

ЛЕГКО ЧИТАЕМ
ПО-АНГЛИЙСКИ

2
УРОВЕНЬ



Daniel Defoe
ROBINSON CRUSOE

Даниэль Дефо
РОБИНЗОН КРУЗО

словарь • комментарии • упражнения

Легко читаем по-английски

Даниэль Дефо

**Робинзон Крузо /
Robinson Crusoe**

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Робинзон Крузо / Robinson Crusoe
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Chapter 1

Start in Life

I was born in the year 1632, in the city of York. That was my mother's hometown, because she also was born there, in a family of Robinson's. They were very old and gentle family of York's **faubourg**,¹ from whom I was called Robinson. My father, bore the name Kreutznaer, was German from Bremen. He earned his **bread**² by trading, and, when his **case went to the mountain**,³ he moved to England, York. There he met my mother and later they got married. Eventually, the surname Kreutznaer grown into the Crusoe, by the usual corruption of words in England. Therefore, everyone calls me Robinson Crusoe.

I had two elder brothers. One of them went to the army, despite of my father's prohibitions, and was killed at the battle near Dunkirk. What became of the second brother we never knew, he was missing.

From my childhood I dreamed about the adventures and pirates. I would be satisfied with nothing but going to sea.

Being the third son of my family, I wasn't high-educated person. My father had given me house-education and country free school that was enough to be a **lawyer**.⁴

When I grow up, my childish dreams of the sea turned into the real wish of becoming a captain, or a sailor at least. Oh, how the sea haunted my dreams that days!

My father, being a wise and grave man, guessed my **intentions**.⁵ One morning he called me into his chamber. He asked me very warmly not to left father's home and not to repeat the fate of my elder brothers in a search of adventures. "You don't have to earn your bread", he said, "I'll give you enough money to stay at your native country, become a lawyer, and get marriage. You are only eighteen, and I don't want to lose my third son, when he is so young". But I didn't listen to him. He promised me a life of ease and pleasure, but I was going to a life of risky adventures and trying the fortune.

However, I was **sincerely**⁶ affected with my father's discourse, and decided to wait with the final decision of my future life. I resolved not to think of going abroad one year more, but to settle at home, according to my father's desire. That was a time, when I was trying myself in the different fields of learning, trying to find a profession that would be close to me. But my searches had been unsuccessful. It turned out, that I had no abilities to any **crafts**.⁷ After that, I had finally decided **to link my future life with**⁸ the sea. However, I could not left my parent's home without their **approval**.⁹

One day, when my mother was in a good mood, I asked her for the help.

"Oh, mom, I'll soon be nineteen years old, and it is too late to become a lawyer or clerk, I have no abilities to any crafts. I see no ways to make living, but go to sea. Please, speak to my father to let me go abroad and become a mariner!"

¹ **faubourg** – предместье

² **to earn bread** – зарабатывать на жизнь

³ **case go to the mountain** – дела идут в гору

⁴ **lawyer** – адвокат, юрист

⁵ **intention** – намерение

⁶ **sincerely** – искренне

⁷ **craft** – ремесло

⁸ **to link my future life with...** – связать мою будущую жизнь с...

⁹ **approval** – зд. благословение

This put my mother into a great **passion**.¹⁰ She wondered how I could think in this way after the discourse I had had with my father, and such a kind and tender expression as she knew my father had used to me.

“Neither I, nor your father will bless you. If you don’t obey our advice, we will not take part in your future” – she said.

But for that moment, my decision was enough strong, and adrift, my wishes turned into the real life.

Being one day at Hull, where I went casually, I met one of my companions. He was about to sail to London in his father’s ship. He prompted me to go with him, promising that it should cost me nothing for my **passage**.¹¹ I consulted neither father nor mother about this voyage, even nor so much, as sent them a letter of it.

In an ill hour,¹² God knows, on the 1st of September 1651, I went on board a ship bound for London.

The ship was no sooner out of the Humber than the wind began to blow and the sea to rise. I had never been at sea before, so it seemed to me, that the ship was caught in a heavy storm and will drown in a minute. The **pitching**¹³ was so strong, that I could barely stand on my feet, **the nausea stepped up to the throat**.¹⁴ I thought, that were the last minutes of my life. And only then I realized what I’ve done: all the good counsels of my parents, my father’s tears and my mother’s **entreaties**,¹⁵ came fresh into my mind.

I swore to myself that if I could stay alive, I’ll come back to my parents in **repentance**¹⁶ and spend all the entire life near parents in my family home. At that moment in my mind has already appeared the picture from the biblical story “**Return of the prodigal son**”.¹⁷

These wise and **sober**¹⁸ thoughts continued all the while the storm lasted, and indeed some time after; but the next day the wind was abated, and the sea calmer. However, I was very grave for all that day, being also a little sea-sick still; but towards night the weather cleared up, the wind was quite over, and a charming fine evening followed. The sun went down perfectly clear, and rose so next morning; and having little or no wind, and a smooth sea, the sun shining upon it, the sight was, as I thought, the most delightful that ever I saw.

I had slept well in the night, and was now no more sea-sick, but very cheerful, looking with wonder upon the sea that was so rough and terrible the day before, and could be so calm and so pleasant in so little a time after. And now, lest my good resolutions should continue, my companion comes to me: “Well, Rob,” says he, **clapping me upon the shoulder**,¹⁹ “how do you do after it? Were you freighted, last night, when it blew a capful of wind?” “A capful do you call it?” said I, “That was a terrible storm!” “A storm?!” replied he, “do you call that a storm? Why? It was nothing at all; give us a good ship and **sea-room**,²⁰ and we think nothing of such a squall of wind as that; but you are a fresh-water sailor, Rob. Come, let us make a bowl of punch, and we’ll forget all that! Do you see what charming weather it is now?”

¹⁰ **passion** – гнев

¹¹ **passage** – проезд

¹² **in an ill hour** – не в добрый час

¹³ **pitching** – качка

¹⁴ **the nausea stepped up to the throat** – тошнота подступала к горлу

¹⁵ **entreaty** – мольба

¹⁶ **repentance** – покаяние

¹⁷ “**Return of the prodigal son**” – Возвращение блудного сына

¹⁸ **sober** – здравый, рассудительный

¹⁹ **clapping me upon the shoulder** – хлопая меня по плечу

²⁰ **sea-room** – морской простор

To make short this sad part of my story, we went the way of all sailors; the punch was made and I was made half drunk with it: and in that one night's wickedness I drowned all my repentance, all my reflections upon my past conduct, all my resolutions for the future.

The sixth day of our being at sea we came into Yarmouth Roads. These Roads are the common harbor, where the ships might wait the **tailwind**.²¹ Here we **came to an anchor**²² for seven or eight days. During this time many ships from Newcastle came into the same Roads.

But the wind blew to fresh, and after we had lain four or five days, blew very hard. However, the crew of our ship was absolutely calm: the Yarmouth Roads are known as the safest place; there is no more danger there, than in any other harbor. Moreover, our ship had the good anchor, and our **ground-tackle**²³ very strong. So, our men spent all the time in rest and mirth, after the manner of the sea.

But the eight day, in the morning, the wind increased, and **we had all hands at work to strike our topmasts**,²⁴ and make everything close, that the ship might ride as easy as possible.

By noon the sea went very high. Once or twice we thought, that our anchor had come home; upon which our master ordered out the **sheet-anchor**,²⁵ so that we rode with two anchors ahead.

By this time it blew a terrible storm indeed. Anyone may judge, what a condition I must been in at all this, who was such a young sailor, and was so frightened in a first little storm. But not the fear of death scared me. It seemed like a **Providence punishment**.²⁶ I had broken my oath, which I gave during the first storm. Now it seemed clear, what fate awaits me, if I don't return home. And these, added to the terror of the storm, put me into such a condition, that I have no words to describe it.

During the first hurries I was stupid, lying still in my cabin, but in the next time I heard as the master went in and out of his cabin by me, saying softly several times a minute "**Lord, be merciful to us!**"²⁷ We shall be all lost! We shall be all undone!" and the like. I got up out of my cabin and looked out; but such a dismal sight I never saw. I saw terror and amazement in the faces even of the seamen themselves. The sea ran mountains high, and broke upon us every three or four minutes.

Towards evening the **mate and boatswain**²⁸ asked the master of our ship to let them cut away the **fore-mast**.²⁹ When they had cut it away, the **main mast**³⁰ shook the ship so much, that they were obliged to cut that away also, and make a clear deck.

Two more ships, that were standing near us, **drived from their anchors**³¹ and were run out of the Roads to sea, at all adventures, without any masts. The similar fate awaited for us. The boatswain, the master, and some others more sensible than the rest were praying, expecting every moment when the ship would go to the bottom.

In the middle of the night we found out **the leak in a hold**.³² One of the men that had been down to see cried out, that there was four feet water in the hold. Then all hands were called to the pump. We worked all night long, but the water kept coming. It was clear, that the ship would

²¹ **tailwind** – попутный ветер

²² **came to an anchor** – встать на якорь

²³ **ground-tackle** – якорное устройство, канат, на который крепится якорь

²⁴ **we had all hands at work to strike our topmasts** – понадобились все рабочие руки, чтобы убрать стеньги (*стенга* – мор. удлинение нижних мачт)

²⁵ **sheet-anchor** – запасной становой якорь

²⁶ **Providence punishment** – наказание Провидения

²⁷ **Lord, be merciful to us!** – Господи, смилуйся над нами!

²⁸ **mate and boatswain** – штурман и боцман

²⁹ **fore-mast** – фок-мачта (*фок-мачта* – мор. первая, считая от носа к корме, мачта на судне с двумя или более мачтами).

³⁰ **main mast** – грот-мачта (*грот-мачта* – мор. обычно вторая мачта, считая от носа судна).

³¹ **drived from their anchors** – сорвались с якоря

³² **the leak in a hold** – течь в трюме

founder; and though the storm began to fall off a little, but it was impossible to keep afloat till we might run into any port. So the **master began firing guns for help**.³³

The light ship, who had rid it out just ahead of us, sent a boat to help us. But it was impossible for us to get on board, or for the boat to lie near the ship's side. All the men in the boat were rowing very heartily, and **venturing their lives**³⁴ to save ours. Finally, **we extended them a rope**³⁵ so they managed to swim very close to the board of our ship, and we got all into their boat. It was no purpose for them or us, after we were in the boat, to think of reaching their own ship; so all agreed to let the boat drive on it's own, and only to pull it in towards shore as much as we could.

We were not much more than a quarter of an hour out of our ship, till we saw its **sink**.³⁶ Only then I understood for the first time what was meant by a ship foundering in the sea.

When our boat was mounting the waves, we were able to see the shore. A huge number of people gathered on the beach to help us as soon as we **moored to the bank**.³⁷ But we made a very slow way towards the shore. Only when we past the **lighthouse**³⁸ at Winterton, we found ourselves in a small bay near the Cromer, where the wind was a little quieter. Here we got in, and though not without much difficulty, got all safe on shore, and walked afterwards on foot to Yarmouth.

As unfortunate men been in the **shipwreck**,³⁹ we were used with great humanity there. The townspeople gave us houses to leave, and by the particular merchants and owners of ships we had enough money to carry either to London or back to Hull as we wanted.

My comrade, who was the master's son, and who prompted me to go with him on his father's ship to London, was now less forward then I. At Yarmouth we were separated in the town to several quarters, so the first time he spoke to me after the shipwreck was not till two or three days, of our staying in town. He asked me how I did, looking very melancholy and **shaking his head**.⁴⁰ He told his father who I was, and how I had come to this voyage only for a trial, in order to go further abroad.

His father turned to me with a very grave and concerned tone: "Young man," said he, "you ought never to go to sea anymore; you ought to take this for a plain and visible token that you are not to be a seafaring man."

"Why, sir," said I, "will you go to sea no more?"

"That is another case," said he; "it is my calling, and therefore my duty; but as you made this voyage on trial, you see what a taste **Heaven**⁴¹ has given", continues he, "what are you; and on what account did you go to sea?" Upon that I told him some of my story; at the end of which **he burst out into a strange kind of passion**.⁴² "What had I done," said he, "that such an unhappy wretch should come into my ship? I would not set my foot in the same ship even for a thousand pounds!"

I saw him later, and he repeated his words: "Young man, if you don't go back, wherever you go, you will meet with nothing, but disasters and disappointments, till your father's words are fulfilled upon you".

I saw him no more. Which way he went I knew not.

From Yarmouth I went to London with my own, by land. I had enough money in my pocket for this way. As well as on the road, I had many struggles with myself, what course of life I should

³³ **master began firing guns for help** – капитан начал палить из пушек, призывая о помощи

³⁴ **venturing their lives** – рисковали жизнью

³⁵ **we extended them a rope** – мы протянули им канат

³⁶ **sink** – погружение на дно

³⁷ **moor to the bank** – пришвартовываться к берегу

³⁸ **lighthouse** – маяк

³⁹ **shipwreck** – кораблекрушение

⁴⁰ **shaking his head** – покачивая головой

⁴¹ **Heaven** – Небеса, Провидение

⁴² **he burst out into a strange kind of passion** – он разразился страшным гневом

take, and whether I should go home or to sea. The first reason, that I didn't want to return home, was **the fear to be laughed at among the neighbours**,⁴³ and should be ashamed to see not my father and mother only, but even everybody else.

Time went on, and the remembrance of the distress I had been in wore off, and I began looking out for a new voyage. Just in those days there was a great opportunity to go to the new voyage aboard the ship, bound to the west coast of Africa, as our sailors vulgarly called it, a voyage to Guinea.

It was a big success for me first of all to fall into pretty good company in London. In the port I met the master of a ship who had already been on the coast of Guinea, and we became friends. His first trip to the west coast of Africa was very successful, so he resolved to go again. **Without false modesty**⁴⁴ I can say that I am a pleasant companion, therefore this captain was taking a fancy to my conversation. Hearing me say I had a mind to see the world, he told me if I would go the voyage with him I should be at no expense, and if I could carry anything with me to sale, I should have all the advantage of it that the trade would admit.

I had enough money in my pocket and good clothes upon my back, so I went to that voyage not as a sailor, but as a simple passenger. I would always go on board in the habit of a gentleman and so I neither had any business in the ship, nor learned to do any. I might indeed have worked a little harder than ordinary, yet at the same I should have learnt the duty and office of a **fore-mast man**,⁴⁵ and in time might have qualified myself for a mate of lieutenant, if not for a master. But as it was always my fate to choose for the worse, so I did here.

I decided to follow the advice of the captain, to carry something for trading with me to Guinea, so I asked my relations, whom I corresponded with, for some money. They sent to me 40 pounds, and I carried a small adventure with me, which, by the disinterested honesty of my friend the captain, I **increased very considerably**,⁴⁶ for I carried all my money in such toys and **trifles**⁴⁷ as the captain directed me to buy.

This was the only voyage which I may say was successful in all my adventures, which I owe to the honesty of my friend the captain; under whom also I got a competent knowledge of the mathematics and the rules of navigation, learned how **to keep an account of the ship's course**,⁴⁸ take an observation, and, in short, to understand some things that were needful to be understood by a sailor; for, as he took delight to instruct me, I took delight to learn; and, in a word, this voyage made me both a sailor and a merchant.

Our trading in Guinea was upon the coast line. I had my misfortunes even in this voyage. I was continually sick, being thrown into **a violent calenture**⁴⁹ by the excessive heat of the climate.

⁴³ **the fear to be laughed at among the neighbours** – страх быть осмеянным соседями

⁴⁴ **Without false modesty** – Без ложной скромности

⁴⁵ **fore-mast man** – штурман

⁴⁶ **increased very considerably** – значительно увеличил

⁴⁷ **trifles** – мелочи, финтифлюшки

⁴⁸ **to keep an account of the ship's course** – рассчитывать направление судна

⁴⁹ **a violent calenture** – тропическая лихорадка (болезнь жаркого климата, которой подвержены уроженцы более холодных стран, европейцы).

Chapter II

Slavery and Escape

Recovering, I went to London with all the crew and our master. This voyage was very successful to us, all the crew members returned home grown rich. Even my 40 pounds turned into 300 pounds sterling. This first success elated me and I resolved to go to the same voyage again. However, one event **overshadowed**⁵⁰ those days: to my great misfortune, my friend, the master of our ship, was dying soon after the arrival, though I was deprived of the faithful and honest comrade.

When I decided for the second time to set the sail, I found the widow of my deceased friend, captain, and left her 200 pounds for safekeeping, and I must say, she preserved this money very faithfully. So, I did not carry quite 100 pounds of my new-gained wealth with me to the new voyage.

That was the unhappiest trip that ever man made. Our ship, making her course towards the Canary Islands, or rather between those islands and the African shore, was surprised in the grey of the morning by a Turkish **rover**⁵¹ of Sallee, who gave chase to us with all the sail he could make. **We crowded also as much canvas as our yards would spread**,⁵² or our masts carry, to get clear; but finding the pirate gained upon us, and would certainly come up with us in a few hours, we prepared to fight; our ship having twelve guns, and the rogue eighteen. About three in the afternoon **he came up with us**⁵³ and entered sixty men upon our decks, who immediately **fell to cutting and hacking the sails and rigging**.⁵⁴ We plied them with small shot, half-pikes, powder-chests, and such like, and cleared our deck of them twice. However, to cut short this melancholy part of our story, our ship was disabled, and three of our men killed, and eight wounded, **we were obliged to yield**,⁵⁵ and were carried all prisoners into Sallee, a port belonging to the Moors.

Most of our men were carried up the country to the emperor's court or to the slave market. However, in those days I was young, strong, **nimble**⁵⁶ and smart fellow, so my fate was not as abysmal as the rest crew: I was kept by the captain of the rover as his proper prize, and made his own slave. At this surprising change of my fate, from a merchant to a miserable slave, I was perfectly **overwhelmed**;⁵⁷ and now I looked back upon my father's **prophetic**⁵⁸ discourse to me, that I should be miserable and have none to relieve me.

My new patron, or master, had taken me to his house, so I was in hopes that he would take me with him when he went to sea again. I believed, that it would some time, when this sea rover will be taken by a Spanish or Portugal man-of-war, and that then I should be set at liberty.

But this hope of mine was soon taken away; for when he went to sea, he left me on shore to look after his little garden, and do the common domestic things about his house; and when he came home again from his cruise, he ordered me to lie in the cabin on board to look after the ship.

For two long years I had been a miserable slave of my patron, and all my thoughts were only about the escape and release. Most of time I spent on land, looking after the master's household. I left the land only on the rare occasions, when my patron went on a fishing trip. He used constantly,

⁵⁰ **overshadow** – омрачать

⁵¹ **rover** – пират

⁵² **We crowded also as much canvas as our yards would spread** – Мы подняли все паруса, какие могли выдержать наши реи

⁵³ **he came up with us** – он поравнялся с нами

⁵⁴ **fell to cutting and hacking the sails and rigging** – принялись резать и ломать паруса и снасти

⁵⁵ **we were obliged to yield** – мы были вынуждены сдаться

⁵⁶ **nimble** – шустрый, проворный

⁵⁷ **overwhelmed** – ошеломленный, потрясенный

⁵⁸ **prophetic** – пророческий

once or twice a week, sometimes oftener if the weather was fair, to take the ship and go out into the road a-fishing. I proved very dexterous in catching fish; insomuch that sometimes patron took me and young boy Xury, as they called him, to row the boat and to help him fishing.

Two or three times we went into a long voyage that we were two leagues from the shore, because farther from the coast line we could caught larger fish. We usually went for such a trip by our English ship, that pirate, our master, had taken. We never went a-fishing without a compass and some provision. In the middle of the long-boat, in our ship, there were a state-room, and this cabin had been served as a buffet. In this buffet were stored baskets of sea biscuits, bread, rice and coffee. Every time there were about eight or ten bottles of the port wine and liquor as the master thought to drink. The reason of such a **foresight and thrifty**⁵⁹ of our master, was one incident that occurred shortly before.

It happened one time, that going a-fish in a calm morning, a fog rose so thick that, though we were not half a league from the shore, we lost sight of it; we laboured all day, and all the next night and we knew not whither or which way; and when the morning came we found we had pulled off to sea instead of pulling in for the shore; and that we were at least two leagues from the shore. However, we got well in again, though **with a great deal of labour**⁶⁰ and some danger; for the wind began to blow pretty fresh in the morning; but we were all very hungry.

But our patron, warned by this disaster, resolved to take more care of himself for the future, therefore took all the measures to stock up with provisions and drinks. In this way, that minor incident gave me a good turn.

Since then, my thoughts of escape became stronger than ever before. I began to prepare to **flee**.⁶¹

One day it happened that he had appointed to go out in this boat, either for pleasure or for fish, with two or three **Moors of some distinction in that place**,⁶² and for whom he had provided extraordinarily, and had, therefore, sent on board the boat overnight a larger store of provisions than ordinary; and had ordered me to get ready three fusees with powder and shot, which were on board his ship, for that they designed some sport of fowling as well as fishing.

This moment my former notions of deliverance darted into my thoughts, for now I found I was likely to have a little ship at my command. I prepared to furnish myself, not for fishing business, but for a voyage.

All the gunpowder and bullets were kept on pirate's **man-of-war**,⁶³ by which he usually went on looting. So, the master ordered the Moor, called Ismael, who guarded the ship, to give me everything for fowling. And then I went on a little trick. I called to Moor – “Moely,” said I (everyone called Ismael Muley, or Moely), “our patron’s guns are on board of his English ship, can you not get a little more powder and shot? It may be we kill some alcamies (a fowl like our **curlews**⁶⁴) for ourselves, for I know we must not presume to eat of our patron’s bread. We can divide all the prey equally!”

“Yes,” says he, “I’ll bring some;” and accordingly he brought a great leather pouch, which held a pound and a half of powder, or rather more; and another with shot, that had five or six pounds, with some bullets, and put all aboard the ship.

⁵⁹ **foresight and thrifty** – предусмотрительность и запасливость

⁶⁰ **with a great deal of labour** – приложив немало труда

⁶¹ **flee** – пуститься в бегство

⁶² **Moors of some distinction in that place** – Мавры, знатные в тех местах

⁶³ **man-of-war** – военный корабль

⁶⁴ **curlew** – кроншнеп (*вид птиц*)

I conveyed also a great lump of **beeswax**⁶⁵ into the boat, which weighed about half a hundred-weight, a hatchet, a saw, and a hammer, all of which were of great use to us afterwards, especially the wax, to make candles.

I got all things ready and waited the next morning on a board, washed clean, ready to sail; when my patron came on board alone, and told me his guests had put off going from some business that fell out, and ordered me, with the boy, Xury, as usual, to go out with ship and catch them some fish, for that his friends **were to sup**⁶⁶ at his house, and commanded that as soon as I got some fish I should bring it home to his house.

So, I went out to sea alone, out of the port to fish, on board of a ship full of supplies, furnished with everything needful, accompanied only by young Xury and Luck.

The castle, which is at the entrance of the port, knew who we were, and took no notice of us; and we were not above a mile out of the port before we set us down to fish.

After we had fished some time and caught nothing – for when I had fish on my hook I would not pull them up, I said to the Xury, “This will not do; our master will not be served; we must stand farther off.” He, **thinking no harm**,⁶⁷ agreed, and being in the head of the ship, set the sails.

When we were about two miles above the shore, I took the gun out of the cabin and went to Xury. When he saw the gun in my hands, a fear reflected on his face. I touched his shoulder and said to him,

“Xury, if you will be faithful to me, I’ll make you a great man; but if you will not be true to me, I must kill you.” The boy smiled in my face, the fear in his eyes immediately disappeared, and spoke so innocently that I could not distrust him, he **swore to be faithful to me**,⁶⁸ and go all over the world with me.

So, I enlisted the full support of Xury and became a full captain of our ship, and a master of one-person crew. In fear, that our ex-patron, pirate from Sallee, could sent us the **chase**,⁶⁹ I decided to make one trick: while our ship was in view from the coast line, I stood out directly to sea with the ship, that they might think me gone towards the **Strait of Gibraltar**⁷⁰ (as indeed any one must have been supposed to do).

But as soon as **it grew dusk**⁷¹ in the evening, I changed my course, and sailed directly south and by east, bending my course a little towards the east, that I might keep in with the shore; and having a fresh wind, and a smooth, quiet sea, I made such sail that I believe by the next day, at three o’clock in the afternoon, **when I first made the land**,⁷² I could not be less than one hundred and fifty miles south of Sallee.

During the next five or six days the tail-wind continued to blow, though I would not stop, or come to an anchor and go on shore, yet such was the fright I had taken of Moors. I concluded, that if any of them were in chase of me, they would now give over, therefore I decided to sail near the coast line.

We sailed along the coast of Africa, close to the shore. Sometimes we heard lions and other wild beasts. We needed fresh water, but we were afraid to go ashore, for fear of wild beasts and **savages**.⁷³ However, one day, I came to an anchor in the mouth of a little river, I knew not what,

⁶⁵ **beeswax** – воск

⁶⁶ **were to sup** – собирались поужинать

⁶⁷ **thinking no harm** – не заподозрив неладное

⁶⁸ **swore to be faithful to me** – поклялся быть преданным мне

⁶⁹ **chase** – погоня

⁷⁰ **Strait of Gibraltar** – Гибралтарский пролив

⁷¹ **it grew dusk** – стало смеркаться

⁷² **when I first made the land** – когда я впервые увидел землю

⁷³ **savage** – дикарь

nor where, neither what latitude, what country, what nation, or what river. The principal thing I wanted was fresh water.

We came into the small bay in the evening, resolving to swim on shore as soon as it was dark, and discover the country; but as soon as it was quite dark, we heard such dreadful noises of the barking and roaring of wild creatures, of we knew not what kinds. We decided to stay aboard till day, and in the morning to go ashore with two guns, some powder and shot. We were afraid not only about lions and other wild beasts, but moreover about men, who could be as bad to us as all wild creatures.

We dropped our little anchor, and lay still all night; I say still, for we slept none; for in two or three hours we saw vast great creatures (we knew not what to call them) of many sorts, come down to the sea-shore and run into the water, wallowing and washing themselves for the pleasure of cooling themselves; and they made such **hideous howlings and yellings**,⁷⁴ that I never indeed heard the like.

But we were both more frightened when we heard one of these mighty creatures come swimming towards our boat; we could not see him, but we might hear him by his blowing to be a monstrous huge and furious beast. Xury said it was a lion, and I said it might be so. I had no sooner said so, but I saw the creature (whatever it was) **within two oars' length**,⁷⁵ which something surprised me; however, I immediately stepped to the cabin door, and taking up my gun, fired at him; upon which he immediately turned about and swam towards the shore again.

But it is impossible to describe the horrid noises, and hideous cries and howlings that were raised, as well upon the edge of the shore as higher within the country, upon the noise or report of the gun, a thing I have some reason to believe those creatures had never heard before.

However, we were obliged to go on shore somewhere or other for water, for we had not a pint left on a board; when and where to get to it was the point. Xury said, if I would let him go on shore with one of the jars, he would find if there was any water, and bring some to me. He said that I should stay aboard.

“Why should you go, Xury?” I asked. “Why should I not go, and you wait aboard?”

Xury replied in words that made me love him ever after: “If wild men come, they will eat me, and you will escape.”

“Well, Xury,” said I, “we will both go and if the wild men come, we will kill them, they shall eat neither of us.” So I gave Xury a piece of **rusk bread**⁷⁶ to eat, and a **dram**⁷⁷ out of our patron's case of bottles which I mentioned before; and we moored our ship to the shore as we thought was **proper**,⁷⁸ and so waded on shore, carrying nothing but our arms and two jars for water.

I did not want to go out of sight of the boat, fearing the coming of canoes with savages down the river; but the boy seeing a low place about a mile up the country, rambled to it, and by-and-by I saw him come running towards me. I thought he was pursued by some savage, or frightened with some wild beast, and I ran forward towards him to help him; but when I came nearer to him I saw something hanging over his shoulders, which was a creature that he had shot, like a hare, but different in colour, and longer legs; however, we were very glad of it, and it was very good meat; but the great joy that poor Xury came with, was to tell me he had found good water and seen no wild beasts.

⁷⁴ **hideous howlings and yellings** – отвратительные завывания и вопли

⁷⁵ **within two oars' length** – на расстоянии двух вытянутых весел

⁷⁶ **rusk bread** – морские сухари

⁷⁷ **dram** – глоток спиртного

⁷⁸ **proper** – правильный, сделанный надлежащим образом

Конец ознакомительного фрагмента.

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