

Family and Friends readers have been carefully graded to match the syllabus of the *Family and Friends* series and provide extra reading practice. They can either be used in the classroom or to support learning at home.

Illustrated glossary items on each page help children to understand the text, while integrated comprehension questions and puzzles provide a way of checking their understanding and help develop their broader literacy skills.

There are four titles at each level consisting of a mixture of classic and modern titles.

The titles for Level 5 are:

- The Jungle Book 978 0 19 480284 0
- Grace Darling 978 0 19 480286 4
- To the Rescue 978 0 19 480287 1
- Around the World in Eighty Days 978 0 19 480285 7



Mr. Alady

Family and Friends 5

B-B

Grace Darling

Tim Vicary
Illustrated by Ashley Mims

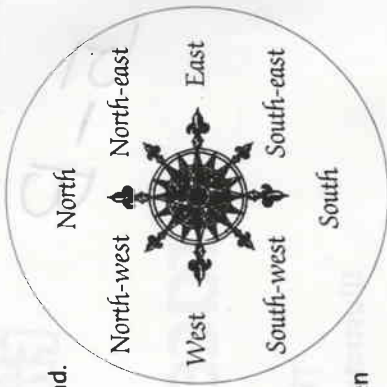


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Before reading

It was 1838, off the north-east coast of England. In a little wooden boat Grace Darling and her father were on an angry sea in the dark night, with huge waves all around them. The wind was screaming in their ears. They were trying to reach a rock. On the rock were cold, wet people, who were crying for help and fighting to stay alive. Their ship, the *Forfarshire*, was broken in two. Could Grace and her father save them? This is the true story of Grace Darling – a girl who became famous for being so brave on that stormy night.



1 Read the introduction to the story. Then tick the correct boxes.

- 1 The story is true.
- 2 Grace Darling was a young man.
- 3 The story happened in 1838.
- 4 The *Forfarshire* was a ship.
- 5 The story happened off the north-east coast of Scotland.
- 6 It was a hot, dry night.
- 7 Grace and her father were in a wooden boat.
- 8 Some people were very cold on a rock.
- 9 Grace Darling became famous.

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CHAPTER 1 The Forfarshire

The Times

London, 19th September 1838

On the afternoon of 6th September the steamship *Forfarshire* started its journey from Hull to Dundee, in Scotland. There were sixty people on the *Forfarshire*, which was a comfortable, modern ship. There was a strong, north-east wind that afternoon, but at first no one was afraid...

Daniel Donovan was a passenger on the *Forfarshire*. He was a young man, about thirty years old. He stood on the deck of the ship and looked at the sea. It was difficult to stand on the deck, because the wind was so strong. The ship was moving up and down uncomfortably and Daniel felt ill. Then a big wave hit the side of the ship, and salt water flew into his face.

'The wind is getting stronger,' said a passenger beside him, called Mr Robb. 'And it's getting darker, too.' He was a tall, dark man with a black coat. He didn't like being at sea very much, and he looked worried.

'Yes,' said Daniel. 'I can't see the land now.' He looked to the west, but he could see no land and no lights. Only water – big grey waves with white tops, which went up and down, up and down.

'But the *Forfarshire* is a good modern ship,' said Mr Robb. 'Nothing can happen to a new ship like this. Listen to those fine strong engines!'

Daniel looked down at the big paddle wheel on the side of the ship. It went round and round, down under

deck the floor on a ship

wave (n) how the sea moves; a 'hill of water' in the sea

dark a colour that is not light, like black

land (n) the part of the world that is not the sea

engine a machine that makes a ship, car, etc. move

paddle wheel a large wheel on the side of a ship that moves through the water

smoke grey or black clouds from a fire

funnel a 'pipe' on top of a ship; smoke from the engine comes out of it

noise a loud sound

crash a loud noise when something hits something else

the white water and up again . . . under the water and up. Then he looked up at the black smoke that came from the *Forfarshire's* funnel.

'Yes,' he said. 'They're good, strong engines.' But he was not really sure. He was an engineer, so he knew about engines. Sometimes the *Forfarshire's* engines made strange noises, and the paddle wheels went round slowly. 'Then there was a crash, and they went quickly again. Daniel was not happy.

A sea bird flew low across the white tops of the big, grey waves. Daniel watched it and felt wind and rain on his face. Then a door opened behind him, and a woman screamed.

'Simon, come back! Come back at once!'

Daniel looked behind him and saw a small boy. He was running across the deck. He was only five years old, and the wind was much too strong for him. He fell over on the deck and started to cry. Then another big wave hit the side of the ship. The white water came onto the ship and carried the boy along the deck.

'Help!' the woman screamed. 'Save my child!'

Daniel put out his hand and caught the boy's coat. Then he carried him quickly back to his mother.

'Quick! Get back inside, out of the wind!' he shouted. He hurried through the door and closed it with a crash. 'It's too dangerous for children out there!'

fall over (not fell over) to go down suddenly

save to take someone out of danger





sir a polite word for a man when you speak to him

'Yes, I know,' the woman said. 'Come here, Simon!' She sat down and held the boy with one arm. She had another child next to her – a little girl, about seven years old. 'Thank you, sir,' she said.

The ship moved up and down very quickly, and Daniel sat down beside the woman. She smiled at him, but she looked very white and ill.

'I'm Daniel Donovan,' he said. 'What's your name?' 'Mary Dawson,' she said. 'This is my son Simon and my daughter Sarah.'

'Isn't your husband with you?'

'No,' she said. 'He's in Scotland. We're going home to see him. It's good we're in a strong, modern ship.'

'Yes,' said Daniel. Then for a few seconds he said nothing. It was quiet in this room. Much quieter than outside.

'Mr Donovan,' said Mrs Dawson suddenly. 'What's happened to the engines? I can't hear them now. Can you?'

Daniel listened. 'She's right!' he thought. 'The engines have stopped!' He could hear the noise of the wind and the sea, but not the engines. 'You're right, Mrs Dawson,' he said. He stood up and ran to the door. 'Excuse me. I...' But then he opened the door, and his words were lost in the wind.

Outside, he looked up at the ship's funnel. There was no smoke above it. He looked over the side of the ship at the big paddle wheels. He watched them for two minutes, but they did not move. And all the time the big grey waves lifted the *Forfarshire* up and down, and white water fell on the deck.

'What's happening?' shouted Mr Robb. 'Why aren't we moving?'

'The engines have broken down!' shouted Daniel. 'This isn't a sailing ship – it can't move without its engines!'

A big wave hit the side of the paddle wheel and sent white water over their heads. Some sailors were trying to put up a small sail, but the wind blew it out of their hands, away across the sea into the night.

'There are women and children on this ship,' shouted Mr Robb. 'It's nearly dark, and the weather is getting worse. What can we do?'

Daniel looked at him. 'I don't know, my friend,' he shouted back. 'I can't do anything! And I don't think anyone can help us now.'

word a thing that you say or write

lose (past

lost) not to have something any more; not to know where to find something

break down (past **broken down**) to stop working

sailing ship a ship that uses wind to help it to move

nearly almost

1 Complete the sentences with these words.

waves engines deck ~~steamship~~ funnel dark paddle

- 1 The *Forfarshire* was a big, comfortable steamship.
- 2 Daniel Donovan stood on the _____ of the *Forfarshire*, looking out to sea.
- 3 The sea was rough with big grey _____ man.
- 4 Mr Robb was a tall, _____ man.
- 5 Black smoke came out of the *Forfarshire*'s _____.
- 6 There was a big _____ wheel on each side of the ship that went round and round.
- 7 The ship's _____ made strange noises, then stopped.

2 Put these sentences in the correct order.

- a The engines made some strange noises.
- b The *Forfarshire* left Hull. 1
- c The engines stopped working.
- d Daniel Donovan saved Mrs Dawson's boy.
- e Some sailors tried to put up a small sail.
- f Daniel saw that there was no smoke above the funnel.

3 Choose the correct answer.

- 1 The *Forfarshire* was travelling to ...
 - a Hull in Scotland.
 - b Dundee in Scotland.
 - c Hull in England.

2 It was windy, but people weren't scared, because ...

- a there were sixty people on the ship.
 - b it was a north-east wind.
 - c the ship was strong and modern.
- 3 Daniel felt ill, because ...
 - a the ship was moving up and down a lot.
 - b a big wave hit the side of the ship.
 - c it was nearly dark.
 - 4 Daniel knew about engines, because ...
 - a he was an engineer.
 - b he was a sailor.
 - c he had travelled on a ship before.
 - 5 Mrs Dawson screamed, because ...
 - a she was feeling ill.
 - b her son fell over and water carried him along the deck.
 - c she didn't like Daniel.
 - 6 The big paddle wheel stopped moving, because ...
 - a there was too much smoke above the funnel.
 - b the ship didn't have a big sail.
 - c the engines had broken down.

4 Find the words from the letters in brackets. Complete the sentences.

- 1 It was getting dark and Daniel couldn't see the land. (aldn)
- 2 Mrs Dawson said, 'Thank you, _____,' to Daniel. (ris)
- 3 Grey waves _____ the *Forfarshire* up and down. (fltdle)
- 4 The *Forfarshire* was a steamship, not a _____ ship. (sialgn)
- 5 Things you say or write are called _____. (rdwos)

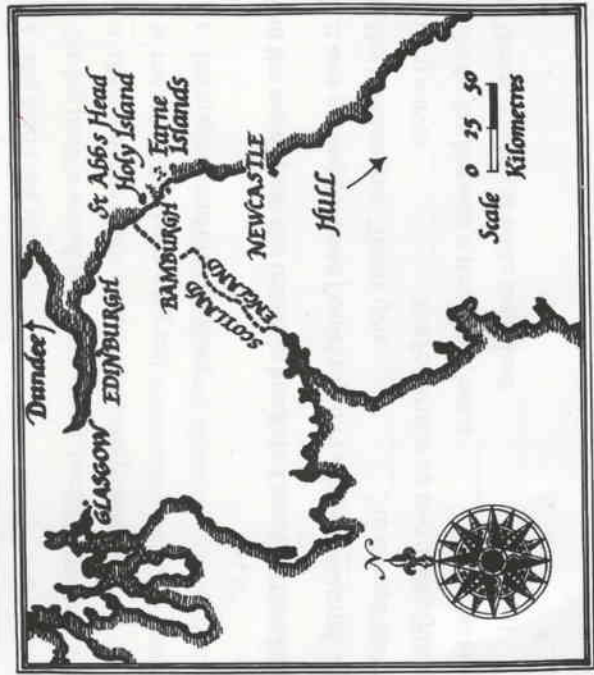
CHAPTER 2 The lighthouse

When the engines stopped, the *Forfarshire* was about five kilometres east of St Abbs Head, in Scotland. The ship was travelling north, from Hull to Dundee. But the wind came from the north, so the *Forfarshire*, without her engines, started to go south again, back to England. It was dark, and the wind was very strong.

About thirty kilometres south-east of St Abbs Head is a group of small rocky islands not far from the mainland. These are the Farne Islands. On one of them, Longstone Island, there is a lighthouse. There were three people in the lighthouse that night – William Darling, his wife Thomasin and their daughter Grace. Grace's brothers usually lived with them at the lighthouse, but that night they were in Bamburgh, on the mainland.

mainland land that is not an island

lighthouse a tall building by the sea, with a strong light at night to tell ships about dangerous rocks



At seven o'clock William Darling went up the long stairs of the lighthouse to light the big oil lantern. Grace went with him. William Darling was a thin, strong man about fifty years old. He moved quickly and quietly. He had a candle in his hand. Sometimes he turned to talk to Grace, and the big brown eyes in his kind face shone in the candlelight.



Grace was a young woman about twenty-two years old. She was not very tall or strong. She had big brown eyes like her father and soft brown hair. She carried an oil can in one hand and held her long skirts with the other hand. She smiled at her father as they talked.

At the top of the lighthouse Grace and her father came into a small room. This room had no walls – just big windows all around. The noise of the wind and rain was terrible there, and they had to shout to hear each other.

Grace put oil in the big lantern in the middle of the room, and William lit it. When the lantern was burning, the big

light (past lit) to make a candle or lamp burn so that you can see in the dark

oil (n) a thick black liquid that you can burn

lantern a light in a glass box

candle a stick of wax that gives light when it burns

can (n) a metal box

CHAPTER 3 In the engine room

'Mr Donovan!
'Yes.'

'The captain wants to see you. You're an engineer, aren't you? Come this way, please.' The sailor opened a door, and Daniel went quickly inside. They went down some stairs. He opened another door, and a great cloud of steam came out. Daniel followed the young sailor into the room. It was very hot in there, and there were clouds of steam everywhere. A tall, red-faced man came up to him.

'Mr Donovan? My name's Humble, Captain Humble. We need you, sir. You're an engineer, I understand. One of these engines has already stopped, and the other one is working very badly. There's too much steam in this room, sir, and not ...'

A big wave hit the ship with a terrible crash, and Daniel, Captain Humble and the young sailor held onto the wall. Daniel saw a big man in a blue coat and shouted to him.

'Are you the ship's engineer?'

'Yes!' The man looked angry, tired and frightened.

'What's the matter? Why has this engine stopped?'

'Why? Because it's too old, of course! Look here! See this? And this ...' For five minutes the two engineers moved around in the steam and smoke and looked at the big engines.

'See? It's broken here and here! How can I mend it now, in the middle of a storm? Can you do that, sir?'

Daniel shook his head. He was angry and frightened.

'No, of course I can't! The ship must go back to land!'

The man agreed quickly. 'That's right, that's what I say! But you tell Captain Humble that! He says this is a new,

silver mirrors started to move slowly around it. William Darling and his daughter stood and watched them. The rain crashed against the windows, and the wind screamed like an animal in the night.

'I hope the poor sailors will see this light,' shouted William. 'It's the blackest of nights out there. No moon, no stars – nothing but wind and rain and wild white water.'

'Let us also hope there are no ships near the rocks,' shouted Grace. 'The storm will wreck a ship that comes near them tonight.'

'That's true, lass,' said William. 'But we can do no more now. Let's go down to have our supper.'

The father and daughter went slowly down the dark stairs to the kitchen. Grace's mother, Thomasin, was putting the supper on the table. She was a white-haired woman of sixty-five.

'Did you see anything?' she asked.

'No, nothing,' William answered. 'Only the rain on the windows.'

'Thank goodness,' she said. 'You couldn't help anyone tonight, William. If there is a shipwreck, you won't be able to do anything. The boys aren't here to help you.'

'But, Mother,' Grace said. 'Father has to try to save people. It's his job. He can't leave them to die.'

'Grace, no man could row a boat by himself in this wild sea,' said Thomasin. 'So let us be glad that there are no poor ships near us, on this terrible night.'

'Yes, Grace, let us be glad for that,' said William. And so the three people sat quietly around their table in the warm kitchen. In the black night outside, the wind screamed, and the big waves crashed against the rocks, again and again and again.

mirror a piece of glass that you can see yourself in

wreck (n) a broken ship; (v) to break something completely

lass a girl

supper a meal you eat in the evening

row (v) to move a boat with oars

glad happy

warm quite hot, not cold

steam (n) hot wet air; water changed into steam at 100°C

follow to go after someone

hold onto (past held onto) to keep touching something

frightened afraid

broken not working

mend to make something work again

shake his head (past shook his head) to move his head from side to side, to say no

agree to say that you think the same as someone else

modern ship, so it can go anywhere, in any weather! Our rich passengers want to go to Scotland, so that's where we're going, he says! But it's too dangerous and ...'

The man stopped when Captain Humble came near. 'Well, Mr Donovan? Can you help us? Do you know more about engines than this stupid engineer here? He says he can do nothing, and we must go back to Hull, because of a small storm! But I'm sure ...'

'He's right, Captain Humble!' shouted Daniel. 'I can do nothing for these engines here, in this storm! They're too old, and this one is broken in three places! We must go back to land, Captain, or we will all drown! I cannot help you!'

'Gaaaaaargh!' The captain pushed Daniel angrily away from him. 'Then get out of my way, Mr Donovan – you're no good to me! Go back to the women and children!'

Daniel went quickly to the door and up the stairs to the wind and rain outside. But he was a badly frightened man. His hands were shaking, and it was hard for him to stand in the terrible screaming wind. Above his head two sailors were putting up a small sail. 'That's no good,' he thought. 'It's too small for a big ship like this. Without engines we can do nothing.'

He stared out to sea, but he could see nothing – only the white tops of the great black waves and the black clouds above. No stars, no moon. But – far away to the southwest – there was a little light flashing. On ... off ... on ... off. It went behind a wave and then came back again, like a star in the night sky, far away.

But it was coming nearer. Nearer all the time.

near close
stupid not clever
drown to die in water because you cannot breathe
push to move quickly and strongly with your hands
get out of my way go away: I am angry with you
stare (v) to look hard at something for a long time

CHAPTER 4 Nothing to see

It was half past two in the morning. In the lighthouse Grace was asleep in her room. It was a small, tidy room with white walls. Her dress was on the back of the door, and her other clothes were on a chair by the bed. There were some books on a desk and some sea-birds' eggs on a table.

Someone knocked at the door. 'Grace!' her father's voice called. 'Wake up, lass. I need you to help me.'

'What is it, Father?' She got up quickly and opened the door. William Darling stood there with a candle in his hand. He was wearing his big coat and heavy boots, and his hat was pulled down over his ears. His face was tired and wet with rain.

'The storm is worse. The wind is coming from the north now, and it's stronger. We have to go outside and tie the boat down, or we will lose it!'

'All right. I'll come down.' Quickly Grace closed the door and put her clothes on. She often got up in the night. There was always work on a lighthouse, and the sea did not wait for morning. A minute later she ran downstairs to the kitchen, put a coat over her thin dress, tied her hair under her hat and followed her father out into the night.

The wind nearly lifted her off her feet. It was strong and wet. She opened her mouth to call to her father, but the words blew away into the night. Her coat and dress blew out behind her like paper, and the rain hit her face, like small stones.

She walked slowly after her father, to the boathouse. Her father was carrying a small lantern, and in its light Grace saw a great wave of white water. It broke against

desk a table usually in a study or an office

tie (v) to put ropes round something to hold it still

thin not fat



the rock in front of the boathouse, and white water crashed against the boathouse doors. William shouted something to Grace, but she could not hear him – the noise of the wind and the sea was too loud, too terrible.

In the boathouse she helped her father to tie the boat down to the rock. They tied down the oars, too, so that nothing could move them. Then they ran outside and carried everything into the kitchen – their chickens, their fishing things. They couldn't leave anything outside on a night like this.

Before they went back in, Grace stared out into the night. The light from the top of the lighthouse flashed out over the water, and for thirty seconds she could see very well. One after another the big, black waves came out of the darkness – waves ten, twenty metres high! When they hit the rock, there was a huge crash, and white water flew everywhere, thirty, forty metres up over the longstone rock.

oar a long piece of wood that you use to move a boat through water

CHAPTER 5 The shipwreck

In the passengers' sitting room on the *Forfarshire* Mrs Dawson looked unhappily at Daniel, Mr Robb and two other men – Thomas Buchanan and James Kelly. Her two children were crying. 'I'm so frightened. Do you think we're going to die? What can we do, Mr Donovan, without the engines?'

'Not much, Mrs Dawson,' said Daniel slowly. 'But there are some islands south of here, called the Farne Islands. They are very near. I've seen the lighthouse flashing on them. I think the captain is trying to go into the quieter water between the islands and the mainland. I... I'm going to go outside again to see how near the lighthouse is. I'll come back and tell you.'

Daniel got up and went out into the night. It was raining hard now, and the wind was screaming from the back of the ship. He stared into the dark. He could see nothing in the west. Where was the light? He walked carefully across the ship to the other side. Suddenly he fell on the wet deck, and he caught the side of the ship with his hands. Then he looked up, and a light flashed into his eyes. There it was – the lighthouse, only three hundred metres away to the north!

'But this is wrong!' he thought. 'We're too close! Much too close! I must tell the captain!'

He stood up and started to run along the deck. But there in front of him a great mountain of white water flew into the sky... ten... twenty metres above the ship.

'Rocks!' screamed Daniel. 'Rocks! There are rocks in front of us, rocks all round! Captain! CAPTAIN!'

The captain was already shouting at the sailors, and

shipwreck a broken ship that can't travel any more

wrong not right

close when two people or things are near to each other



Grace stared out, over the waves, past the rocks and islands. But – thank goodness! – she could see no lights, no ships. No ship could live in that sea tonight.

'Grace! Come on in, lass!' Her father held the door open behind her. She went in quickly, and he closed the door behind them. Her mother had warm drinks ready for them.

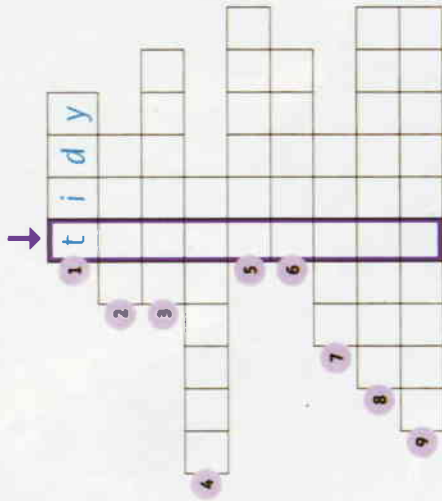
'Go to bed now, Father,' Grace said. 'You haven't slept yet tonight. Let me watch the light now, and Mother can come up at five.'

'All right, lass,' he said. William was very tired. He went upstairs with his wife, and in two minutes they were asleep.

Grace finished her drink quickly and changed out of her wet clothes. Then she went up alone to the room with the big windows at the top of the lighthouse. The wild wind screamed and shook the glass. It was half past three in the morning.



- 1 Complete the sentences and the crossword. Then find the mystery word to find out what Grace looks through in the next chapter.



- Grace's room was small and tidy.
- There were some books on Grace's _____.
- There was _____ work on a lighthouse.
- Grace and William _____ their chickens and fishing things into the kitchen.
- Grace looked hard at the sea for a long time – she _____ at it.
- Daniel saw that the *Forfarshire* was far too _____ to the lighthouse.
- When something is not right, it is _____.
- A broken ship is called a _____.
- After the crash, the captain and many rich _____ were not there any more.

Mystery word: t _____

- 2 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- William Darling woke Grace up at three o'clock in the morning. F
- William and Grace went to tie the boat down.
- Grace went back to bed, and William watched the light.
- Mrs Dawson told Daniel that she was feeling brave.
- Daniel shouted that the rocks were too close to the ship.
- There was a terrible crash, and the ship broke in two.

- 3 Correct the underlined words in these sentences.

- William Darling was wearing his big black coat and heavy boats. boots
- Grace's dress was thick. _____
- Grace lied her hair under her hat. _____
- In the boathouse Grace and William tied down the boat and the ears. _____
- In the kitchen Thomasin had warm drinks steady for them. _____
- Daniel held onto a rose. _____
- A voice shouted, 'Help us! Wave us from the sea!' _____

- 4 What do you think happens next? Tick the boxes.

- Grace sees the wreck of the *Forfarshire*. Yes No
- William notices some people in the sea.
- Grace's brothers come back from the mainland.
- Grace and her parents watch the wreck for two hours.
- Grace says that if there are people alive, she can go out with her father.