



1: Jim Hawkins and The Admiral Benbow Inn

Jim Hawkins lived and worked at The Admiral Benbow Inn near Bristol. His life was dull and Jim dreamed of adventure. Then one day his life changed... An old sailor called Captain Billy Bones arrived at The Admiral Benbow asking for a place to stay. He also asked Jim to keep his eyes open for another sailor with one leg.

Over the next few weeks Billy Bones had two visitors - one of whom handed him 'the black spot'. This was a curse that pirates placed on people if they wanted to kill them. The effect of this pirate curse was almost immediate and Billy Bones fell to the ground, dead. Jim and his mother then searched through Billy Bones' possessions. They found an old map in a chest...but before they have time to examine it closely, a group of pirates came into the inn.

2: The Squire and the treasure map

Jim and his mother ran and hid, escaping from the pirates, but keeping a firm hold of the map.

They went to the home of their friend, Squire Trelawney, who sent the local police to The Admiral Benbow to deal with the pirates...but most of the pirates escaped.

Squire Trelawney and Dr Livesey then examined the map. It appeared to be the key to the lost treasure hoard of Captain Flint, an infamous pirate.

Squire Trelawney declared that they would charter a ship to sail from Bristol to the Caribbean to find the treasure, and Jim could go along as cabin boy.

3: Long John Silver and the Hispaniola

Three weeks later Jim arrived at the Bristol port, with a note to find a Mr Silver who would show him to the Squire's ship, the Hispaniola. He found Silver - Long John Silver - down by the docks. Silver had just one leg, and a black patch over one eye.

Silver rowed Jim out to the Hispaniola, where the Squire was already waiting on board.

Jim met Captain Smollett and the other crew members - apparently all hand-picked by Long John Silver himself.

4. The voyage and the apple barrel

The Hispaniola set sail for Treasure Island in the Caribbean. The voyage was calm and largely uneventful. Jim became firm friends with Long John Silver and his parrot, which was named Captain Flint after the infamous pirate.

Neither Jim, Squire Trelawney, Dr Livesey or Captain Smollett had any idea about the terrible true identity of Long John Silver and his crew.

As the Hispaniola was drawing close to Treasure Island, Jim reached into an apple barrel on deck to get an apple, but fell inside. Jim, unseen, then listened in horror as Silver and the crew discussed how they intended to take control of the ship that night, and murder Squire Trelawney. At that moment the sailors spied land. Jim slipped away to warn the others that they are in immediate danger.

5. Escape to the island and Ben Gunn

Jim also warned Squire Trelawney and the Doctor of John's Silver's plan. At dawn, the Squire, Doctor and Captain Smollett grabbed the treasure map and escaped the Hispaniola in a small rowing boat with the a few other faithful crew members

The pirates fired at them from the ship, but missed. Jim was not with the escaping group, because he had swum ashore the night before. While exploring the island, Jim was suddenly alarmed by a figure in the darkness. This person was Ben Gunn. He had long hair and a beard, and his clothes were ragged. Ben Gunn explained to Jim that he was not a pirate, and then shared his story... Ben told Jim how he had once sailed with Captain Flint and Long John Silver to the island to bury the treasure hoard. He sailed back with another crew some years later promising to find the treasure - but when he was unable to do so the other crew members sailed away, leaving Ben marooned on the island. Ben was about to reveal something else...when suddenly a cannon shot caused Ben to flee. Then Jim looked down to the coast to see his comrades escaping from the pirates.

6. The stockade and the pirates attack

The Squire, Smollett and their group found an old stockade. They took shelter here, and it became their refuge from the pirates. Jim raced down the hillside and banged on the door of the stockade. The pirates were following. Jim got in just before the pirates arrived. The stockade had been built by Captain Flint years ago, at the time of burying the treasure hoard. The Squire and the others were able to make use of the guns stored in the stockade and they were able to ward off the pirates.

Later Long John Silver arrived at the stockade, holding a flag of truce. He was allowed into the stockade and the others listened to his terms: Silver wanted the treasure. If they gave him the treasure map, he would spare their lives. But Silver's terms were rejected and he was thrown out of the stockade. Immediately the pirates launched another attack and by the end of the battle, crew members on both sides had been killed and Captain Smollett had been badly wounded.

7. A fight and the Hispaniola captured

Jim could not sleep. He knew something had to be done, but he was not sure what. He slipped away in the night, making his way towards the shore. He found an old boat that Ben Gunn had told him about and rowed out to the Hispaniola. He could hear the two pirates left on board - O'Brien and Hands - arguing, so he tied the small boat up along the ship, cutting the anchor rope of the Hispaniola, to set the ship adrift.

Next morning, when Jim climbed on board, he found that Hands had killed O'Brien during their argument the previous night and that Hands was also badly wounded.

Jim went below deck to get Hands a drink. While doing this, Hands got hold of a knife and hid it in his coat pocket, ready for Jim's return.

When Jim came up on deck once more Hands made a lunge at him. Jim climbed the mast and Hands pursued him. Jim, who was carrying a gun, shot Hands who fell from the mast to the sea.

8. The pirates parley and the black spot

The Hispaniola was now safely moored. Jim had seized it from the pirates single-handed.

Jim made his way back to the stockade, assuming he would return to a hero's welcome. But when Jim entered the stockade, he discovered it had been taken over by the pirates. Silver explained that when the pirates discovered that the ship had gone, a deal was struck: the pirates would take over the stockade and in return, the Squire, Dr Livesey and Captain Smollett would not be killed, and could go free. The deal was agreed to.

The pirates invited Jim to join the pirates' side, but Jim would not agree. They then decided that it was Jim who had caused all their problems, by telling Smollett about their plans.

The pirates were restless and went away to have a 'parley', (a discussion). At the end of it they returned to tell Silver that Jim Hawkins should die. And they also gave Silver 'the black spot'. But they had made a mistake - the black spot had accidentally been placed on a page of a bible and the curse therefore had no effect.

9. An empty pit and Ben Gunn's surprise

In the stockade the pirates were celebrating - today they'll be digging up Flint's treasure...or so they thought. They set off, following the treasure map, Silver leading them. Along the way they passed one of Flint's 'pointers' - the skeleton of a young pirate who Flint killed and then placed so that his arm would show the way.

The pirates arrived at the place where the treasure should be...and sure enough there was a pit in the ground. But they soon realised that someone had been there before them - the pit was empty! The pirates were about to turn on Silver when suddenly shots rang out...and two pirates fell dead. Then Dr Livesey and Ben Gunn came out of the undergrowth, firing their pistols. Jim, Silver and the others made their escape and Ben took them to a cave where he had stored Flint's treasure hoard. Ben revealed that he had found the treasure himself some years before and had moved it to the cave for safe keeping.

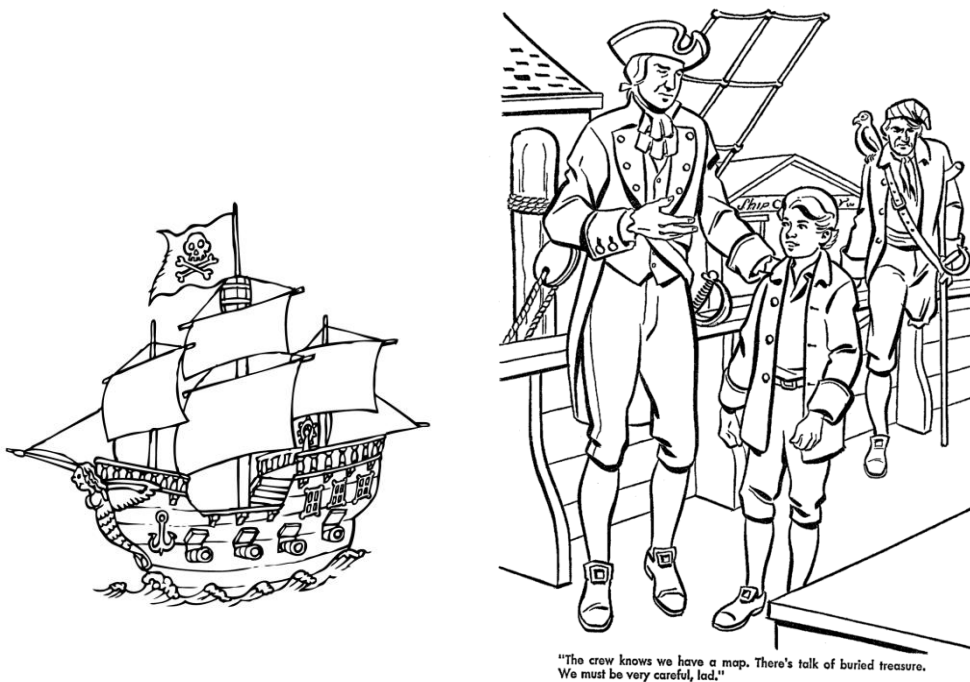
That night Jim and his group had a party on the beach, with provisions taken from the Hispaniola. The next morning, they set sail for England with the treasure.

10. Silver escapes and the heroes return

After several weeks, the ship docked at a port in South America for supplies. The Squire, Dr Livesey and Captain Smollett went ashore - leaving Jim on board with Silver. Silver was a captive on the ship and his return to England would mean almost certain hanging.

As Jim lay on deck, his eyes half closed, Silver crept by, with one of the bags of treasure over his shoulder. Jim woke and Silver hesitated. The two reflected on their lengthy adventure...and in the end, Jim was happy to let Silver make his escape. In truth no-one was sad to see Silver go.

Jim returned to England now a wealthy young man. He heard nothing more of Long John Silver...but sometimes in his sleep he continued to dream of Silver...and his squawking parrot.



Treasure Island

Based on the story
by Robert Louis Stevenson

