

Defoe | Robinson Crusoe

Fremdsprachentexte | Englisch

Daniel Defoe
Robinson Crusoe

Abridged Edition

Herausgegeben von Klaus Amann

Reclam

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The Life and Adventures of Robinson Crusoe, & c.

I was born in the Year 1632, in the City of *York*, of a good Family, tho' not of that Country, my Father being a Foreign-
5 er of *Bremen*, who settled first at *Hull*: He got a good Estate
by Merchandise, and leaving off his Trade, lived afterward
at *York*, from whence he had married my Mother, whose
Relations were named *Robinson*, a very good Family in that
Country, and from whom I was called *Robinson Kreutz-*
10 *naer*; but by the usual Corruption of Words in *England*, we
are now called, nay we call our selves, and write our Name
Crusoe, and so my Companions always call'd me.

I had two elder Brothers, one of which was Lieutenant
Collonel to an *English* Regiment of Foot in *Flanders*, former-
15 ly commanded by the famous Coll. *Lockhart*, and was killed
at the Battle near *Dunkirk* against the *Spaniards*: What be-
came of my second Brother I never knew any more than my
Father or Mother did know what was become of me.

3 **York:** Zu Defoes Zeiten war die am River Ouse gelegene, nordenglische Stadt die Residenz der Grafschaft Yorkshire. | 5 **Hull:** Kingston upon Hull, kurz Hull, nordenglische Stadt, die an der Mündung des Hull Rivers in den Humber liegt. | **estate:** Vermögen. | 6 **merchandise** (arch.): Handelsgeschäfte. | 7 **whence** (form.): wo. | 8 **relations** (pl.): Verwandte. | 11 **nay** (arch.): ja sogar. | 13 f. **lieutenant-colonel** (mil.): Oberstleutnant. | 14 **Flanders:** Flandern (heute der flämische Teil Belgiens). | 15 **Colonel Lockhart:** Sir William Lockhart (1621–1675) war Oliver Cromwells Botschafter in Frankreich, wo er eine militärische Allianz gegen Spanien ausverhandelte. | 16 **Dunkirk:** nordfranzösische Stadt Dunkerque, wegen ihrer strategisch günstigen Lage zwischen Frankreich, Großbritannien und Belgien immer wieder heiß umkämpft.

Being the third Son of the Family, and not bred to any Trade, my Head began to be fill'd very early with rambling Thoughts: My Father, who was very ancient, had given me a competent Share of Learning, as far as House-Education, and a Country Free-School generally goes, and design'd me for the Law; but I would be satisfied with nothing but going to Sea, and my Inclination to this led me so strongly against the Will, nay the Commands of my Father, and against all the Entreaties and Perswasions of my Mother and other Friends, that there seem'd to be something fatal in that Propension of Nature tending directly to the Life of Misery which was to befall me.

My Father, a wise and grave Man, gave me serious and excellent Counsel against what he foresaw was my Design. He call'd me one Morning into his Chamber, where he was confined by the Gout, and expostulated very warmly with me upon this Subject: He ask'd me what Reasons more than a meer wandring Inclination I had for leaving my Father's House and my native Country, where I might be well introduced, and had a Prospect of raising my Fortune by Application and Industry, with a Life of Ease and Pleasure.

1f. **not bred to any trade:** ohne berufliche Ausbildung. | 2 **to ramble:** wandern, umherschweifen. | 4 **competent:** hier: angemessen, ausreichend. | 5 **country free school:** freie Dorfschule. | **to design s.o.:** hier: jdn. bestimmen. | 7 **inclination:** Neigung. | 9 **entreaty:** Flehen, Bitte. | **perswasion:** *persuasion*. | 10f. **Propension (heute: propensity) of Nature:** natürliche Veranlagung, Neigung. | 11 **to tend to:** zu etwas neigen. | 12 **to befall (befall) s.o.:** jdm. zustoßen, widerfahren. | 14 **design:** hier: Absicht, Vorsatz. | 16 **to confine:** einsperren, einschränken. | **gout:** Gicht. | **to expostulate with s.o. upon s.th.:** mit jdm. über etwas debattieren. | 18 **meer:** *mere*: bloß. | 20 **prospect:** Aussicht, Chance. | 21 **application:** hier: Einsatz, Bemühen. | **industry:** hier: Fleiß, Emsigkeit.

He told me it was for Men of desperate Fortunes on one Hand, or of aspiring, superior Fortunes on the other, who went abroad upon Adventures, to rise by Enterprize, and make themselves famous in Undertakings of a Nature out
5 of the common Road; that these things were all either too far above me, or too far below me; that mine was the middle State, or what might be called the upper Station of *Low Life*, which he had found by long Experience was the best State in the World, the most suited to human Happiness,
10 not exposed to the Miseries and Hardships, the Labour and Sufferings of the mechanick Part of Mankind, and not embarrass'd with the Pride, Luxury, Ambition and Envy of the upper Part of Mankind. He told me, I might judge of the Happiness of this State, by this one thing, *viz.* That this was
15 the State of Life which all other People envied, that Kings have frequently lamented the miserable Consequences of being born to great things, and wish'd they had been placed in the Middle of the two Extremes, between the Mean and the Great; that the wise Man gave his Testimony to this as
20 the just Standard of true Felicity, when he prayed to have neither Poverty or Riches.

He bid me observe it, and I should always find, that the Calamities of Life were shared among the upper and lower Part of Mankind; but that the middle Station had the fewest

1 **fortune:** hier: Geschick, Los | 2 **aspiring:** ehrgeizig, hochstrebend. | 6 f. **middle state:** Mittelstand, Mittelschicht. | 7 f. **the upper station of low life:** die Obersten der Unterschicht. | 11 **mechanick** (adj.): *mechanic*: handwerklich. | 12 **embarrassed with:** sich genieren für. | 14 **viz** (adv., lat.): kurz für *videlicet*: nämlich, und zwar, das heißt. | 16 **to lament:** bedauern, beklagen. | 18 **mean** (n.): das Gemeine, Durchschnittliche. | 20 **felicity:** Glück, Glückseligkeit. | 23 **calamity:** Unheil, Katastrophe.

Disasters, and was not expos'd to so many Vicissitudes as
 the higher or lower Part of Mankind; nay, they were not
 subjected to so many Distempers and Uneasinesses either
 of Body or Mind, as those were who, by vicious Living,
 Luxury and Extravagancies on one Hand, or by hard La- 5
 bour, Want of Necessaries, and mean or insufficient Diet
 on the other Hand, bring Distempers upon themselves by
 the natural Consequences of their Way of Living; *That* the
 middle Station of Life was calculated for all kind of Vertues
 and all kinds of Enjoyments; that Peace and Plenty were the 10
 Handmaids of a middle Fortune; that Temperance, Moderation,
 Quietness, Health, Society, all agreeable Diversions,
 and all desirable Pleasures, were the Blessings attending the
 middle Station of Life; that this Way Men went silently and
 smoothly thro' the World, and comfortably out of it, not 15
 embarass'd with the Labours of the Hands or of the Head,
 not sold to the Life of Slavery for daily Bread, or harrast
 with perplex'd Circumstances, which rob the Soul of Peace,
 and the Body of Rest; not enrag'd with the Passion of Envy,
 or secret burning Lust of Ambition for great things; but 20
 in easy Circumstances sliding gently thro' the World, and
 sensibly tasting the Sweets of living, without the bitter
 feeling that they are happy, and learning by every Day's
 Experience to know it more sensibly.

1 **vicissitude**: Unbeständigkeit, Wandel. | 3 **distemper** (arch.): Unpässlichkeit. | 4 **vicious**: lasterhaft, unmoralisch. | 6 **want** (n.): Mangel, Not. | **mean** (adj.): hier: elend, ärmlich. | **diet**: Kost, Ernährung. | 11 **handmaid** (fig.): Handlangerin. | **temperance**: Mäßigung, Besonnenheit. | 12 **diversion**: Unterhaltung, Zeitvertreib. | 13 **blessing**: Segen. | 17 **to harras**: *to harass*: bedrängen, schikanieren. | 18 **perplex**: kompliziert, verwirrend. | 19 **to enrage**: wütend machen, erzürnen.

After this, he press'd me earnestly, and in the most affectionate manner, not to play the young Man, not to precipitate my self into Miseries which Nature and the Station of Life I was born in, seem'd to have provided against; that I
 5 was under no Necessity of seeking my Bread; that he would do well for me, and endeavour to enter me fairly into the Station of Life which he had been just recommending to me; and that if I was not very easy and happy in the World, it must be my meer Fate or Fault that must hinder it, and
 10 that he should have nothing to answer for, having thus discharg'd his Duty in warning me against Measures which he knew would be to my Hurt: In a word, that as he would do very kind things for me if I would stay and settle at Home as he directed, so he would not have so much Hand
 15 in my Misfortunes, as to give me any Encouragement to go away: And to close all, he told me I had my elder Brother for an Example, to whom he had used the same earnest Perswasions to keep him from going into the Low Country Wars, but could not prevail, his young Desires prompting
 20 him to run into the Army where he was kill'd; and tho' he said he would not cease to pray for me, yet he would venture to say to me, that if I did take this foolish Step, God

1 **to press s.o.:** jdn. bedrängen. | 2f. **to precipitate s.o. into s.th.:** jdn. in etwas stürzen. | 6 **to endeavour to do s.th.:** bestrebt sein, etwas zu tun. | **fairly (adv.):** ordentlich, recht gut. | 8 **easy:** hier: entspannt, unbefangen. | 9 **to hinder:** verhindern. | 10 **to answer for s.th.:** für etwas verantwortlich sein. | 11 **to discharge one's duty:** seine Pflicht erfüllen. | 14 **to have a hand in s.th.:** bei etwas seine Hände im Spiel haben, beteiligt sein an etwas. | 18f. **Low Country wars:** die niederländischen Unabhängigkeitskriege zwischen 1568 und 1648. | 19 **to prevail:** Erfolg haben, sich durchsetzen. | **to prompt:** einflüstern, veranlassen. | 21 **to cease:** aufhören. | 21f. **to venture:** riskieren, wagen.

would not bless me, and I would have Leisure hereafter to reflect upon having neglected his Counsel when there might be none to assist in my Recovery.

I observed in this last Part of his Discourse, which was truly Prophetick, tho' I suppose my Father did not know it to be so himself; I say, I observed the Tears run down his Face very plentifully, and especially when he spoke of my Brother who was kill'd; and that when he spoke of my having Leisure to repent, and none to assist me, he was so mov'd, that he broke off the Discourse, and told me, his Heart was so full he could say no more to me.

I was sincerely affected with this Discourse, as indeed who could be otherwise; and I resolv'd not to think of going abroad any more, but to settle at home according to my Father's Desire. But alas! a few Days wore it all off; and in short, to prevent any of my Father's farther Importunities, in a few Weeks after, I resolv'd to run quite away from him. However, I did not act so hastily neither as my first Heat of Resolution prompted, but I took my Mother, at a time when I thought her a little pleasanter than ordinary, and told her, that my Thoughts were so entirely bent upon seeing the World, that I should never settle to any thing with Resolution enough to go through with it, and my Father had better give me his Consent than force me to go without it; that I was now Eighteen Years old, which was too late to go Apprentice to a Trade, or Clerk to an

3 **recovery**: Genesung, Erholung. | 13 **to resolve**: beschließen. | 15 **alas**: leider. | **to wear off**: nachlassen, abklingen (Gefühl, Wirkung). | 16 f. **importunity**: beharrliches Drängen. | 19 **resolution**: Vorsatz, Beschluss. | 20 **pleasant**: hier: freundlich, umgänglich. | 21 **to be bent (up)on doing s.th.**: etwas unbedingt tun wollen, auf etwas versessen sein.

Attorney; that I was sure if I did, I should never serve out my time, and I should certainly run away from my Master before my Time was out, and go to Sea; and if she would speak to my Father to let me go but one Voyage abroad, if I
5 came home again and did not like it, I would go no more, and I would promise by a double Diligence to recover that Time I had lost.

This put my Mother into a great Passion: She told me, she knew it would be to no Purpose to speak to my Father
10 upon any such Subject; that he knew too well what was my Interest to give his Consent to any thing so much for my Hurt, and that she wondered how I could think of any such thing after such a Discourse as I had had with my Father, and such kind and tender Expressions as she knew my
15 Father had us'd to me; and that in short, if I would ruine my self there was no Help for me; but I might depend I should never have their Consent to it: That for her Part she would not have so much Hand in my Destruction; and I should never have it to say, that my Mother was willing when my
20 Father was not.

Tho' my Mother refused to move it to my Father, yet as I have heard afterwards, she reported all the Discourse to him, and that my Father, after shewing a great Concern at

1 **attorney**: Rechtsvertreter, -anwalt. | 1f. **to serve out s.th.**: etwas ableisten, absitzen. | 6 **diligence**: Fleiß, Eifer. | 8 **passion**: hier: Zorn, Aufregung. | 11f. **so much for my hurt**: etwa: so zu meinem Nachteil, Schaden. | 15 **would**: hier: wollte. | 16 **to depend on s.th.**: sich auf etwas verlassen. | 17 **consent**: Zustimmung. | 18 **destruction**: hier: Ruin, Verderben. | 19 **to have it to say** (arch.): sagen, behaupten können. | 21 **to move s.th. to s.o.**: hier: jdm. etwas weitersagen. | 23 **to shew**: *to show*.

it, said to her with a Sigh, That Boy might be happy if he would stay at home, but if he goes abroad he will be the miserablest Wretch that was ever born: I can give no Consent to it.

It was not till almost a Year after this that I broke loose, 5
tho' in the mean time I continued obstinately deaf to all
Proposals of settling to Business, and frequently expostu-
lating with my Father and Mother, about their being so
positively determin'd against what they knew my Inclina- 10
tions prompted me to. But being one Day at *Hull*, where I
went casually, and without any Purpose of making an
Elopement that time; but I say, being there, and one of my
Companions being going by Sea to *London*, in his Father's
Ship, and prompting me to go with them, with the com-
mon Allurement of Seafaring Men, *viz.* That it should cost 15
me nothing for my Passage, I consulted neither Father or
Mother any more, nor so much as sent them Word of it; but
leaving them to hear of it as they might, without asking
God's Blessing, or my Father's, without any Consideration
of Circumstances or Consequences, and in an ill Hour, 20
God knows, On the first of *September* 1651 I went on Board
a Ship bound for *London*; never any young Adventurer's
Misfortunes, I believe, began sooner, or continued longer
than mine. The Ship was no sooner gotten out of the

3 **miserable wretch**: armer Teufel, Jammergestalt. | 5 **to break loose**:
aufbrechen. | 6 **obstinately** (adv.): stur, hartnäckig. | 9 **positively** (adv.):
absolut. | 11 f. **to make an elopement**: abhauen, durchbrennen. |

15 **allurement**: Verlockung, Köder. | 18 **leaving them to hear of it as
they might**: etwa: ich überließ es dem Schicksal, ob sie davon erführen. |
19 **consideration**: Rücksicht(nahme). | 20 **ill hour**: dunkle, schicksals-
hafte Stunde. | 22 **bound for**: unterwegs nach.

Humber, but the Wind began to blow, and the Winds to rise in a most frightful manner; and as I had never been at Sea before, I was most inexpressibly sick in Body, and terrif'd in my Mind; I began now seriously to reflect upon
5 what I had done, and how justly I was overtaken by the Judgment of Heaven for my wicked leaving my Father's House, and abandoning my Duty; all the good Counsel of my Parents, my Father's Tears and my Mother's Entreaties came now fresh into my Mind; and my Conscience, which
10 was not yet come to the Pitch of Hardness to which it has been since, reproach'd me with the Contempt of Advice, and the Breach of my Duty to God and my Father.

All this while the Storm encreas'd, and the Sea, which I had never been upon before, went very high, tho' nothing
15 like what I have seen many times since; no, nor like what I saw a few Days after: But it was enough to affect me then, who was but a young Sailor, and had never known any thing of the matter. I expected every Wave would have swallowed us up, and that every time the Ship fell down, as
20 I thought, in the Trough or Hollow of the Sea, we should never rise more; and in this Agony of Mind, I made many Vows and Resolutions, that if it would please God here to

1 **Humber**: der Flut ausgesetzte Flussmündung, an der die Stadt Hull liegt. | 3 **inexpressibly** (adv.): unsäglich. | 4 **terrified**: verängstigt, erschrocken. | 5 **to be overtaken**: eingeholt, überrollt werden. | 6 **wicked**: niederträchtig, verrucht. | 7 **to abandon one's duty**: seine Pflichten vernachlässigen. | 10 **pitch of hardness**: Verstocktheit, Abgebrühtheit. | 11 **to reproach s.o. with s.th.:** jdm. wegen etwas Vorwürfe machen. | 12 **breach of**: Verstoß gegen. | 13 **to encrease**: *to increase*: zunehmen. | 17 **but**: nur. | 20 **trough** (naut.): Wellental. | **hollow**: Mulde, Tiefpunkt. | 21 **agony of mind**: Seelenangst, Todesangst. | 22 **vow**: Gelübde, Versprechen.

spare my Life this one Voyage, if ever I got once my Foot upon dry Land again, I would go directly home to my Father, and never set it into a Ship again while I liv'd; that I would take his Advice, and never run my self into such Miseries as these any more. Now I saw plainly the Goodness of his Observations about the middle Station of Life, how easy, how comfortably he had liv'd all his Days, and never had been expos'd to Tempests at Sea, or Troubles on Shore; and I resolv'd that I would, like a true repenting Prodigal, go home to my Father.

These wise and sober Thoughts continued all the while the Storm continued, and indeed some time after; but the next Day the Wind was abated and the Sea calmer, and I began to be a little inur'd to it: However I was very grave for all that Day, being also a little Sea sick still; but towards Night the Weather clear'd up, the Wind was quite over, and a charming fine Evening follow'd; the Sun went down perfectly clear and rose so the next Morning; and having little or no Wind and a smooth Sea, the Sun shining upon it, the Sight was, as I thought, the most delightful that ever I saw.

I had slept well in the Night, and was now no more Sea sick but very chearful, looking with Wonder upon the Sea that was so rough and terrible the Day before, and could be so calm and so pleasant in so little time after. And now least my good Resolutions should continue, my Companion,

1 **to spare:** (ver)schonen. | 5 **plainly** (adv.): deutlich. | 8 **tempest:** Sturm. | 9 **on shore:** an Land. | **repenting:** reumütig. | 10 **prodigal (son):** der verlorene Sohn (Figur aus dem Alten Testament). |

11 **sober:** nüchtern, besonnen. | 13 **to abate:** hier: sich legen, abflauen. | 14 **to be inured to s.th.:** an etwas gewöhnt sein. | **grave** (adj.): ernst, besorgt. | 24 **lest:** damit nicht.

who had indeed entic'd me away, comes to me, *Well Bob,*
 says he, clapping me on the Shoulder, *How do you do after*
it? I warrant you were frighted, wa'n't you, last Night, when
it blew but a Cap full of Wind? A Cap full d'you call it? said
 5 I, *'twas a terrible Storm: A Storm, you Fool you,* replies he,
do you call that a Storm, why it was nothing at all; give us
but a good Ship and Sea Room, and we think nothing of such
a Squall of Wind as that; but you're but a fresh Water Sailor,
 Bob; *come let us make a Bowl of Punch and we'll forget all*
 10 *that, d'ye see what charming Weather 'tis now.* To make
 short this sad Part of my Story, we went the old way of all
 Sailors, the Punch was made, and I was made drunk with it,
 and in that one Night's Wickedness I drowned all my Re-
 pentance, all my Reflections upon my past Conduct, and all
 15 my Resolutions for my future. In a word, as the Sea was re-
 turned to its Smoothness of Surface and settled Calmness
 by the Abatement of that Storm, so the Hurry of my
 Thoughts being over, my Fears and Apprehensions of being
 swallow'd up by the Sea being forgotten, and the Current
 20 of my former Desires return'd, I entirely forgot the Vows
 and Promises that I made in my Distress. I found indeed

1 **to entice s.o. away:** jdn. anlocken, weglocken. | 3 **wa'n't:** weren't. |
 3 f. **when it blew but a capful of wind:** etwa: als nur ein frisches Wind-
 chen blies. | 5 **'twas:** it was. | 6 **why:** hier: Aber wo denn! Ach was! |
 7 **sea-room** (naut.): offene See, offenes Meer. | 8 **squall of wind** (naut.):
 Windböe. | **fresh-water sailor:** Süßwassermatrose, Sonntagssegler,
 Binnenschiffer. | 10 **d'ye:** do you. | **'tis:** it is. | 11 f. **to go the way of all**
sailors (fig.): abgeleitet von 'to go the way of all flesh' = sterben, hier: sich
 besaufen. | 13 **to drown s.th.:** etwas ertränken; hier: übertönen. |
 14 **conduct:** Verhalten, Benehmen. | 18 **apprehension:** Befürchtung,
 Vorahnung. | 19 **current** (n.): Lauf, Fluss. | 20 **desire:** Begehren,
 Sehnsucht. | 21 **distress:** Bedrängnis, Not.

some Intervals of Reflection, and the serious Thoughts did, as it were endeavour to return again sometimes, but I shook them off, and rouz'd my self from them as it were from a Distemper, and applying my self to Drink and Company, soon master'd the Return of those Fits, for so I call'd them, 5 and I had in five or six Days got as compleat a Victory over Conscience as any young Fellow that resolv'd not to be troubled with it, could desire: But I was to have another Trial for it still; and Providence, as in such Cases generally it does, resolv'd to leave me entirely without Excuse. For if I 10 would not take this for a Deliverance, the next was to be such a one as the worst and most harden'd Wretch among us would confess both the Danger and the Mercy.

The sixth Day of our Being at Sea we came into *Yarmouth Roads*; [...]

By this Time it blew a terrible Storm indeed, and now I began to see Terror and Amazement in the Faces even of the Seamen themselves. The Master, tho' vigilant to the Business of preserving the Ship, yet as he went in and out of his Cabbin by me, I could hear him softly to himself 20 say several times, *Lord be merciful to us, we shall be all lost, we shall be all undone*; and the like. During these first Hur-

2 **as it were**: gewissermaßen, sozusagen. | 3 **to rouze** (*rouse*) **s.o. from s.th.**: jdn. von etwas aufwecken, aufscheuchen. | 4 **distemper** (arch.): üble Laune. | 5 **fit**: Anfall, Attacke. | 6 **compleat**: *complete*. | 8 **to desire**: verlangen, sich wünschen. | 9 **trial**: Probe, Prüfung. | **Providence**: (göttliche) Vorsehung. | 11 **deliverance**: Errettung, Befreiung. | 13 **mercy**: Barmherzigkeit, Verschonung. | 14 f. **Yarmouth Roads**: Seestraße zwischen Yarmouth in Norfolk und den Sandbänken vor der Küste. | 18 **vigilant**: wachsam, aufmerksam. | 22 **to be undone**: ruiniert sein, untergehen. | 22 f. **hurries** (pl.): Gewusel, Gewimmel.

ries, I was stupid, lying still in my Cabbin, which was in the Steerage, and cannot describe my Temper: I could ill re-assume the first Penitence, which I had so apparently trampled upon, and harden'd my self against: I thought the Bitterness of Death had been past, and that this would be nothing too like the first. But when the Master himself came by me, as I said just now, and said we should all be lost, I was dreadfully frightened: I got up out of my Cabbin, and look'd out; but such a dismal Sight I never saw: The Sea went Mountains high, and broke upon us every three or four Minutes: when I could look about, I could see nothing but Distress round us: Two Ships that rid near us we found had cut their Masts by the Board, being deep laden; and our Men cry'd out, that a Ship which rid about a Mile a-Head of us was foundered. Two more Ships being driven from their Anchors, were run out of the Roads to Sea at all Adventures, and that with not a Mast standing. The light Ships fared the best, as not so much labouring in the Sea; but two or three of them drove, and came close by us, running away with only their Sprit-sail out before the Wind.

Towards Evening the Mate and Boat-Swain begg'd the

1 **stupid**: hier: benommen, betäubt. | 2 **steerage** (naut.): Zwischendeck. | **temper**: Gemütszustand. | **ill** (adv., arch.): schlecht, kaum. | 3 **penitence**: Reue. | 3f. **to trample (up)on**: mit Füßen treten, herumtrampeln auf. | 8 **dreadfully** (adv.): entsetzlich, furchtbar. | 9 **dismal**: trostlos, aussichtslos. | 12 **rid**: rode. | 13 **to cut by the board**: kappen, über Bord werfen. | **deep laden**: eigentl. *deeply laden*: schwer beladen. | 15 **to founder**: sinken, untergehen. | 16 **anchor**: Anker. | 16f. **at all adventures**: etwa: auf Teufel komm raus. | 18 **to fare well**: gut abschneiden. | 20 **spritsail** (naut.): Sprietsegel. | 22 **mate** (naut.): Maat (Unteroffizier an Bord). | **boatswain**: Bootsmann (verantwortlich für Segel, Masten und Anker).

Master of our Ship to let them cut away the Foremast, which he was very unwilling to: But the Boat-Swain protesting to him, that if he did not, the Ship would founder, he consented; and when they had cut away the Foremast, the Main-Mast stood so loose, and shook the Ship so much, they were obliged to cut her away also, and make a clear Deck. 5

[...]

We work'd on, but the Water encreasing in the Hold, it was apparent that the Ship would founder, and tho' the Storm began to abate a little, yet as it was not possible she could swim till we might run into a Port, so the Master continued firing Guns for Help; and a light Ship who had rid it out just a Head of us ventured a Boat out to help us. It was with the utmost Hazard the Boat came near us, but it was impossible for us to get on Board, or for the Boat to lie near the Ship Side, till at last the Men rowing very heartily, and venturing their Lives to save ours, our Men cast them a Rope over the Stern with a Buoy to it, and then vered it out a great Length, which they after great Labour and Hazard took hold of, and we hall'd them close under our Stern and got all into their Boat. It was to no Purpose for them or us after we were in the Boat to think of reaching to their own 15

1 **fore-mast**: heute *foremast*: Fockmast (vorderster Mast). | 5 **main-mast** (naut.): heute: main mast: Großmast (höchster Mast). | 9 **hold** (naut.): Laderaum, Frachtraum. | 10 **apparent**: offensichtlich. | 11 **she** (naut.): Schiffe sind im Englischen weiblich. | 13 **who**: zu Defoes Zeiten Relativpronomen für ship; heute: *which, that*. | 15 **with the utmost hazard**: unter größten Gefahren. | 18 **to cast**: werfen. | 19 **stern** (naut.): Heck, Schiffshinterteil. | **buoy**: Boje. | **to veer out**: fieren, absenken (Kette, Tau, Seil). | 21 **to hall**: *haul*: schleppen, transportieren. | 22 **to be to no purpose**: zwecklos, sinnlos sein. 20

Ship, so all agreed to let her drive and only to pull her in towards Shore as much as we could, and our Master promised them, That if the Boat was stav'd upon Shore he would make it good to their Master, so partly rowing and partly
5 driving, our Boat went away to the Norward sloping towards the Shore almost as far as *Winterton Ness*.

We were not much more than a quarter of an Hour out of our Ship but we saw her sink, and then I understood for the first time what was meant by a Ship foundering in the Sea; I
10 must acknowledge I had hardly Eyes to look up when the Seamen told me she was sinking; for from that Moment they rather put me into the Boat than that I might be said to go in, my Heart was as it were dead within me, partly with Fright, partly with Horror of Mind and the Thoughts of
15 what was yet before me.

While we were in this Condition, the Men yet labouring at the Oar to bring the Boat near the Shore, we could see, when our Boat mounting the Waves, we were able to see the Shore, a great many People running along the shore to
20 assist us when we should come near, but we made but slow way towards the Shore, nor were we able to reach the Shore, till being past the Light-House at *Winterton*, the Shore falls off to the Westward towards *Cromer*, and so the Land broke off a little the Violence of the Wind: Here we

3 **to stave upon shore**: am Ufer zerschellen. | 4 **to make s.th. good to s.o.**: jdm. etwas ersetzen. | 5 **to drive**: hier: (auf dem Wasser) treiben. | **to sloape**: *to slope*: hier: abdriften. | 6 **Winterton Ness**: Dorf, ca. 10 km nördlich von Great Yarmouth. | 10 **to acknowledge**: zugeben, anerkennen. | 14 **fright**: Furcht, Angst. | 17 **oar**: Ruder. | 22 **lighthouse**: Leuchtturm | 23 **to fall off to**: abfallen in Richtung. | **Cromer**: englische Kleinstadt ca. 30 km nördlich von Great Yarmouth.

got in, and tho' not without much Difficulty got all safe on Shore, and walk'd afterwards on Foot to *Yarmouth*, where, as unfortunate Men, we were used with great Humanity as well by the Magistrates of the Town, who assign'd us good Quarters, as by particular Merchants and Owners of Ships, 5 and had Money given us sufficient to carry us either to *London* or back to *Hull*, as we thought fit.

Had I now had the Sense to have gone back to *Hull*, and have gone home, I had been happy, and my Father, an Emblem of our Blessed Saviour's Parable, had even kill'd the 10 fatted Calf for me; for hearing the ship I went away in was cast away in *Yarmouth* Road, it was a great while before he had any Assurance that I was not drown'd.

But my ill Fate push'd me on now with an Obstinacy that nothing could resist; and tho' I had several times loud Calls 15 from my Reason and my more composed Judgment to go home, yet I had no Power to do it. I know not what to call this, nor will I urge, that it is a secret overruling Decree that hurries us on to be the Instruments of our own Destruction, even tho' it be before us, and that we rush upon it 20

3 **we were used with great humanity**: etwa: wir wurden sehr menschlich behandelt. | 4 **magistrate**: städtischer Beamte. | **to assign**: zuweisen, zuteilen. | 5 **particular merchant**: privater Handelstreibender. | 7 **as we thought fit**: nach unserem Gutdünken. | 8 **to have the sense to do s.th.**: so vernünftig sein, etwas zu tun. | 10 **the blessed Saviour**: der gelobte Erlöser (Jesus Christus). | **parable**: Parabel. Gemeint ist das biblische Gleichnis vom verlorenen Sohn, für den bei seiner Rückkehr ein Kalb geschlachtet wird. | 13 **assurance**: hier: Gewissheit. | 16 **composed**: gelassen, gefasst. | 18 **to urge**: anführen, vorbringen (Argument). | **a secret overruling decree**: etwa: eine geheime Macht, die über allem steht. | 19 **to hurry s.o. on to s.th.**: jdn. zu etwas antreiben. | 20 **even though**: sogar wenn, selbst wenn.

with our Eyes open. Certainly nothing but some such decreed unavoidable Misery attending, and which it was impossible for me to escape, could have push'd me forward against the calm Reasonings and Perswasions of my most
5 retired Thoughts, and against two such visible Instructions as I had met with in my first Attempt.

My Comrade, who had help'd to harden me before, and who was the Master's Son, was now less forward than I; the first time he spoke to me after we were at *Yarmouth*, which
10 was not till two or three Days, for we were separated in the Town to several Quarters; I say, the first time he saw me, it appear'd his Tone was alter'd, and looking very melancholy and shaking his Head, ask'd me how I did, and telling his Father who I was, and how I had come this Voyage only for
15 a Trial in order to go farther abroad; his Father turning to me with a very grave and concern'd Tone, *Young Man*, says he, *you ought never to go to Sea any more, you ought to take this for a plain and visible Token that you are not to be a Seafaring Man*. Why, Sir, said I, will you go to Sea no more?
20 *That is another Case*, said he, *it is my Calling, and therefore my Duty; but as you made this Voyage for a Trial, you see what a Taste Heaven has given you of what you are to expect if you persist; perhaps this is all befallen us on your*

1 **some such**: irgend so ein(e). | 1f. **decreed unavoidable misery**: etwa: garantiert unabwendbares Elend. | 5 **retired** (arch.): hier: zurückgezogen, innerlich, geheim. | 7 **comrade**: Gefährte, Kamerad. | 8 **forward** (adj.): vorlaut, kess. | 11 **I say**: ach was (verstärkend). | 12 **to alter**: verändern. | 16 **concerned** (adj.): besorgt, betroffen. | 18 **token**: Beweis, Zeichen. | 20 **calling** (n.): Berufung, Bestimmung. | 23 **to persist**: beharren, weitermachen. | 23f. **on your account**: deinetwegen.

Account, like Jonah in the Ship of Tarshish. Pray, continues he, what are you? and on what Account did you go to Sea? Upon that I told him some of my Story; at the End of which he burst out with a strange kind of Passion, What had I done, says he, that such an unhappy Wretch should come into my Ship? I would not set my Foot in the same Ship with thee again for a Thousand Pounds. This indeed was, as I said, an Excursion of his Spirits which were yet agitated by the Sense of his Loss, and was farther than he could have Authority to go. However he afterwards talk'd very gravely to me, exhorted me to go back to my Father, and not tempt Providence to my Ruine; told me I might see a visible Hand of Heaven against me, And young Man, said he, depend upon it, if you do not go back, wherever you go, you will meet with nothing but Disasters and Disappointments till your Father's Words are fulfilled upon you.

We parted soon after; for I made him little Answer, and I saw him no more; which way he went, I know not. As for me, having some Money in my Pocket, I travelled to London by Land; and there, as well as on the Road, had many

1 **Jonah in the ship of Tarshish:** Bezug zum Alten Testament (Jonah 1,3), die Geschichte von Jonah, der vor Gott fliehen will, in einem Sturm ins Meer geschleudert wird, von einem Wal geschluckt und am Ufer wieder ausgespien wird. | **Pray** (arch.): Bitte! | 8 **an excursion of his spirits:** Ausbruch seines Gemüts. | **agitated:** erregt. | 9 f. **to have authority to do s.th.:** befugt sein, etwas zu tun. | 11 **to exhort s.o.:** jdn. ermahnen. | 11 f. **to tempt Providence:** das Schicksal herausfordern. | 12 f. **a visible hand of Heaven:** ein sichtbares Zeichen des Himmels. | 17 **to part:** auseinandergehen, aufbrechen. | **to make s.o. little answer** (arch.): kurz angebunden sein, einsilbige Antworten geben. | 18 **I know not** (arch.): *I do not know.*

Struggles with my self, what Course of Life I should take, and whether I should go Home, or go to Sea.

As to going Home, Shame opposed the best Motions that offer'd to my Thoughts; and it immediately occur'd
5 to me how I should be laugh'd at among the Neighbours, and should be asham'd to see, not my Father and Mother only, but even every Body else; from whence I have since often observed, how incongruous and irrational the common Temper of Mankind is, especially of Youth, to that
10 Reason which ought to guide them in such Cases, *viz.* That they are not asham'd to sin, and yet are asham'd to repent; not asham'd of the Action for which they ought justly to be esteemed Fools, but are asham'd of the returning, which only can make them be esteem'd wise Men.

15 In this State of Life however I remained some time, uncertain what Measures to take, and what Course of Life to lead. An irresistible Reluctance continu'd to going Home; and as I stay'd a while, the Remembrance of the Distress I had been in wore off; and as that abated, the little Motion I had
20 in my Desires to a Return wore off with it, till at last I quite lay'd aside the Thoughts of it, and lookt out for a Voyage.

Leaving his friend behind, Crusoe travels to London by land, where he meets a sea captain who invites him on his next merchant voyage. After receiving money from his family, Crusoe

25
1 **struggles**: qualvolle Auseinandersetzungen. | 3f. **motions that offer'd to my thoughts**: Handlungsvorsätze. | 4f. **to occur to s.o.**: jdm. in den Sinn kommen, klar werden. | 7 **even**: hier: auch. | 8 **incongruous**: voller Ungereimtheiten. | **irrational**: unlogisch, absurd. | 13 **to esteem**: betrachten. | 17 **reluctance**: Abneigung, Widerwille.

sets off with forty pounds worth of trinkets and toys to sell abroad. He makes some 300 pounds from this trip, considering it a great success. Despite the captain's early death, Crusoe sets off on another merchant expedition, taking one hundred pounds with him. He leaves the remaining 200 pounds with the captain's widow, whom he trusts. This time he is pursued by Moorish pirates off the coast of Sallee in today's Morocco (Salé). His ship is taken over by the pirates and Crusoe is enslaved. He is the only British citizen among his Moorish master's slaves. Crusoe is forced to do the fishing because he is good at it. One day the slaves' fishing boat gets lost in fog, and the master takes a compass on board. He also stores some gunpowder on board for a shooting party, but the guests never show up. Crusoe waits for his chance to flee. As the guests do not show up, Crusoe goes fishing close to the shore with a moor and Xury, a moorish boy. They catch no fish there, so Crusoe urges them to go out further. He then throws the moor overboard and tells him to swim to the shore, saying he will spare his life. Xury swears loyalty to Crusoe and the two escape from Sallee. They travel along the African coast, kill a lion and take off its skin.

After this Stop we made on to the Southward continually for ten or twelve Days, living very sparing on our Provisions, which began to abate very much, and going no oftner into the Shoar than we were oblig'd to for fresh Water; my Design in this was to make the River *Gambia* or *Senegall*, that is to say, any where about the *Cape de Verd*, where I was in hopes to meet with some *European* Ship, and if I did

1 **trinkets** (pl.): Plunder. | 23 f. **provisions**: Vorräte. | 25 **shoar**: *shore*. |
26 **Gambia, Senegal**: Flüsse in Westafrika. | 27 **Cape de Verde**: Kapverdische Inseln, portugiesisch kolonisierte Inselgruppe vor Westafrika.

not, I knew not what Course I had to take, but to seek out for the *Islands*, or perish there among the *Negroes*. I knew that all the Ships from *Europe*, which sail'd either to the Coast of *Guiney*, or to *Brasil*, or to the *East-Indies*, made
5 this *Cape* or those *Islands*; and in a word, I put the whole of my Fortune upon this single Point, either that I must meet with some Ship, or must perish.

When I had pursued this Resolution about ten Days longer, as I have said, I began to see that the Land was in-
10 habited, and in two or three Places as we sailed by, we saw People stand upon the Shoar to look at us, we could also perceive they were quite Black and Stark-naked. I was once inclin'd to ha' gone on Shoar to them; but *Xury* was my better Councillor, and said to me, *no go, no go*; however I
15 hal'd in nearer the Shoar that I might talk to them, and I found they run along the Shoar by me a good way; I observ'd they had no Weapons in their Hands, except one who had a long slender Stick, which *Xury* said was a Lance, and that they would throw them a great way with good
20 aim; so I kept at a distance, but talk'd with them by Signs as well as I could; and particularly made Signs for some thing to Eat, they beckon'd to me to stop my Boat, and that they would fetch me some Meat; upon this I lower'd the top of my Sail, and lay by, and two of them run up into the Coun-

2 to **perish**: umkommen. | **negro**: der Schwarze. (Der Begriff *negro* gilt heute im englischen Sprachraum als politisch inkorrekt.) | 4 **East Indies**: Bezeichnung des Großraums Indien und Südostasien. | 8 to **pursue**: verfolgen, anstreben. | 12 to **perceive**: erkennen, feststellen. | 13 **ha'**: *have*. | 14 **Councillor**: *counsellor*: Ratgeber, Berater. | 18 **slender**: schmal, dünn. | 22 to **beckon (to) s.o. to do s.th.**: jdn. durch Handzeichen auffordern, etwas zu tun. | 23 to **fetch s.th.**: etwas (herbei)holen. | 24 to **lay by** (naut., arch.): vor Anker gehen.