

Once upon a time, in a land far away, there was a town called Blacket Harbour. One day, a young horse trainer named Jeff entered the harbour. He climbed down near the wharf to get a better look and discovered what looked like a pirate ship sinking. Jeff mounted his horse and rode around the vessel yelling, "Sinking ship! Sinking ship!"

The townspeople heard Jeff's cries and came out of their houses and shops to see what was happening. Many people dropped what they were doing and ran towards the harbour. When they saw the sinking ship, a group of people began jumping into their own boats so that they could go to help. They rowed, but no matter how far they went, they couldn't reach the ship.

The Day The Boats Sank

Written by Vada Horne

Age 8

The townspeople returned to the shore to call for more help, but when they looked back at the ship, it was gone, almost like it was never there. They waited and watched for signs of the ship or people, but the water was still, and there was no sign that a boat was near there. Finally they returned to their homes, confused.

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The next day, the mayor of Blacket Harbour called a meeting with everyone who had tried to help the ship. The mayor explained to them that when he woke up that morning he found an old, ragged book mysteriously sitting on his kitchen table. The book was thick, but only had one short story inside. He had read the book and decided to share what he had read with the group.

Once upon a time, in a land far away, there was a town called Blanket Harbour. One Monday morning a young horse trainer named Jeff noticed something in the harbour. He climbed down near the shoreline to get a better look and discovered what looked like a pirate ship sinking! Jeff mounted his horse and rode around the town yelling, "Sinking ship! Sinking ship!"

The townspeople heard Jeff's cries and came out of their houses and shops to see what was happening. Many people dropped what they were doing and ran towards the harbour. When they saw the ship sinking into the water, the group of people began jumping into their own boats so that they could go to help the sinking ship. They rowed and rowed, but no matter how far they went, they couldn't reach the ship!

The townspeople returned to the shore to call for more help, but when they turned back to look at the ship, it was gone, almost like it had disappeared! They waited and watched for signs of the ship or people, but the water was still, and there was no signs that a boat was ever there. Finally they returned to their homes, confused.

The next day, the mayor of Blanket Harbour called a meeting with everyone who had tried to help the ship. The mayor explained to them that when he woke up that morning he found an old, raggedy book mysteriously sitting on his kitchen table. The book was thick, but only had one short story inside. He had read the book and decided to share what he had read with the group.

The story was a legend about a group of pirates that roamed Blanket Harbour many years ago, looking for gold buried in the harbour. The pirates had drowned trying to get the gold back to shore because it was buried so deep, but they were determined to get the gold, so they returned as ghosts to make sure that no one else could take the gold. The legend also said that if people tried to help the ghost's sinking ship, that they would be cursed, making their own boats sink.

The group of townspeople quickly ran to check their boats, but the boats seemed to be perfectly fine. Jeff then asked to borrow a boat, hoping to find the gold that the pirates were after. He begins to row the boat out towards where they had seen the sinking ship, but suddenly holes begin mysteriously showing up all over the sides of the boat, causing it to start sinking. The others see Jeff struggling, so they get into another boat to rescue him. As they get closer to Jeff, holes begin to appear in their boat, which begins to sink too!

As the boats sink, Jeff and the group of townspeople begin to swim back to the shore. As Jeff is swimming, he notices something shiny in the water close to the shore. He dives down towards the shimmering item and comes back up out of the water pulling a treasure chest up with him! The townspeople are shocked.

Once everyone is back to the shore Jeff decides to open the treasure chest. Jeff picks the lock, and inside the chest is filled with gold and a raggedy piece of paper. Jeff reads

the paper out loud for the townspeople.

**"Congratulations, you have found our gold and broken the
curse that we have put on you. But beware, we will be
back!"**

**Jeff and the townspeople decide to share the gold, and
they all lived happily ever after...**

**Until one night, when the ghost ship returns to Blanket
Harbour...**

To be continued?

The End