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Opening extract from
**Kidnapped Sam Silver:
Undercover Pirate 3**

Written by
Jan Burchett

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SAM SILVER: UNDERCOVER PIRATE

KIDNAPPED



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- Skeleton Island
- The Ghost Ship
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SAM SILVER: UNDERCOVER PIRATE

KIDNAPPED



Jan Burchett and Sara Vogler

Illustrated by Leo Hartas

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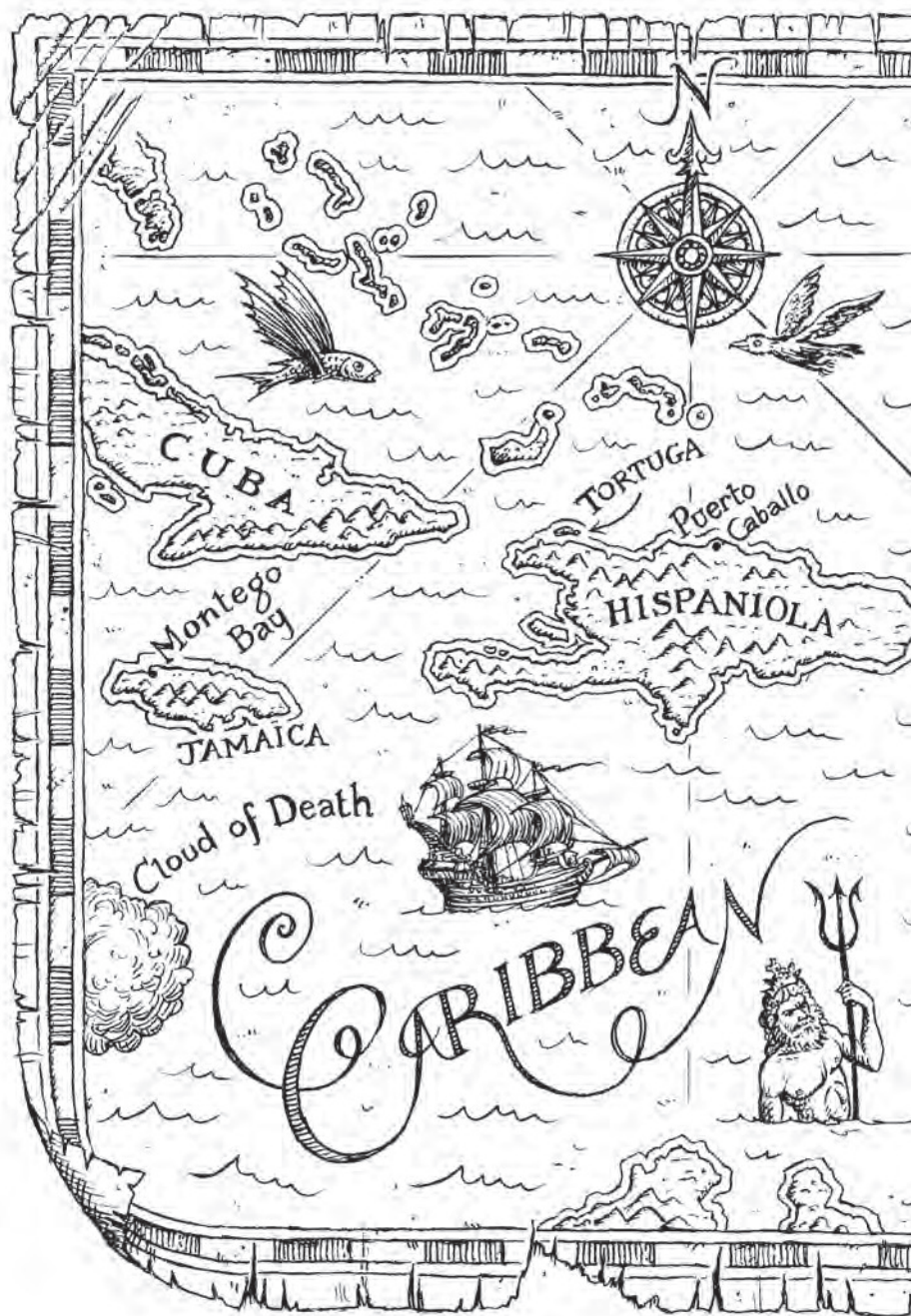
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For Leo Dyche,
and in memoery of Zachary.





COLONIES
OF THE
**NEW
WORLD**

Here be
Treasure

SKELTON ISLAND

Gibbet Point

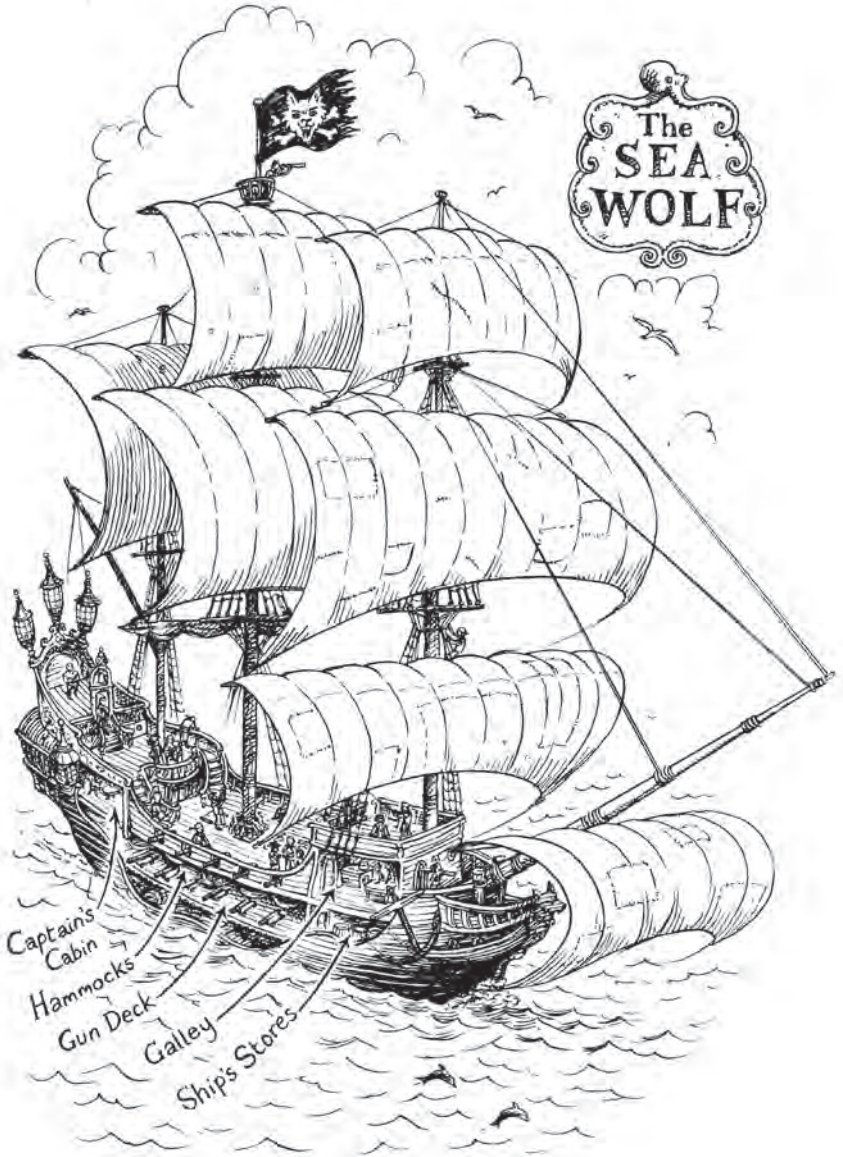
Sea

DRAGON ISLAND

Bridgetown
BARBADOS



The SEA WOLF



CHAPTER ONE



Sam Silver picked up his football and raced out of his bedroom. He was off to the beach for an important match with his friends and there wasn't a minute to spare. He made for the stairs that led from the flat to his parents' fish and chip shop below.



Thump! He collided with something solid that grunted.

It was his dad.

“Watch it, Sam!” said his father, staggering back on to the dirty-washing basket. “Why are you in your football kit? Hurry up and change. Arnold will be here in a minute.”

Sam nearly dropped his football in horror. He’d forgotten all about Arnold. His mother’s cousin was the most boring person in the whole world, if not in the whole universe. Mum always made him dress up in his smartest clothes when Arnold visited and it was impossible to sit still and listen while Arnold droned on and on.

“I have to go down to the beach,” he protested. “I’ve got a really important game with my mates.”

“You can’t play football when Arnold’s coming,” insisted his dad. “You know he’ll be upset if you’re not here. Now get changed.”

Sam mooched back into his bedroom and pulled out his best shirt and trousers. He wondered what Cousin Arnold would lecture them about this time. Bee-keeping in Tudor England? Which toothpicks the ancient Egyptians used? Knitting in the Middle Ages? Arnold knew loads about history and managed to make it all sound really boring.

Well, Sam knew something Arnold didn't know. He knew how it felt to travel back three hundred years in time to a pirate ship in the Caribbean and have awesome adventures. It was Sam's big secret. One day he'd found an old glass bottle, washed up on the beach of his home in Backwater Bay. Inside was a gold coin sent by Joseph Silver, Sam's pirate ancestor. It had been filthy so he'd tried to clean it with a bit of spit and a rub. The next thing he knew he'd found himself

aboard a real pirate ship, the *Sea Wolf*, with Captain Blade and his band of fearsome buccaneers.

Sam tried to imagine Arnold on board the *Sea Wolf*. It would be a disaster. Arnold would bore the crew so much they'd all be fighting to walk the plank after five minutes!

An idea suddenly catapulted into Sam's brain. Arnold might not be welcome on the pirate ship – but Sam knew the crew would be delighted to see *him*! And, as no time ever passed when he slipped off to the Caribbean, he could have a swashbuckling adventure and still be back in time for Arnold's visit.

Sam threw down his smart clothes and quickly put on the scruffy T-shirt, jeans and trainers he always wore for his time travelling. He couldn't risk coming back from an adventure with his best shirt and trousers dirty and ripped.

He carefully took the bottle from the collection of beach treasures displayed on his shelf and shook out the gold coin. He spat on the doubloon – Silver Spit seemed to be the magic ingredient – and rubbed it on his sleeve.

“*Sea Wolf*, here I come!” he yelled.

There was a loud rushing sound and Sam felt as if he were caught in a whirlwind. The furniture set off in a wild spin round his head. Sam closed his eyes tightly. He didn’t want to get time-travel sickness. When the spinning stopped he felt himself land on a hard wooden floor. He could smell rope and tar and hot, salty air. He opened his eyes. Great! He was back in the little storeroom on the *Sea Wolf*. He rammed his coin deep in his back pocket.

A tatty jerkin, belt and a spyglass – an old-fashioned telescope – lay in a heap on a barrel. His friend, Charlie, must have put

them there, ready for his next appearance. She was the only one who knew his time-travelling secret.

A black cat was curled up on top of the pile. It opened one eye and gave him an evil stare.

“Good boy, Sinbad,” Sam said nervously, trying to edge forward.

Merow! A set of vicious claws flashed out. Sam leapt back.

Sinbad, the ship’s cat, was fiercely loyal to the crew. And fierce was the word. None of the pirates dared go near him



except for Charlie. The mangy cat adored her and turned into a purring ball of fur whenever she was near.

Sinbad arched his back, gave a hiss and leapt out of the door.

Before the cat could change his mind, Sam quickly put on the jerkin and belt and grabbed his spyglass.

Now he was ready for action!

