

ROCK FISHING AT BLOODY BAY



One beautiful, sunny day, two friends, eight-year old Jack and ten-year old Arielle set off on a rock fishing adventure at Bloody Bay.

At the beach they found a spot on the rocks and cast their lines. After an hour, they had not even had a tug on the line. They decided to have their lunch and were about to open their lunch boxes, when Jack noticed something very shiny on the seabed.

The object sparkled and twinkled whenever the waves came into and went out of the shore. "Let's get it", Jack said.

Sometimes it disappeared in the sand.

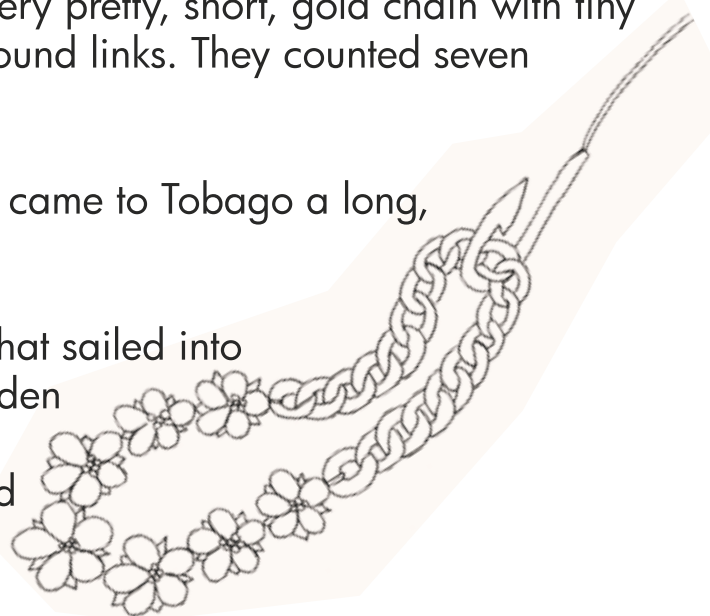
"Look! There!" Jack exclaimed, pointing, when the sparkle appeared again.

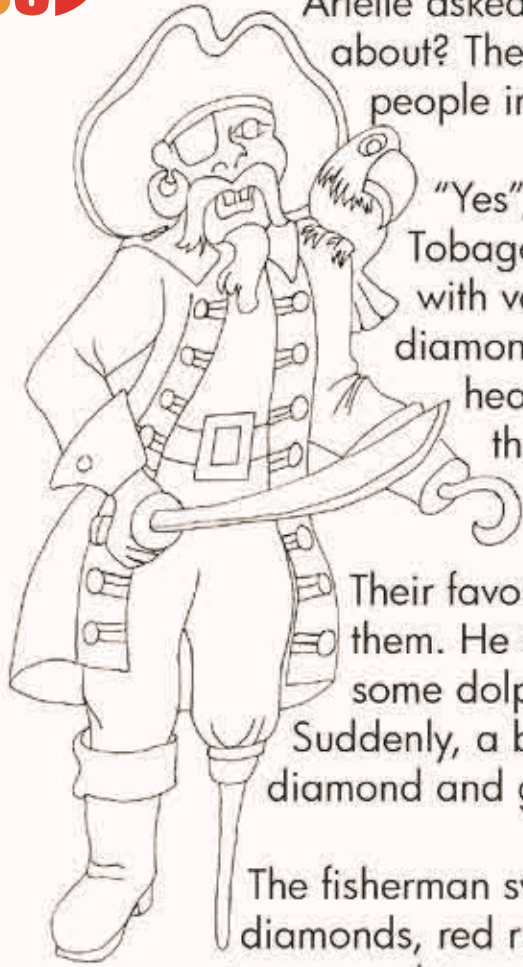
"Quick, let us get it out!" said Arielle.

They used their fishing rods to hook and pull out the shiny object. Both Arielle and Jack stared at their find. It was a very pretty, short, gold chain with tiny golden flowers in between the many round links. They counted seven flowers.

"Maybe it belonged to the pirates who came to Tobago a long, long time ago," Jack said.

They had heard stories of pirate ships that sailed into Bloody Bay. As they examined the golden links of the chain and imagined that it once belonged to a pirate who planned to take it home to his wife.





Arielle asked Jack, "Remember the ship your Granny told us about? The one that lost a big, big treasure chest that people in the village still talk about?"

"Yes", said Jack. "It crashed on the rocks and sank." Tobago talk had it that the treasure chest was filled with valuable contents: golden cups and mugs, diamonds, chains, earrings, and pearls. They also heard of many, many, many, gold coins. Some of those coins were doubloons and sovereigns used as money years and years ago.

Their favourite tale was the one Jack's grandfather told them. He said that a fisherman told him that once he saw some dolphins diving and jumping around his boat. Suddenly, a big, big one appeared and on its head it wore a diamond and golden crown with a hummingbird to the front.

The fisherman swore that the colourful bird was made of diamonds, red rubies, green emeralds, blue sapphires, yellow topaz, and turquoise and purple aquamarine stones. This treasure still remained hidden underneath the sea and sand. Lots of divers and good swimmers had looked for it.

"Could this be pirate treasure?" Arielle asked.

"Could this be from the treasure chest?" Jack responded.

Next morning, they took the piece of jewellery to school. Their teacher was amazed at their find that looked very, very old, like a real antique. "We will go on a field trip the Tobago Museum at King Fort George", she said and ordered a maxi taxi.



The teacher asked the Museum curator to determine the age of the golden necklace. Miss explained that if it was really old, they could learn something about the history of the lost treasure of Tobago's Bloody Bay.

They were all very excited that they were closer to uncovering the mystery of the sunken ship and the ancient loot that it once carried.

THE END

