
  - b) Captain Horatio
  - c) Captain Sparrow
  - d) Captain Horner
  
3. What kind of food did the crew normally eat? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) biscuits and rice
  - b) biscuits and gravy
  - c) biscuits and cookies
  - d) biscuits and dried beef
  
4. What did the sailors hear when the Red Calypso was first seen? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) Land Ho!
  - b) Ship Ahoy!
  - c) Ship Ho!
  - d) I see a big ship!



**COMPREHENSION:** (*Write a complete sentence to answer the question.*)

1. What was the name of the pirate ship?

---

2. How long had the New Hope been at sea?

---

3. What did Jason like to do when his work was done?

---

4. How long did the storm last?

---

5. What did the Garold tell Jason about his father?

---

6. Where did the New Hope go after the battle?

---

7. Why was the crew of the New Hope afraid?

---

8. What was in the boxes the crew of the New Hope put into the sea?

---

9. How many times did the New Hope fire her cannons?

---

10. What rank was Jason promoted to?

---



# *BATTLE IN THE LAGOON*



The cannon on the *'New Hope'* rang out again signaling to the men on the beach to return to the ship immediately.

Jason and the crew ran for the boats on the beach. They carried what supplies they could and loaded them quickly into the lifeboats. They pushed off from the sand and started to row the oars as fast as possible. As they approached the *'New Hope'*, the white sails of another ship appeared behind the tall palm trees. It was passing by the corner of the island and was coming into the harbor.

When Jason and the crew climbed the ropes to board the *'New Hope'*, they turned to look at the large ship as it came fully into view. It was a Navy ship.

Relief came over all of the crewmembers. It wasn't the *'Red Calypso'* after all.

The banner that hung from the masts showed that an Admiral was on board the ship. Everyone was more relaxed now that the navy ship was in the lagoon. They would be safer because of the navy ship would be in the harbor with them.

The returning sailors took the fresh supplies to the galley. Barrels of fresh water were tied to the deck. The fresh fruit was passed around to the sailors who had remained on the ship.

The name on the ship was *'Intrepid'*. It was a grand ship with tall sails and brightly colored paint. She had some damage from a battle with another ship. It appeared that they were also coming for supplies and repairs.

As the ship entered the harbor it began to take up its sails and slow down. It

moved slowly toward the *'New Hope'* and dropped its anchor when the ships were side-by-side.

Suddenly, a black flag raised on the foremast. The flag had the familiar skull and crossbones of a pirate ship. Shock filled the minds of the sailors. How could this be? One the best ships in the navy was now a pirate ship. How did this happen?

“Look, that’s Captain Horatio!” one of the men yelled out.

When the crew looked up they saw a tall man in a dark blue waistcoat with copper buttons down the front of it standing on the foredeck of the ship. He had a big smile on his face. He took off his hat and bowed to them, and then he shouted, “Attack!”

Just then the heads of the pirates appeared above the gunnels of the ship. They stood along the starboard side and yelled across the water. They were preparing to board the *'New Hope'*.

There was no time to run. The *'New Hope'* was sitting in the middle of the harbor with its anchor holding it in place.

The pirates swung on ropes across the water and landed on the ship. They had their weapons ready for a fight.

Captain Fortner yelled from the bridge, “Stand down men. Put your weapons away. We cannot win this fight. Let the pirates have what they want.”

Once the pirates were on the ship, they told all of the sailors to get down onto their knees and tied their hands behind their backs. Some of the pirates hit the crew of the *'New Hope'* and tried to get them to fight, but the crew obeyed their captain.

The pirates took the fresh food and fruit. They opened the hatches and took what cargo would fit on the *'Intrepid'*. They brought the soldiers off of the *'Intrepid'* and had them join the crew of the *'New Hope'*. The pirates found wine and rum and passed the bottles around. There was much noise as the pirates drank the liquor and got very drunk. The pirates began to eat and drink so much that they ignored their prisoners. When Captain Horatio boarded the ship he became angry with his men for getting so drunk.

They just laughed and continued to drink.

Captain Horatio walked past the prisoners who were sitting on the main deck and inspected them. He kicked them and pulled their hair to get a better look at them. He asked a few of them questions about their experience as sailors and he laughed when they said they would never be pirates.

“We’ll just have to see about that!” he laughed.

When he got to Jason, he stopped.

“Aren’t you a little young to be on a merchant ship?” Captain Horatio asked Jason.

“No sir, I am Jason Wellington and I’m a sailor second class!”

The captain laughed, “Jason Wellington, sailor second class? Now that’s a good one. Who promoted you to that rank?”

“Captain Fortner did because I thought of the idea of the exploding boxes,” Jason said proudly.

“You thought of that? You destroyed my ship!” Captain Horatio said as he slapped Jason across the face hard enough to knock him over onto the boards of the deck.

“We were lucky that we encountered the *‘Intrepid’* before we sank. We fooled them into helping us, if not, we would have sunk in the middle of the ocean. So, you are the one who was responsible for that? I should have you thrown into the sea!” Captain Horatio yelled at Jason.

Jason held back the tears. The side of his face was red from where the captain had hit him.

“I wish you would!” Jason yelled at the captain as he sat up.

Captain Horatio just laughed at Jason, “You’re such a silly boy.”

Captain Horatio continued to walk back and forth looking over the crew of the *‘New Hope’* and the soldiers who were sitting quietly on the deck. He appeared to be looking for new recruits to take on his ship.

Captain Fortner brought his sword and handed it to Captain Horatio in

surrender.

Captain Horatio ordered Captain Fortner and his officers to get into one of the lifeboats and go to the shore.

While Captain Horatio was busy giving orders, one of the crew members of the *'New Hope'* had managed to untie his ropes. He helped the man next to him and then one-by-one all of the men were untied. The pirates were too drunk to notice. They were hanging on the ropes like monkeys and singing songs.

Being very quiet and using sign language, each of the crew members and the soldiers knew what to do.

Just as Captain Fortner was about to leave the ship, the soldiers and the crew of the *'New Hope'* jumped up and started to fight. They caught the pirates completely off guard. The fight was quick. They threw many of the pirates off of the ship into the lagoon. They were too drunk to put up much of a fight. In a matter of a few minutes the tables had turned and now it was Captain Horatio who was tied up along with his crew. The deck was a prison for the pirates. The *'Intrepid'* and the *'New Hope'* were now free.

Captain Fortner was very surprised, and proud of his crew. All the soldiers from the *'Intrepid'* and the crew of the *'New Hope'* cheered loudly at their success.

The crew of the *'Intrepid'* told the story of how the *'Red Calypso'* had fooled them. The *'Red Calypso'* was on fire and the *'Intrepid'* offered to give help, and soon they came alongside.

Not knowing that it was a pirate ship, because they had taken down their pirate flag and replaced it with merchant flag, the *'Red Calypso'* surprised them by firing a round of cannon balls at them. Then the pirates attacked the ship before they were ready to defend themselves. The Admiral, the captain and the officers of the *'Intrepid'* were ordered into a lifeboat and set them off onto the ocean. Now the crew of the *Intrepid* needed to find them as soon as possible.

The navy sailors returned to their ship and prepared to leave. There were a few pirates left on the ship, but they were no match for the returning navy sailors.

The first mate from the *'New Hope'* took command of the *'Intrepid'* and they set sail in search of the Admiral and captain. They would meet the *'New Hope'* at the naval station later.

The *'New Hope'* was turned into a prisoner ship and the captain ordered them to take Captain Horatio and his crew to the Navy station at Newport Harbor.

Meanwhile the crew of the *'New Hope'* prepared for the voyage ahead of them. The navy port about a day's journey from the island. When they arrived there, they would drop off Captain Horatio and his crew for trial.

There were too many prisoners to put into the brig on the ship, so most of the men sat on the deck. Occasionally, their ropes were checked to see if they had become loose. The *'New Hope's'* crew didn't want a reversal of what they had done to free themselves.

Jason went over to Captain Horatio who was now sitting on the deck tied with ropes, and looked him in the face.

Being very bold he asked him a very direct question. "I was told that you captured my father Henry Wellington about five years ago. Do you know what happened to him?" Jason questioned the captain.

"You're Henry Wellington's son? I'm not surprised. He was a good man," the captain answered.

"He WAS a good man?" Jason asked. "Is he dead?"

"It's a long story son, I'll need to tell you about it later," Captain Horatio said softly.

Jason couldn't get the thought out of his head. He was eager to hear what Captain Horatio had to tell him about his father.

The Captain Horatio was taken to the guest room. It was better accommodations than the brig, but he wasn't allowed out of the room.

Having extra men on the ship meant that the food supplies would go much faster. Pappy had to cook twice the number of meals he was used to cooking. This kept Jason and him very busy.

Jason wanted to talk to Captain Horatio about his father, but he was so busy he didn't have time. In addition, the captain had ordered that no one was to talk to the prisoners.

The journey to Newport Harbor was not easy. The breeze was from the north, so they had to sail into the wind. This made the trip take longer than anticipated. It was three days before they reached the safety of the harbor.

As they entered, it was late afternoon. The place was busy with ships coming and going. Deerfield Bay was an important resupply harbor for ships going to the New World.

As the *'New Hope'* entered the bay, a smaller ship pulled alongside. The harbor master climbed the ropes to the deck where he asked to speak to the captain. The officer-in-charge took him to the bridge. As they walked to the bridge the harbor master asked who the prisoners were that were sitting on the deck. The officer told him that they were the crew of the *'Red Calypso'*.

"The *'Red Calypso'*? We heard that she had been sunk at sea," the harbor master stated in surprise.

"That's true, but before she sank, they commandeered the *'Intrepid'*. They tried to capture our ship as well, but we were able to capture them instead. It's a long story and I'm sure the captain would love to tell it to you," the officer said with a big smile on his face.

The harbor master went to the bridge to give the captain instructions on where to dock the ship. Then he asked many questions about how the *'New Hope'* had captured the dreaded Captain Horatio and how the *'Red Calypso'* had sunk.

The harbor master left the ship and headed as fast as he could to the pier in order to tell the amazing story of the capture of Captain Horatio.

When the *'New Hope'* pulled up to its berth on the dock, there was a huge crowd waiting for them. There were loud cheers and the people were trying to get as close as possible to get a look at Captain Horatio.

It took some time for the ship to be tied to the dock and for the gang plank to be



dropped.

The commanding officer of the naval station at Newport Bay walked up the plank to take command of the ship and oversee the orderly removal of the prisoners. Several soldiers followed with their guns ready.

The pirates were removed and marched down the long pier to the prison next to the barracks of the navy sailors. They were in chains and the rattling of the links made an eerie sound. People yelled and spat on the pirates. They were happy that at last the crew of the most infamous pirate ship on the high seas that had plundered innocent merchant ships was now in custody.

The Commodore and Captain Fortner met in his quarters to discuss how to remove Captain Horatio from the ship. They were afraid that he would be killed if he was made to walk down the pier to the prison. He was hated, yet he needed to have a fair trial before he was executed. As tempting as it was to just let the people finish him off first, they decided to let him remain on the *'New Hope'* until he could be moved safely.

It was dinner time and the Commodore and Captain Fortner ate together while they discussed what should happen with Captain Horatio.

After Jason took the food to the captain's quarters, he took food to the door of the guest room where Captain Horatio was being held.

When the door opened, Captain Horatio recognized Jason.

"Aren't you Jason Wellington?" the captain inquired.

"Yes sir," Jason responded.

"Sit down, I have something to tell you about your father. Are you ready to listen?" the captain asked.

"I'm not supposed to talk to you," Jason responded.

Getting Jason's attention, he began to talk.

"I think I have information about your father that you might like to know. It won't take long," Captain Horatio insisted.

Jason sat down on the edge of the bed eager to hear what the captain had to say

about his father.

“Would you like to know what has happened to him?” the captain asked.

“Yes SIR! What do you know about my father?” Jason questioned.

“We captured your father’s ship the *‘Northern Star’* about five years ago. When we did, we took him along with ten other prisoners. We let the ship go, but your father became a member of my crew.

“It’s not easy being on a pirate ship. Either you become a member of the crew or you die.

“He was well liked and worked hard to be a good member of the crew. He didn’t like the fighting and usually stayed on the ship whenever we attacked another ship. Other than that he was a hard worker.

“On a pirate ship, there is always a challenge for authority. This creates order. There is a chain of command when the more powerful personalities take control.

“Your father challenged his superiors and always won. He moved up the ranks quickly; it was the only way he could survive.

“About a year ago he had an argument with Captain Horatio. It was a big fight. Half the men supported the captain and half your father. At the end of the fight your father won the challenge. Captain Horatio was thrown into the sea.”

“What about my father, what happened to him?” Jason asked.

“He became Captain Horatio, I am he,” the captain said.

**VOCABULARY** (*Match the word to its definition*)

- |                         |                                   |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. relax _____          | a. top edge of the side of a boat |
| 2. damage _____         | b. housing, room                  |
| 3. gunnel _____         | c. brave, daring                  |
| 4. recruits _____       | d. setback, problem               |
| 5. bold _____           | e. rest, calm down                |
| 6. brig _____           | f. hurt, cause harm               |
| 7. reversal _____       | g. new workers                    |
| 8. confined _____       | h. take by force, hijack          |
| 9. accommodations _____ | i. jail cell on a ship            |
| 10. commandeered _____  | j. restricted, in jail            |

**TRUE OR FALSE**

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| 1. The New Hope rang its bell as a warning.                    | T / F |
| 2. The Intrepid was a navy ship.                               | T / F |
| 3. Captain Fortner surrendered.                                | T / F |
| 4. Jason was thrown into the sea.                              | T / F |
| 5. The pirates got drunk on wine.                              | T / F |
| 6. Captain Horatio was captured.                               | T / F |
| 7. The Admiral and the captain of the Intrepid saved the ship. | T / F |
| 8. The crew brought fresh food to the New Hope .               | T / F |
| 9. Henry Wellington became a pirate.                           | T / F |
| 10. Jason met his father.                                      | T / F |

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. What was Captain Horatio's real name? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) Pappy
  - b) Garold Lawson
  - c) Jason Wellington
  - d) Henry Wellington
  
2. What was the name of the navy ship? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) Intrepid
  - b) Red Calypso
  - c) New Hope
  - d) Constitution
  
3. What did the men in the village on the lagoon do for a living? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) cooked food
  - b) hunted in the forest
  - c) sailors
  - d) fisherman
  
4. What did the sailors hear that made them return to the ship? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) cannon
  - b) bell
  - c) thunder
  - d) I see a big ship!

**COMPREHENSION:** (*Write a complete sentence to answer the question.*)

1. How long did it take to get to the lagoon?

---

2. What kind of food did the sailors take to the ship?

---

3. What was the name of the ship that sailed into the lagoon?

---

4. What happened to the Admiral and captain of the Intrepid?

---

5. What did Captain Horatio do to Jason?

---

6. What did the pirates find that they began to drink?

---

7. How did the sailors get untied?

---

8. Who surrendered his sword?

---

9. Where was Captain Horatio held as a prisoner?

---

10. Who told Jason about his father?

---



# *TRANSFORMATION*



“YOU’RE MY FATHER?” Jason said, in shock. “That can’t be true. You’re the most hated man in the world!”

Jason had a look of shock on his face as he found out that the notorious Captain Horatio was really his father. It had been five years since his father disappeared. His family was told he was lost at sea. They never thought that they would ever see him again.

“It’s true, I’m your father. When I heard your name, I knew I had to change my ways. That’s why I let your crew overcome us. It’s time for me to end this life. I’m willing to take the consequences for my actions,” the captain said, looking deep into Jason’s eyes. “I’m so sorry I’ve let you down. I’m so proud of you, son. I’m amazed at what you have accomplished. I’ve heard many stories about the cabin boy and how he helped to sink my ship since I have been here.”

“So, why’d you hit me so hard?” Jason asked, rubbing the red spot that was still on his cheek.

“I didn’t want the men to know that you were my son. By treating you that way I showed them that I was in charge,” he answered.

Then stating something that Jason did not expect, “I’m ready to take the punishment I deserve. I’m so sorry that I’ve been such a disappointment to you, but I had to survive.”

“No, you’re right. You did what you had to do to survive. We’ll make a plan to get you out of here,” Jason said as he ran to his father to give him a hug. “There are

two men on the ship who remember you and they said you were the best friend a man could have. I'll see if they'll help us get you out of here. We only have a few hours before they come to get you. We've got to move fast."

As Jason left the room he greeted the two guards who were standing at the entrance and then took the empty plate to the galley.

Pappy was cleaning the kitchen when Jason walked in.

"Pappy, you said you knew my father, right?" Jason asked,

"Yes sir, he was the best friend I ever had," Pappy replied.

Jason said softly to Pappy, "Are you willing to trust me on something very important? Will you keep my secret?"

"Depends on what it is," Pappy responded.

"I have to have your absolute promise that you won't tell anyone about what I'm going to tell you. I have to have your solemn oath," Jason said, very seriously."

Pappy nodded in agreement.

"I know where my father is. I need your help to rescue him. Will you help me?" Jason asked, but not giving away too much information yet.

"I'll do anything for your father. Was he one of the prisoners that was taken off the ship?" he asked.

"Not exactly. He's still on the ship," Jason responded.

"He's on the ship? Where?" Pappy got very curious about what Jason was saying.

"He's in the guest quarters," Jason spoke softly. "He's Captain Horatio?!"

"You've got to be kidding! There's no way that Captain Horatio is your father," Pappy said, very surprised.

Jason went on to tell him the story Captain Horatio had told him about his father's capture, and what he had done to survive.

"Are you willing to help me rescue him?" Jason begged.

"Are you sure that he's your father?" Pappy asked.

"Yes, I'm sure," Jason replied.



“We’ll need some help,” Pappy said, thinking about how to make Jason’s plan work.

“I know someone else who might help us. Garold Lawson was a good friend of my dad’s. Maybe he’ll help us as well,” Jason surmised.

“Go talk to him. I’ll work on some things while you are gone. We can talk when you get back. It’s dark now, and we only have until the morning before he’ll be taken to the navy prison,” Pappy said to Jason, as he began to move around the galley looking for things he might be able to use to help with the rescue.

Jason went below and found Garold. He pulled on Garold’s sleeve while he lay resting on his hammock. “Garold, I need to talk to you. Will you come to the galley with me? I have something very important to tell you,”

“Hold on a minute young man, let me get my shoes on,” Garold replied, as he rolled out of his hammock and put his shoes on his feet.

“Come quickly, we don’t have a lot of time,” Jason pleaded, as he pulled on Garold’s shirt for him to follow.

When Jason and Garold got the galley, Garold’s curiosity was very high.

“OK, what’s going on? Why’d you bring me here in the middle of my sleep?” Garold said, obviously irritated at losing some sleep.

Jason explained to Garold all that his father had told him.

“It’s a little hard to believe that your father was able to take Captain Horatio’s place. He was always such a quiet person. He never challenged authority before,” Garold commented.

“you never know how someone will act when they have their backs against the wall,” Pappy concluded.

Jason continued to tell the story he had heard from his father.

Pappy nodded in agreement when Jason came to the part about helping to rescue him.

Pappy jumped in, “I think we can do this, but we need a few things. We’ll need scissors, a razor, some clothes, and a scarf. I’ll send Jason to the room with something

for Henry to eat before he goes to bed. He'll give him the things I mentioned. Then Henry will need to change his appearance. We'll help him look like a common sailor.

"Tell him to fill his old clothes with the bed sheets and lay them on his bed so it looks like he is sleeping. We'll create a disturbance so the guards will be distracted. At that time Henry will leave the room and hide on the deck.

"When the guards return, Jason will come out of the room as if nothing had happened. Are you with us?" Pappy asked, looking straight at Garold.

"You bet!" Garold responded, "Anything to help my good friend Henry."

Pappy prepared a cup of rum and a few biscuits for Jason to take to his father.

Jason followed the plan. As he entered the room he showed his father the things he had brought with him. He didn't speak for fear that the guards would hear him. His father nodded that he understood.

Henry took off his clothes and Jason filled them with the bed sheets putting them on the bed so it looked like Captain Horatio was sleeping.

Henry quietly cut his hair and shaved his beard so it looked rough and unkempt. He dressed in the clothes Jason brought him and put the scarf over his hair. He looked completely different. He no longer looked like the dreaded Captain Horatio. He now looked like a common sailor.

Just as he finished getting prepared there was a knock on the door.

"Are you finished in there, young man? You need to come out now," the guard said through the door.

"I'll be right there. I just need to gather the plate and cup," Jason responded.

Just then, there was a loud commotion coming from outside the door. There was confusion on the deck. Jason saw that the guards had gone to see what the problem was. He unlocked the door with the key Pappy had given him and then opened the door. He told his father where to meet Pappy and Garold when the disturbance was over. Jason's dad slipped quietly out of the room, and then he joined the crew to watch whatever it was that was happening on the deck.

Jason locked the door again and then stayed in the room waiting for the guards

to come back.

Pappy and Garold were having a fight and the crew were cheering them on. Garold was winning, but Pappy was putting up a good fight.

As soon as Pappy saw the door open and then close, he fell down and said he quit. Everyone cheered for Garold who jumped up and down in victory.

Pappy and Garold began to sing and pretend to be drunk. The other sailors joined in. The fight was over and then the guards returned to their post.

Jason asked the guards to let him out of the room. When he left, Jason took the hair his father had cut off and threw it over the side of the ship into the ocean. It would be harder to recognize Henry if they didn't know he had cut his hair and beard.

After a little while, Garold and Pappy met Henry by one of the hatches. They made a plan to leave the ship. It was very dark on the deck so it was hard to see each other. Henry didn't say a word. He just followed what Pappy and Garold were doing. They told him to act like he was drunk. They told him they would carry him off the ship. They told him to keep his head down.

Pappy and Garold were holding Henry, who was acting drunk. They walked toward the gangplank while Henry held his head down so no one could see his face. They dragged him to the guard who was guarding the way off the ship

"We have to take this man to shore. He has had too much to drink and he's causing problems," Pappy explained.

They were given permission to go ashore. They went down the long gangplank and then went down the docks with Henry leaning on the two of them acting as if he was unable to walk on his own. As soon as they got out of the light of the gas lamps and were in the dark shadows of the buildings, Henry stood up.

"Thanks," Henry simply said, as he hugged Pappy and then Garold. With that, Henry disappeared into the darkness.



**VOCABULARY** (*Match the word to its definition*)

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. notorious ____    | a. wonder, interest      |
| 2. consequences ____ | b. conclusion, guess     |
| 3. surmise ____      | c. annoyed, bothered     |
| 4. curiosity ____    | d. messy, scruffy        |
| 5. dreaded ____      | e. famous for bad things |
| 6. irritated ____    | f. make obvious, explain |
| 7. disturbance ____  | g. penalties, effects    |
| 8. unkempt ____      | h. turmoil, mayhem       |
| 9. confusion ____    | i. noise, distraction    |
| 10. spell out ____   | j. feared, most hated    |

**TRUE OR FALSE**

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| 1. Captain Horatio was Jason's father.                 | T / F |
| 2. Captain Fortner helped to free Captain Horatio.     | T / F |
| 3. Pappy and Garold had a fight.                       | T / F |
| 4. Pappy took Captain Horatio rum and biscuits.        | T / F |
| 5. The guards went to see the fight.                   | T / F |
| 6. Jason threw Captain Horatio's clothes into the sea. | T / F |
| 7. Henry Wellington acted drunk.                       | T / F |
| 8. Pappy and Garold took Jason off of the ship.        | T / F |
| 9. Henry Wellington cut his hair and his beard.        | T / F |
| 10. Henry Wellington disappeared into the night.       | T / F |

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. How many guards were at the door of the guest room? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) none
  - b) three
  - c) four
  - d) two
  
2. What did Jason put the clothes into? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) clothes
  - b) hair
  - c) food
  - d) bed sheets
  
3. Who took Henry Wellington off of the ship? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) Pappy and Jason
  - b) Jason and Garold
  - c) He took himself
  - d) Pappy and Garold
  
4. Why did Pappy and Garold say they were taking the man off the ship? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) he was hungry
  - b) he needed to get back to his ship
  - c) he was too drunk
  - d) he was sleepy

**COMPREHENSION:** (*Write a complete sentence to answer the question.*)

1. What did the guards do when they heard the noise on the deck?

---

2. How did Jason open the door?

---

3. Who helped Jason father's escape?

---

4. Where was Captain Horatio held on the ship a prisoner?

---

5. What things did they need to make the rescue work?

---

6. What kind of food did Jason take to the guest room?

---

7. What did Pappy and Garold do to create the distraction?

---

8. What did Jason throw into the sea?

---

9. What did Pappy say when asked about the man they were carrying?

---

10. Where did Henry Wellington go?

---





# *INTERROGATION*



The door of the barracks flew open with a loud clang and in the doorway stood an officer of the navy in full uniform. He had on a wide brimmed hat and a blue coat trimmed in white. Behind him were several soldiers.

“Get up and go to the main deck. You have five minutes to be in formation,” the officer ordered in a big voice, “**NOW!**”

The soldiers behind the officer entered the room and made it perfectly clear that the officer was not joking.

The men rolled out of their hammocks and put on their clothes as fast as they could. They went out of the door and onto the aft deck one-by-one. Along the sides of the ship were sentries standing at attention with rifles in their hands. The crew of the *‘New Hope’* looked ragged and rough compared to the neat and clean soldiers.

Standing on the bridge was a very impressive man. He had on a blue and gold military dress uniform. He had a beautiful silver sword hanging from his belt. He had many medals on his shirt. His hat had a large white feather on the right side. He stood before the crew with a stern face.

Behind him the sun was beginning to rise. The orange glow of the sun was directly behind the Commodore giving him a somber outline. Standing next to him was Captain Fortner. He didn’t look happy.

“I’m Commodore Howe. I’ve got some very disturbing news to tell you about,” the Commodore said as he began to pace slowly from one side of the ship to the other as he spoke. “Last night Captain Horatio of the *‘Red Calypso’* escaped from this ship.”

The men on the deck began to talk to each other.

Ignoring the noise on the deck below he continued, “He had to have had some help from at least one of you to accomplish this getaway. We are going to question each one of you until we find the ones who are responsible. For those who are found to have been complicit in this breach of security will be severely punished.

“We’ll speak to you one at a time. Wait for your turn. No one will eat until we have completed our interviews,” Commodore Howe spoke loudly and clearly, as he looked out over the crew.

The crewmembers were lined up at the entrance to the captain’s quarters. After several of the sailors had been questioned, Pappy was called into the room.

“What is your name and what are your duties?” the Commodore asked.

“I’m called Pappy. I’m the cook on the ship,” Pappy replied.

“We were told that you had a fight last night. What was that all about?” the Commodore questioned him.

“My friend Garold and I had a disagreement. One of our old friends came aboard and we were telling old stories. Garold and I disagreed about the details. I guess we were a little drunk and made a big deal out of nothing,” Pappy explained.

“We also know that you took a man off the ship. Who was that?” the Commodore asked getting closer and more intense.

“Oh yeah. Our old buddy Henry Wellington came to see us,” Pappy said with a smile

“Wellington? Hm.. Wellington. Why is that name familiar?” the captain jumped in.

“Yes sir. He’s Jason Wellington’s father. You know the former cabin boy you promoted to seaman second class,” Pappy responded.

“Why did you take him off of the ship?” the Commodore inquired.

“He got very drunk, and we thought he’d be better off back on shore to get over the effects of the rum,” Pappy answered.

“Do you know what ship he came in on?” the captain asked.

“No sir, I never asked him about that,” Pappy replied.

It was a while later that Garold was summoned to the room.

“What’s your name sailor?” the Commodore asked.

“I’m seaman first class Garold Lawson, sir,” he replied.

“We know that you and Pappy had a fight last night. What was that all about?” the Commodore asked the same question to Garold.

“Oh that, we both had a little too much to drink. We had an argument over the facts of a story. It was nothing,” Garold explained.

“Who was the man you were with?” The captain asked.

“You mean the man we took off the ship? That would be Henry Wellington, sir. He came to visit when he heard that we were docked here,” Garold said, with a smile on his face.

“Why did you take him off the ship?” the Commodore asked.

“He got a little too drunk. We felt it would be better for him to sleep it off on shore.”

“Do you know what ship he came in on?” the captain asked.

“No sir, I don’t remember him telling us. I’m not sure how long he has been here,” Garold raised his eyebrows as he responded.

Garold was dismissed.

Jason was the last to go into the room.

“Young man, the guards who were at the door of the guest room say that you were the last one they let into the room last night. What were you doing there?” the Commodore asked Jason.

“I brought him some rum and biscuits. Pappy fixed the food for him after we cleaned up the galley,” Jason answered.

“Tell us what happened,” the Commodore inquired further.

“Well, while I was in the room a fight broke out on the deck. I tried to see what was happening through the window in the door, but I couldn’t see anything. The guards left me there while they went to watch the fight. A few minutes later the guards

came back. I asked to leave and they let me out, locking the door behind me.” Jason explained.

“Did you know that your father was on the ship?” the captain asked.

“MY FATHER?! He was on the ship? Who told you that?” Jason jumped out of his chair in amazement doing a pretty good job of acting.

“Pappy and Garold said they met your father on the ship and got drunk together. You didn’t know?” the Commodore asked.

“NO SIR! I thought they were my friends. They never told me my father was here. I didn’t even know that he was alive. My family was told he was lost at sea five years ago,” he said sadly as he sat down.

“What do you know about Captain Horatio?” the Commodore continued to press Jason for information.

“All I know is that he was about to go to sleep when I left,” Jason answered.

“That is all. We’ll ask you more questions later,” the Commodore said as he pointed toward the door letting him know he was free to leave.

Jason walked out with his head low trying to show great emotion to the Commodore that his father was really alive, but he had not been able to meet him.

Jason went to the barracks and looked over at Pappy and Garold. They gave him a nod and he nodded back. They felt confident that their stories were believed by the Commodore.

He lay on his hammock and closed his eyes. He had never lied like that before. He was still shaking from the experience as he drifted off to sleep.

\* \* \*

The large bell on the ship began to ring. It was time for the noon meal. Jason had slept through the preparations, so he ran to the galley to help Pappy.

“Good morning Pappy. Why didn’t anyone wake me this morning so I could help you prepare breakfast?” Jason asked.

“I thought you needed the sleep,” Pappy responded. “By the way, I have some news for you. The *Intrepid* has arrived. They found the captain and the Admiral and

now they are docked very close to us.”

“The Captain told the Commodore of your bravery and how you helped to sink the *Red Calypso*”. Admiral Montbleu will be coming here after lunch. He has something very special for you,” Pappy continued with a big smile on his face.

Jason said very softly so no one else could hear him, “So, do you think our plan worked?”

“It looks that way,” Pappy whispered back, as he smiled and winked his approval.

After the noon meal was finished, the men were directed to assemble once again on the deck of the *New Hope*.

Admiral Montbleu stood before them. He looked weathered from being in an open boat for three days, but his voice was strong.

“Gentlemen, it’s my honor to be here today. What you’ve done is a great thing. You’ve captured the crew of the *Red Calypso*. However, it’s unfortunate that Captain Horatio escaped, but don’t worry. We’ll catch him again.

“It’s my pleasure to recognize each one of you for your heroism and great duty. I want to especially recognize one of you for creative thinking and for being instrumental in the sinking of the *Red Calypso*’.

“Jason Wellington, will you come up here please?” the Admiral smiled.

Jason went up to the bridge.

“I give you the Blue Cross of Freedom, the highest honor given to civilians for acts of great devotion. You are an example to all of us,” the Admiral said, as he put the medal around Jason’s neck and then stepped back and let the crew cheer him.

Jason smiled, but he knew in his heart he had deceived the very people who were giving him this honor. In spite of his lying about his father, he accepted it with dignity.

The rest of the day was quiet. None of the crewmembers were allowed off the ship until the mystery of how Captain Horatio had escaped was solved. The days passed slowly with nothing much to do. Everyone was extremely bored.

A blockade was setup at the entrance to the harbor. No one could leave. Military law was in effect. Everyone in the town was under a curfew. The search for Captain Horatio was going on, but no one knew what he looked like now.

Captain Fortner had the men doing repairs and cleaning up the ship to prepare it for the next leg of the journey. They still needed to deliver the goods in the hold before they returned home. Everything that had been taken onto the *'Intrepid'* was now back in the hold of the *'New Hope'*. Now they just had to wait until the investigation on the case of Captain Horatio's disappearance was complete.

A few days later three soldiers came to the galley door and demanded to see Jason Wellington.

"Is Jason Wellington here? We need him to come with us right now!" the first soldier demanded.

Jason was surprised by this. He stood up and followed the soldiers out of the galley and up the steps to the deck.

He was met by Pappy and Garold.

"You three are to come with us," the soldier commanded them.

Under military escort, the three were taken off the ship and led down the long dock to the navy headquarters. They entered the building and were taken up a wide and long staircase to the second floor. At the top of the stairs there was a large doorway. On either side of the doorway were sentries.

The first soldier knocked on the door.

"Enter," a voice from within said.

Sitting at a large desk with three chairs in front of it was Admiral Montbleu and Commodore Howe.

"Sit down gentlemen. We have a few more questions for you," he said, as the Admiral pointed to the chairs and began the conversation.

"We need to hear your stories again. There are some differences in your stories about what happened the other night. We want to make sure we have all of the facts correct," the Admiral continued.

Then the Commodore then stepped forward.

“From what you have told us, it seems that a man named Henry Wellington came aboard the *‘New Hope’* to greet you. Is that correct?” the Commodore said in a manner that indicated that he was having trouble believing the story.

Pappy spoke up, “Yes sir that is what we said.”

“And you said that you had a fight over the facts of a story you were talking about. Is that correct?” the Commodore asked as he leaned closer to the three sailors who were now feeling very uncomfortable.

Pappy again replied, “Yes sir, that is what we said.”

“*And* you said that this man, Henry Wellington, the father of Jason, never spoke to him, is that correct?” the Commodore was becoming even more aggressive in the tone of his voice.

Garold responded, “Yes, sir. We knew that Jason was with Captain Horatio giving him his rum and biscuits. We didn’t want to bother him.”

“You also told us that he got very drunk and then you took him down the gang plank to let him go home to sleep off the effects of the rum. Is this also correct?” the Commodore continued the questioning.

The two men shook their heads in agreement.

But by now sweat was beginning to form on the brows of Pappy and Garold. They knew that something was going to happen. They just didn’t know what it was going to be.

“*And* Mr. Wellington, you told us that you left Captain Horatio sleeping in his bed. Is that correct?” the Commodore’s nose was almost touching Jason’s as he directed the question to him alone.

“Ah.... Yes, sir. That’s what I told you.” Jason answered.

Moving away but still looking directly at them, the Commodore said in a stern voice, “Well, gentleman, we have a problem here. We don’t believe your story anymore. We have found something that will prove to be a bit of a surprise to you.”

The Admiral looked up.

Admiral Montbleu ordered two of the sentries, “Bring the man who is outside to come in. We need him here immediately.”

There was a pause in the room. The silence was almost unbearable. The only noise was from the pen that the Admiral was tapping on his desk.

Just then a thin man in ragged clothing walked in. He looked like he had been starving for a long time. His hair was turning gray and his beard was thin and also gray. His clothes were dirty and his shoes had big holes in them.

“Jason, I’d like to introduce you to your father,” Admiral Montbleu said with a very serious look on his face. “This is Henry Wellington. He was one of the prisoners we have been holding in the prison at the navy headquarters that we took off of the *‘Red Calypso’*.”



**VOCABULARY** (*Match the word to its definition*)

- |                        |                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. barracks ____       | a. gather, come together        |
| 2. hammock ____        | b. feelings                     |
| 3. impressive ____     | c. differences, dissimilarities |
| 4. intense ____        | d. respect, regard              |
| 5. emotion ____        | e. place where many sleep       |
| 6. bravery ____        | f. secrecy, obscure             |
| 7. assemble ____       | g. notable, imposing            |
| 8. honor ____          | h. courage, daring              |
| 9. mystery ____        | i. bed made of ropes            |
| 10. discrepancies ____ | j. deep, strong                 |

**TRUE OR FALSE**

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| 1. The crew were awakened very early by soldiers.      | T / F |
| 2. Captain Horatio questioned all of the men.          | T / F |
| 3. Pappy told the truth.                               | T / F |
| 4. Pappy and Garold were drunk.                        | T / F |
| 5. Henry Wellington fell into the sea.                 | T / F |
| 6. Jason had given Captain Horatio ice cream and cake. | T / F |
| 7. Jason pretended that he was happy about his father. | T / F |
| 8. Jason received a medal.                             | T / F |
| 9. Pappy and Garold told the same story.               | T / F |
| 10. Jason's medal was the Medal of Honor.              | T / F |

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. How long did the men have before they were to be on the deck? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) twenty minutes
  - b) five minutes
  - c) immediately
  - d) the next day
  
2. Who questioned Jason, Pappy and Garold? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) Admiral Montbleu
  - b) Captain Fortner
  - c) Commodore Howe
  - d) Captain Horatio
  
3. Who told the sailors that Captain Horatio had escaped? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) Admiral Montbleu
  - b) Captain Fortner
  - c) Commodore Howe
  - d) Captain Horatio
  
4. What was the medal that Jason received? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) Medal of Honor
  - b) Medal of Freedom
  - c) Yellow Medal of Courage
  - d) Blue Cross of Freedom

**COMPREHENSION:** (*Write a complete sentence to answer the question.*)

1. What happened early in the morning?

---

2. Who stood on the bridge with the rising sun at his back?

---

3. How many of the crewmembers were asked questions?

---

4. What did Jason say he brought to Captain Horatio?

---

5. How did Jason act when they told him his father had been on the ship?

---

6. Who gave Jason his medal?

---

7. Who was arrested?

---

8. Where were Jason, Pappy and Garold taken?

---

9. Who walked into the room and surprised them?

---

10. What did Henry Wellington look like?

---



# *THE TRIAL*



Jason had the look of shock on his face. What was going on? How could this be? As far as he knew he had released his father. Had he been tricked?

Jason looked at the man they said was his father. He was thin and weak, and he could hardly lift his head.

Jason exclaimed at Admiral Montbleu, “How do you know that this is my father? Maybe someone is trying to fool you to make us look guilty!”

The thin man looked up, and asked, “Is that really you, Jason?”

“It’s a trick. He’s not my father. My father.....” Jason stopped. He sat down and closed his mouth.

“What is it you were going to say Jason?” the Admiral asked as he moved closer to him.

“Nothing,” Jason paused for a moment and then continued. “It’s just that he’s not my father. You are trying to trick us.”

The thin man walked over to Jason and stood in front of him. He looked closely at Jason.

“Is your mother OK? How are your sister Janie and your brother Robert? Are they all OK?” the thin man asked as he looked into Jason’s eyes.

Jason didn’t know what to say. Tears began to fill his eyes, but he wasn’t going to fall for this trick.

The thin man looked at Pappy and said, “Pappy is that really you? I sure miss

your cooking. The food on the *'Red Calypso'* was always terrible.”

Pappy didn't look up at him.

Then turning to Garold he said, “Is that you Garold my good friend? It's been a long time, hasn't it?”

None of them said a word, although one could see in their eyes they knew they were caught in their lies.

“Does anyone have anything to say?” the Admiral asked, as he went to his chair behind the desk and sat down.

The three sat in silence.

The Admiral then looked directly at the three men.

“OK, now tell me what happened. It's clear to me that you know your story is not true,” the Admiral stated.

There was a period of silence when Jason finally began to speak.

“Well, sir, it was like this. When I went to Captain Horatio to give him his food, I asked him about my father. Pappy told me that five years ago Captain Horatio took him as a hostage. When I asked him to tell me about my father he told me a story that I believed.

“He told me about how he had to fight his way to the top in order to stay alive. Part of that was to follow the pirate code of challenging the person in authority over him. He said he kept moving up the ranks until he finally had to challenge Captain Horatio. When he won, he took his place. I believed him, and the three of us planned his escape. I haven't seen my father in five years, so I didn't know what he looked like. It's all my fault.”

Turning to his friends, he pointed to them, and said, “Pappy and Garold believed me when I told them he was my father and that he had promised to change,” Jason tried to explain how he and the other two had been fooled by the real Captain Horatio.

The Admiral leaned forward. “Thank you for your honesty son. I can understand how all of this happened to you. I have one important question to ask you

Jason. If you saw him again, would you be able to recognize him?” the Admiral asked.

“I believe so, but we did a good job of disguising him so he would look like an ordinary sailor,” Jason answered.

He shrugged his shoulders while he looked over at Pappy and Garold.

Suddenly, and to the surprise of everyone, the Admiral stood up and pointed at Henry Wellington.

“*Arrest that man!*” the Admiral ordered. “Take him to the brig and prepare him for trial. He will be tried for high treason against the crown. Take Captain Horatio away!”

The three detainees watched in surprise and fear as they took Henry Wellington away. Henry looked back at his son and friends as the soldiers led him out of the room.

“What have you done to me?” he asked, as he disappeared out of the room.

There was a look of panic on the faces of the three sailors. They turned and faced toward the Admiral not knowing what was next.

“Based on what you have told me, this man, Henry Wellington, will be charged with pirateering, high treason against the crown and a menace to the high seas. He will be tried for his crimes, and if found guilty, he will be hanged from the neck until he is dead,” the Admiral informed Jason, Pappy, and Garold.

The Admiral then leaned forward toward the men in front of him and said in a strong voice, “Guards! Arrest these men for treason against the crown!” he ordered the sentries to arrest them.

The three sailors jumped in surprise. Now were they going to be arrested as well?

The Admiral added, “You are going to be tried for treason. If you are found guilty, you will also be hanged by the neck until you’re dead. I’m tired of all of this. I’m going to my room.”

Then he got up from his chair and left the room by a side door.

Commodore Howe pointed to the new prisoners and ordered them to be taken

away.

Jason, Pappy and Garold stood up, and the sentries led them out of his office. They took them down the stairs and out of the building. The people outside of the building were surprised. They had no idea who these new prisoners were. People began to talk.

“Could they be pirates?”

“Could they be thieves?”

Stories spread around the town about the three, especially about Jason Wellington, the young man from the *‘New Hope’*.

When word got back to the *‘New Hope’*, the crew realized that the prisoners were Jason, Pappy and Garold. They were wondering why the three had been arrested. The crewmembers talked about what they thought might have happened. Each one had his own story. None were true, but they sounded good.

Later that day soldiers posted notices on the street lamps stating that the dreaded Captain Horatio had been captured and that three conspirators had been arrested. The announcement said the next day the trial would begin. The trial was going to be in the courthouse. A tribunal of military officers would preside over the hearing.

The next day the prisoners were brought to the courthouse.

Jason didn’t look well. He hadn’t slept and his clothes were a mess. Pappy and Garold did not look any better.

The guards took them down the street and led them into the courthouse. The people along the way yelled things at them and tried to throw rocks. Many of the people from the town had a story to tell about a loved one who had had a bad experience with Captain Horatio in the past.

When they entered the courthouse, the place was filled with people. Some had slept on the steps in order to get a seat. When the people inside saw the prisoners come in, they began to yell and threaten them. The guards had to hold the people back. There was a lot of noise.



On the right side of the court room there was a box for the prisoners to sit in. Three chairs were set inside. To the left was another single chair outside of the box because the box wasn't big enough for four chairs.

The chains between the three prisoners were very heavy. They made a loud noise when they walked. Jason's arms hung low from the weight. He was glad to sit down and place his arms in his lap.

Jason looked out at the people. They were angry and were shouting bad things at him. He didn't like it at all. He wanted to cry, but Pappy told him to be strong.

Suddenly the noise from the crowd became even louder. From a side door, the person the people thought was Captain Horatio entered the courtroom. The sentries in the courthouse had trouble keeping the people from attacking him. Henry's face showed the fear he was feeling at being threatened. He looked confused. He turned to the guard and tried to go back through the door, but the guard pushed him forward toward his seat. The people laughed at him for being such a coward. They expected the dreaded Captain Horatio to be bold and brave.

Henry took his seat and looked over at Jason. The guards said not to speak. Henry's eyes were full of tears. What had he done to deserve this?

"*ALL RISE!*" came the command from the court bailiff. "Silence in the court. Anyone who speaks will be removed from the court immediately!"

The first of the judges came into the court, followed by two more. They sat behind a long bench at the front of the court. They had on long white wigs and their best military uniforms. They looked over the papers in front of them for a long time. They whispered some things to each other.

Then the first judge called the hearing to order by taking his gavel and striking the table in front of him.

The bailiff yelled out, "This court is now in order."

Jason looked out into the crowd. He didn't see a single familiar face. None of the crew members from the '*New Hope*' was there to support him.

"Bailiff, please read the charges against these men," the first judge directed.

The bailiff turned and made his first statement to Jason. “Jason Wellington, you are charged with treason against the crown. How do you plead?”

The guard prompted Jason to stand up.

When he rose from his chair, he replied, “Not guilty, sir.”

“Pappy Stonehagen, you are charged with treason against the crown. How do you plead?” the bailiff repeated.

Pappy stood up and replied, “Not Guilty.”

“Garold Lawson, you are charged with treason against the crown. How do you plead?” the bailiff directed his statement toward Garold.

Garold stood up and said, “I didn’t do it!”

The crowd laughed. The judge slammed his gavel against the desk and ordered, “SILENCE!”

It took a minute before the crowd became silent again.

“And you, Captain Horatio, you are charged with pirateering, murder, theft and high treason against the crown. How do you plead?” the bailiff asked Henry.

Henry stood up next to the three others and looked at the crowd of people. He paused before he softly said, “My name is not Captain Horatio. My name is Henry Wellington.”

The people went silent in surprise.

“That is for the court to decide. What is your plea?” the first judge demanded.

“I plead not guilty your honors.”

“Sit down,” the bailiff ordered.

They all sat down.

“Jason Wellington, come forward and take the seat here at the front of the court,” the bailiff directed Jason.

The guard released the lock from his chains so he could go to the seat next to the judges at the front of the room.

Jason walked slowly to the front of the court, rubbing his wrists where the chains had left red marks. He looked back at the crowd and stood behind the wooden

railing. The bailiff asked him to swear that he would tell the truth.

After he said, "I do," he sat down.

In front of him was Admiral Montbleu.

The Admiral leaned forward and whispered something into Jason's ear. Jason nodded and then looked out into the crowd. He saw many angry faces looking at him. He looked over at his father. He felt ashamed that he had gotten him into this situation. When he looked back at the crowd he noticed something.

Jason stood up and yelled as loud as he could, "There he is. That's Captain Horatio. He's right there."

He pointed at a man in the middle of the crowd. The man stood up in surprise. He tried to run, but a soldier, followed by several others, pushed him to the ground.

When the man was pulled to his feet he glared at Jason. The real Captain Horatio said something to Jason, but he could not hear what he said because of all of the noise in the court.

Jason looked at the Admiral who winked at him. The trap had worked.

Later, in the Admiral's chamber, he explained to Jason, Pappy and Garold that he had had a pretty good idea that Captain Horatio would not be able to resist watching another man be convicted in his place. They had been sure that Jason would be able to pick him out from the crowd. That is what the Admiral had whispered to Jason.

The Admiral was still not happy with what the three had done, but he was thankful that in the end Captain Horatio would be tried and hanged for the crimes he had done.

"Here is the punishment I have decided to hand down to you for your actions. Pappy and Garold you are to serve four years on a navy ship. You will do your normal duties. You will serve under the command of Commodore Fortner. He has been promoted and has been assigned to the '*Intrepid*' as its new captain.

"As for you Jason Wellington, you will serve six years on a navy ship, but we must wait until you are old enough. You will be promoted to the rank of ensign and serve as an officer. Some day you may become a captain of your own ship, only time

will tell.

“Henry Wellington. I’m so sorry for all that you have been through. I’m sending you and your son home to be with your family. In gratitude to you we are giving you a pension so that you may retire. I hope you will train your son up to be a good officer.

“You are all now dismissed,” the Admiral smiled as he got up from his desk, shook the hands of each of the sailors, and then left the room.

## The End

**VOCABULARY** (*Match the word to its definition*)

- |                       |                               |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. fault _____        | a. costume, change appearance |
| 2. honesty _____      | b. tell what happened         |
| 3. disguise _____     | c. let go, released           |
| 4. arrest _____       | d. truthfulness, integrity    |
| 5. panic _____        | e. retirement payments        |
| 6. testimony _____    | f. extreme fear               |
| 7. escort _____       | g. accomplices, helpers       |
| 8. conspirators _____ | h. responsibility, mistake    |
| 9. pension _____      | i. detain, capture            |
| 10. dismissed _____   | j. lead away                  |

**TRUE OR FALSE**

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| 1. Henry recognized Pappy and Garold.                        | T / F |
| 2. Henry liked Pappy's cooking.                              | T / F |
| 3. Jason was allowed to go when Pappy and Garold weren't.    | T / F |
| 4. Henry Wellington was arrested for treason.                | T / F |
| 5. Admiral Montbleu asked many questions.                    | T / F |
| 6. Pappy got up and hugged Henry.                            | T / F |
| 7. Jason thought that Admiral Montbleu believed his story.   | T / F |
| 8. Henry was put on trial for treason.                       | T / F |
| 9. Jason recognized and pointed at the real Captain Horatio. | T / F |
| 10. Captain Horatio got away again.                          | T / F |

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. What did Jason's father look like? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) fat
  - b) thin
  - c) happy
  - d) good
  
2. Henry asked Jason about whom? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) his family
  - b) Captain Fortner
  - c) Mr. Garnes
  - d) his father
  
3. What did Admiral Montbleu yell when he stood up? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) "Arrest that man!"
  - b) "Let him go!"
  - c) "Bring me my lunch!"
  - d) "Kill all of them!"
  
4. At whom did Jason point at in the trial? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) Commodore Howe
  - b) Admiral Montbleu
  - c) Captain Horatio
  - d) the judge

**COMPREHENSION:** (*Write a complete sentence to answer the question.*)

1. What did Jason say was a trick?

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2. What did Henry say to Pappy?

---

3. What had Captain Horatio told Jason about his father?

---

4. Who was arrested for treason?

---

5. What did the townspeople say about the three prisoners?

---

6. What was the food like on the Red Calypso?

---

7. What connected the tree prisoners as they entered the courtroom?

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8. How many chairs were in the box?

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9. Who sat next to Jason when he went to the front of the room?

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10. Who did Jason point at?

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