

## Treasure Island

The story is set in a coastal town in Devon during the 18th century. JIM Hawkins' recently widowed mother owns the Admiral Benbow Inn. One of their lodgers, an old seaman called Billy Bones, dies after he was cursed during a visit from a blind beggar. While he is looking for money that was owed for the lodging, Jim finds an oilskin packet among Billy's possessions. Jim and his mother manage to hide from Blind Pew and the band of pirates who return, looking for it. In this scene, Jim takes the packet to Squire Trelawney and Doctor Livesey.

**JIM:** (Excitedly, trying to push past the maid who has opened the door) Dr Livesey? (The Doctor appears, accompanied by Squire Trelawney) I have brought you the packet, sir. Here it is. (Stepping inside the Doctor's room and placing it ceremoniously on a table) Shall I open it for you sir? (He begins to open the packet) It seems to contain a book and a sealed paper. Shall we look at the book, sir? (Speaking aloud as he turns the pages) There's some writing on the first page. Look at this. It's the same as the tattoo mark. It says, 'Billy Bones his fancy' – and there's another one – 'Mr W Bones, mate'. (To the Doctor) Perhaps it is like a diary. (Looking at the book again) I wonder what 'Off Palm Key he got it' means!

(Looking at Squire Trelawney) Squire Trelawney, I wonder who 'got it' – and what 'it' was that he got. A knife in his back as like as not. (Continuing to look through it) I cannot understand this part at all. (Looking up) It doesn't make any sense. (Looking at the book again) Sometimes a place name appears to have been added – like 'Off Caracas'. (Flicking through the rest of the pages) I think this covers about 20 years – and right at the end there is a much altered 'grand total' and the words 'Bones his pile'. (Looking at Squire Trelawney) You were right all along sir. We have found his account book!

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*(Looking at the second packet and opening it carefully)* I can't believe our luck! Look. Here is a map of an island – with latitude and longitude, soundings, names of hills and inlets – and every particular that would be needed to bring a ship to safe anchorage. It looks like a fat dragon standing up. *(Peering closer to examine the map)* It's got something written in the middle – let me see – it says 'The Spy-glass'. There are also three crosses in red ink – two in the north, one in the south-west – and – oh, Dr Livesey, it says 'Bulk of treasure here'. *(Excitedly)* That's in different handwriting! We've found the treasure-map! You'll be rich!

*by Robert Louis Stevenson, adapted by LAMDA*