

Treasure Island

Chapter-by-Chapter Outline

****Chapter 1 — The Old Sea-dog at the Admiral Benbow****

A mysterious scarred sailor calling himself the captain arrives at Jim Hawkins's family inn and establishes a watchful, rum-soaked routine, hiring Jim to watch for a one-legged man. When Dr. Livesey confronts the captain over a drawn knife, the captain backs down, revealing for the first time a man he genuinely fears.

****Chapter 2 — Black Dog Appears and Disappears****

A pale stranger named Black Dog arrives at the Admiral Benbow seeking his old shipmate Billy Bones, and a violent cutlass fight erupts before Black Dog flees wounded. The captain collapses from a stroke, and Dr. Livesey bleeds him and warns that another stroke or further rum will be fatal.

****Chapter 3 — The Black Spot****

Jim's father dies, and days later the blind beggar Pew arrives and forces Jim to lead him to the captain, delivering the black spot — a pirate summons with a ten o'clock deadline. The captain reads it, cries out that they have six hours, attempts to rise, and immediately collapses dead from apoplexy.

****Chapter 4 — The Sea-chest****

Jim and his mother return to the Admiral Benbow to claim what is owed them, open the captain's sea-chest with a key found around his neck, and begin counting out only their lawful due from a bag of mixed gold coins. Pew returns and tries the bolted door, a whistle signals more men approaching, and Jim's mother faints as they flee, forcing Jim to drag her under a bridge while armed pursuers advance with a lantern.

****Chapter 5 — The Last of the Blind Man****

Pew and his crew ransack the Admiral Benbow searching for the oilcloth packet Jim has already taken, and Pew's tyrannical rage at their failure causes the men to turn on him. Revenue officers led by Supervisor Dance arrive on horseback, the buccaneers scatter, and Pew is trampled to death; Dance then offers to escort Jim to Dr. Livesey with the packet.

****Chapter 6 — The Captain's Papers****

Jim and Dance find Dr. Livesey dining at Squire Trelawney's hall, where the oilcloth packet is opened to reveal a ledger of Captain Flint's plunder and a detailed map of an island marking buried treasure. The squire immediately proposes fitting out a ship in Bristol, offering Jim

the role of cabin-boy, while the doctor warns that secrecy is essential and the squire pledges silence.

****Chapter 7 — I Go to Bristol****

Jim waits at the hall under Redruth's watch while the squire secures a two-hundred-ton schooner called the Hispaniola and hires a one-legged former sailor turned publican, Long John Silver, as ship's cook. Jim visits his mother at the repaired Admiral Benbow, says a tearful goodbye, and travels by coach to Bristol, where the squire announces they sail the next day.

****Chapter 8 — At the Sign of the Spy-glass****

Jim delivers a note to Silver at the Spy-glass tavern and is immediately relieved that the cheerful, capable cook bears no resemblance to the buccaneers he has known — until he recognises Black Dog among the customers. Black Dog flees, Silver performs convincing outrage, and Jim walks back to the inn entirely won over, as the squire and doctor declare Silver a perfect shipmate.

****Chapter 9 — Powder and Arms****

Captain Smollett demands a private meeting and reveals that the supposedly secret treasure voyage and the island's exact location are already known throughout the crew, proposing that arms be moved to the cabin hold and the squire's trusted men berthed near the officers. The precautions are carried out, and when Silver arrives by shore-boat and questions the powder-moving, Smollett curtly orders him below, then declares loudly that he will have no favourites aboard.

****Chapter 10 — The Voyage****

The Hispaniola sails from Bristol, but the mate Mr. Arrow proves a drunkard and eventually disappears overboard, while Long John Silver earns universal respect through seamanship, storytelling, and his parrot Captain Flint. On the final night before reaching Treasure Island, Jim climbs into the apple barrel for a snack and overhears Silver speaking — within a dozen words he understands that the lives of every honest man aboard depend on him alone.

****Chapter 11 — What I Heard in the Apple-Barrel****

Hidden in the barrel, Jim listens as Silver recruits a young sailor named Dick into a pirate conspiracy, revealing his past under Flint and England and his plan to mutiny only after the treasure is found and loaded. Israel Hands arrives to press for faster action, Silver insists on waiting for safe navigation home, and the lookout's cry of "Land ho!" signals Treasure Island as Jim lies trembling in the dark.

****Chapter 12 — Council of War****

Jim escapes the barrel as the crew rushes on deck to sight Treasure

Island, and after managing to alert Dr. Livesey, he recounts Silver's entire conspiracy in the cabin while the three officers listen without interruption. The council determines that only seven loyal men stand against nineteen potential mutineers, and Captain Smollett resolves to wait for the right moment to strike rather than act immediately.

****Chapter 13 — How I Began My Shore Adventure****

The Hispaniola is warped into the anchorage and the crew's discipline visibly collapses, prompting Smollett to offer the men an afternoon ashore to defuse the threat of open mutiny. Jim impulsively stows away in one of the boats, and when Silver spots him from the other gig, Jim leaps ashore and runs into the island's thicket before Silver can reach him.

****Chapter 14 — The First Blow****

From hiding in the live-oak thicket, Jim watches Silver attempt to recruit an honest sailor named Tom, and when a distant scream signals that Alan has been killed, Tom denounces Silver as a murderer and tries to walk away. Silver hurls his crutch at Tom's back, knocks him down, and stabs him twice with a knife, leaving Jim in a state of horror and fleeing deeper into the island's interior.

****Chapter 15 — The Man of the Island****

Jim encounters Ben Gunn, a white man marooned on the island for three years, who reveals he was present when Flint buried the treasure and killed his six companions, and cryptically hints he has already found it. A cannon shot from the anchorage interrupts them, and as they run toward the sound, Jim spots the Union Jack flying above a wood near the shore.

****Chapter 16 — Narrative Continued by the Doctor: How the Ship Was Abandoned****

Dr. Livesey narrates how the loyal crew, stranded aboard the Hispaniola with no wind, discovers Jim has gone ashore; he and Hunter reconnoitre and find the stockade — a defensible log-house with a spring. The crew makes two dangerous boat trips to evacuate supplies, and Captain Smollett persuades Abraham Gray to desert the mutineers and join the boat as it shoves off toward the stockade.

****Chapter 17 — Narrative Continued by the Doctor: The Jolly-boat's Last Trip****

The overloaded jolly-boat is swept off course by the ebb tide as the mutineers uncover and prepare the ship's cannon, and Trelawney shoots one of the gunners but misses Israel Hands. The cannon fires and sinks the jolly-boat in three feet of water, destroying most of their remaining supplies and leaving only two serviceable guns as the survivors wade ashore with pirates' voices closing in through the woods.

****Chapter 18 — Narrative Continued by the Doctor: End of the First Day's Fighting****

The loyal party reaches the stockade and drives off seven mutineers led by Job Anderson, but a sniper shoots Tom Redruth, who dies in the log-house after requesting a prayer. The Hispaniola begins bombarding the stockade with the long nine throughout the evening, and the chapter ends with Jim Hawkins unexpectedly appearing at the palisade, alive and safe.

****Chapter 19 — Narrative Resumed by Jim Hawkins: The Garrison in the Stockade****

Jim rejoins the garrison, delivers Ben Gunn's cryptic message about a meeting near the white rock, and settles into the harsh conditions of the log-house as Captain Smollett organises watches and assigns duties. The three leaders calculate that rum and marsh fever will thin the mutineers' numbers, and Jim is awakened the next morning by shouts that Silver himself is approaching under a flag of truce.

****Chapter 20 — Silver's Embassy****

Silver scales the stockade fence and proposes terms — the treasure chart in exchange for safe passage or rescue — but Captain Smollett categorically refuses, offering only trial in England and declaring the pirates cannot find the treasure, sail the ship, or defeat the garrison. Silver, enraged, spits into the spring, vows to destroy the blockhouse within an hour, and departs with difficulty over the palisade.

****Chapter 21 — The Attack****

After Silver's departure, Smollett positions the garrison at defensive loopholes and waits; when Joyce fires at movement, the mutineers charge the north side and four breach the stockade, forcing the defenders outside in brutal cutlass fighting. The pirates lose five men and retreat, but the garrison suffers heavily — Hunter is knocked unconscious, Joyce is shot dead, and Captain Smollett is wounded.

****Chapter 22 — How I Began My Sea Adventure****

After the attack, Doctor Livesey departs into the woods with the treasure chart, and Jim deduces he is going to find Ben Gunn; envious and restless, Jim slips away over the stockade with biscuits and pistols to find Ben Gunn's hidden coracle at the white rock. Jim discovers the small goat-skin boat, resolves to cut the Hispaniola adrift that night to prevent the mutineers' escape, and launches himself into the ebbing tide as fog and darkness blanket the island.

****Chapter 23 — The Ebb-tide Runs****

Jim drifts toward the Hispaniola in the nearly unmanageable coracle, overhears Israel Hands and the man in the red night-cap quarrelling drunkenly, and cuts through the hawser when a shift of wind slackens

it, setting the ship free. He glimpses the two men locked in a deadly wrestling match through the cabin window before the current sweeps both vessels through the narrows toward the open sea, and Jim, exhausted and terrified, falls asleep in the bottom of the coracle.

****Chapter 24 — The Cruise of the Coracle****

Jim wakes at the south-west end of the island and learns through experiment to guide the coracle northward along the west coast toward Cape of the Woods, growing desperately thirsty under the glaring sun. He spots the unmanned, erratically sailing Hispaniola and attempts to board her; the wind suddenly returns and the schooner bears down on him, and Jim leaps onto the jib-boom just as the hull strikes and destroys the coracle, leaving him stranded aboard.

****Chapter 25 — I Strike the Jolly Roger****

Jim discovers red-cap O'Brien dead and Israel Hands gravely wounded on the after-deck, takes command, and throws the Jolly Roger overboard before striking a bargain with Hands — food and care in exchange for navigation to North Inlet where Jim plans to beach the ship. As they successfully sail northward and approach the inlet, Jim notices Hands watching him with a craftily derisive smile that unsettles his otherwise elated mood.

****Chapter 26 — Israel Hands****

Jim spies on Hands and discovers he has retrieved a hidden dirk, confirming treacherous intent; after beaching the Hispaniola in North Inlet, Hands suddenly attacks and Jim flees up the mizzen shrouds. Hands climbs in pursuit, throws the dirk and pins Jim's shoulder to the mast, but Jim's pistols fire involuntarily from the shock and Hands plunges head-first into the water below.

****Chapter 27 — "Pieces of Eight"****

Jim tends his shoulder wound, throws O'Brien's body overboard, secures the Hispaniola, and sets off through the island toward the stockade, pleased with himself for recapturing the ship. Approaching the blockhouse in moonlight, he discovers a large fire burning inside — a warning sign — and when he enters in the dark, Silver's parrot Captain Flint screams "Pieces of eight," waking the occupants and revealing that the pirates now hold the garrison.

****Chapter 28 — In the Enemy's Camp****

Silver greets Jim cordially and reveals that Dr. Livesey negotiated a treaty surrendering the stockade and stores after discovering the Hispaniola was gone, leaving Jim's companions alive but location unknown; Jim boldly confesses his role in every act of sabotage, defying the pirates. When Morgan moves to kill Jim, Silver violently reasserts his authority and drives the crew outside to council, then privately

proposes an alliance — Silver will protect Jim in exchange for Jim saving him from the gallows.

****Chapter 29 — The Black Spot Again****

The crew returns and presents Silver with a black spot of deposition, with George Merry listing four grievances, but Silver silences them by producing the treasure chart, which electrifies the mutineers and immediately restores his authority. The crew acclaims Silver as captain once more, he tosses the black spot to Jim as a curiosity, and Jim spends the sleepless night tormented by guilt and awe at Silver's ruthless political survival.

****Chapter 30 — On Parole****

Dr. Livesey arrives at dawn to treat the sick pirates, and Silver arranges for Jim to speak with him outside the stockade after Jim gives his word of honour not to escape. Jim reveals to the doctor that he has hidden the Hispaniola in North Inlet, which transforms the doctor's assessment; Livesey cryptically warns Silver not to hurry after the treasure, offers conditional hope of saving him from the gallows, and departs into the woods.

****Chapter 31 — The Treasure-hunt—Flint's Pointer****

The pirate party sets out armed and equipped with Jim tethered to Silver, ascending the plateau toward the treasure site until they discover a human skeleton unnaturally arranged to point E.S.E. directly toward Skeleton Island — a deliberate compass marker left by Flint after killing one of his own crew. The discovery deeply unnerves the superstitious pirates, who recall Flint's brutal death, and the party resumes in frightened silence rather than boisterous excitement.

****Chapter 32 — The Treasure-hunt—The Voice Among the Trees****

A disembodied voice sings "Fifteen Men on the Dead Man's Chest" and then calls out Flint's last words — "Darby M'Graw! Fetch aft the rum!" — terrifying the pirates until Silver argues that spirits cast no echoes and George Merry recognises the voice as Ben Gunn's. The crew's courage returns and they race toward the great pine marking the treasure site, only to find a large, rifled excavation containing nothing but a broken pickaxe and boards branded with the name WALRUS.

****Chapter 33 — The Fall of a Chieftain****

Silver instantly adapts to the empty pit, arms Jim, and positions them across the excavation from the furious mutineers, but before Merry can lead a charge, Dr. Livesey, Gray, and Ben Gunn emerge from the thicket and shoot Merry and another pirate dead, routing the rest. The doctor reveals that Ben Gunn had found and removed the treasure to a cave two months earlier; the party races to the cave, where Captain Smollett and the squire await beside great heaps of gold coin and bars, and the

honest crew celebrates with a supper as Silver sits quietly at the edge of the firelight.