

THE LIFE  
AND  
SURPRISING ADVENTURES  
OF  
**ROBINSON**  
**CRUSOE.**



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LIFE AND SURPRISING ADVENTURES OF  
ROBINSON CRUSOE.

**I** WAS born of a good family, in the city of York, where my father settled, having gained a very handsome independence by trade.

Against the prudent advice of my parents, I resolved to go to sea; and on the 1st of September, 1651, being at Hull, I went on board the ship *Hope*, bound for London, but before the ship was out of the Humber, the wind began to blow, and the sea to rise in a most terrible manner. Having never been at sea before, I was very sick, and sorely frightened. While we were tossing about in Yarmouth Roads, and expecting every minute the ship to go to the bottom, I began to feel how justly I was punished for disobeying the advice of the best of parents. At length the crew took to their boats, and we safely reached the land.—I then walked to Yarmouth, where I remained some days, thinking whether to return home, or not; at length I resolved to walk to London, and on arriving in this city, I contracted an acquaintance with the master of a vessel, who had been on a voyage to the coast of Guinea, and was going again, and offered to take me free of any expense, with liberty to trade on my own account. This proved to me a disastrous voyage, for during a hurricane, the ship drove on the rocks, all the

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crew, except myself, were drowned, but clinging to the rocks, I was saved, and having clambered over them, I reached the shore, and laid me down to go to sleep. When I awoke in the morning, I swam to the ship, which was at no great distance; and to my great joy I reached it, and catching hold of a rope, I got into the fore-castle; here to my surprise I found good provisions. With some wood I formed a raft, and having emptied some tubs and chests lowered them on the raft, and filled them with bread, Dutch cheeses, and dried goat's flesh. I also let down two fowling pieces, two pistols, and an old rusty sword, together with a dog.—All these I placed on the raft, and then



made for shore, pushed the raft along with some

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broken oars, until I safely landed my invaluable cargo. At night I barricadoed myself round with the tubs and chests, of which I made a kind of hut. The next day I resolved to make a second voyage, and again brought off from the ship some bags of nails and spikes, sails, bullets, small shot, and powder; also, the carpenter's chest, two fowling pieces, together with all the sailor's clothing, which, after much labour, I safely landed. I had now been thirteen days on shore, and went seriously to work, and soon built myself a convenient hut, which I covered with the sails, supported by some poles. While I was rummaging one day, I found a few husks of corn in a little bag, which I shook out by the side of my hut: this was just before a heavy rain, and in about two months afterwards, I was astonished and delighted to see ten or twelve ears of barley spring up—these I carefully preserved for seed. I took a walk along the island, with my dog and gun, when I knocked down a young parrot, which I took home alive, and learned it to talk; my dog also seized a young kid—this also I brought home, and tamed. I now at my leisure, made a boat, and foolish-man like, put to sea in it, when I was soon drifted far from land. I now gave myself up for lost, sighing after my habitation on shore

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But, very fortunately, a breeze springing up, wafted my boat to the island, when I jumped on shore, and fell on my knees, returning thanks to God for his gracious deliverance. I regained my hut the next night, and laid myself down, and slept soundly. This ramble endeared me to my hut, and I felt resigned to the will of Providence. One morning, going to visit my boat, I was exceedingly surprised to see the print of a man's naked foot on the



shore. I stood like one thunderstruck; and instantly hastened home to more strongly fortify my habitation. Some short time afterwards, I was terrified in beholding the shore strewed with the skulls, hands and feet of human beings. I had now been on the island twenty-two years, when

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one day I was surprised with the light of a fire on the shore, towards my end of the island. In this extremity, I went directly to my castle (as I called it,) pulled up the ladder, and put myself in the best posture of defence. In a few days after, I espied five canoes rowing to shore, which on reaching, they dragged out two miserable beings, one of whom they immediately knocked down, but the other started from them, and ran towards me. I confess I was horribly frightened; however, I kept my station, and was without fear when I saw but three following him. I hastily fetched my gun, and clapped myself between the pursuers and the pursued, beckoned to him that fled, to come to me; and rushing at once on the foremost, knocked him down, and shot the others dead. The poor savage that had fled, was most terribly frightened at the noise of my piece, tho' he saw his enemies fallen, that he stood stock still, but seemed more inclined to fly from me, than to come forwards. However, I gave him signs of encouragement, and he came nearer, kneeling down every ten or twelve steps. On his coming close to me, he kneeled down again, and laid his head upon the ground, and placed my foot upon it. I soon began to speak to this poor creature, and learned him to speak to me. He soon



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proved a faithful servant, and I called him *Friday* (being the day on which I rescued him.) I now taught him to eat some kid, which he liked much and promised me he would not eat human flesh any more. He soon was capable of assisting me in every thing, and I grew very fond of him. I did not fail to instruct this poor creature in the principles of religion and how he was to worship God, and he used to listen to me with the greatest attention. I then taught him the use of guns, and how to shoot with them. I gave him a knife and a belt, in which I put a hatchet. I now entered the 27th year of my captivity, when one morning, I bid Friday go to the sea shore, to see if he could find a turtle, when he came running

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back, telling me there was a boat coming to them. I soon espied an English ship laying at anchor, and hastened to the beach, where I found the ship's boat, the crew having left it with three men bound. I spoke to one, and he told me he was the captain of the ship, that his men had mutinied, and had brought him and the two others there, either to kill them, or leave them on that island. I soon liberated them, and made myself known, when it was agreed to kill or secure that part of the crew that came with the boat. The next day another boat's crew came in search of their companions; these were also conquered. It was then agreed between me and the captain, that one party should go and take possession of the vessel. When I learned they had taken the ship, and saw my deliverance thus put into my hands, I was ready to sink with joy. As some of the rebellious crew wished to remain on the island, I acceded to their request; and having made them acquainted with every particular relative to the island, I went on board, taking Friday with me. Thus I left the island, after being on it twenty-eight years. On my arrival in England, nearly all my relations were dead. FINIS.

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