

A Ship in a Storm

Did you ever go far out into the great ocean? How beautiful it is to be out at sea when the sea is smooth and still!

When a storm approaches, the scene changes. The heavy, black clouds appear in the distance and throw a deep, long shade over the world of waters. The captain and sailors soon see in the clouds the dark signs. All hands are then set to work to take in sail.

The hoarse notes of the captain, speaking through his trumpet, are echoed across the ship. They'll be happy if all is made snug before the gale strikes the vessel.

At last, the gale comes like a vast moving mountain of air. It strikes the ship. The vessel heaves and groans under the dreadful weight and struggles to escape through the foaming waters. If she is far out at sea, she will be likely to ride out the storm in safety. But if the wind is driving her upon the shore, the poor ship may hit the rocks.

Once there was a ship in a storm. Some of her masts were already broken, and her sails lost. While the wind was raging, and the billows were dashing against her, the cry was heard, "A man has fallen overboard!"

The rescue boat was lowered quickly, and it was soon seen bounding on its way over the mountain of waves. At one moment, the boat seemed lifted to the skies, and the next, it sank down and appeared to be lost beneath the waves!