

The night was dark and stormy.

The pirate ship, Black Crystal, rode at anchor in Pirates Bay. Captain Greybeard and his crew battened down the hatches.

Lightning flashed.

Thunder roared.


Wind raged.



Waves crashed against the ship until the anchor chain broke.

Midshipman Zack wrestled with the helm, but to no avail.

The ship was drifting out of control.



The raging, gale-force winds drove the Black Crystal onto the rocky shore. Captain Greybeard shouted, 'Abandon ship! Abandon ship, me hearties!' As Quartermaster Charlotte lowered the lifeboat, a massive wave broke over the ship.

The lifeboat smashed to pieces.
It was every crew member for themselves.