

# Robinson Crusoe

(Fictional adventure) by Daniel Defoe (1719)

Robinson Crusoe [RC] was born 30sep1632 in York, England. When he became of age, [against the wishes of his parents] he boarded a ship for London. There was a great storm at sea & he promised God if He saved him, he would go home. His ship sank, but he got to shore. The people in town gave him money to return home, but RC didn't go home. He gave the captain's wife his money to hold & went to sea again.

This time pirates captured him & made him a slave in Morocco. After two years he escaped in a small boat. A Portuguese saved his life & took him to Brazil. The captain sent him some of his money [in form of goods which he sold for a profit] & he started a sugar plantation. After 4 years some men talked him into going back to sea to get slaves for their plantations. This ship crashed on rocks during a storm. All perished, but he made it to an uninhabited island [about 40 miles diameter] on 30sep1659.

He went out to the ship to get supplies [food, tools, guns & powder, rope, a Bible, clothes, etc], but after 2 weeks the winds took it away. The grain [corn, rice & barley] was bad so he threw it out on the ground & it grew. He fenced in his crop against goats & wouldn't eat from it for years so he would have plenty. He wished he had a pot to cook in. Later he found another ship wreck [no survivors] & he took more supplies [& a chest of money which was worthless at the time]. He made a fort to keep out wild animals or man.

He was not a religious man, but started reading the Bible. He was thankful for God saving him & he found what he needed on the island [water, goats, turtles, grapes, citrus, etc]. It rained Aug 15 to Oct 15 & Feb 15 to Apr 15 and was dry the rest of the time. If he shot a mother goat, he would take the kids home to have a tame herd. He also trapped goats & milked them for milk, butter & cheese. He knocked a baby parrot out of a tree & tamed it & taught it to talk.

It took him more than a month to carve a shelf out of a tree log. He made clay pots & burnt them in fire to hold water. He weaved baskets for his grain. He saved the goat skins for clothes & sleeping. He made an umbrella. He dug out a canoe from a tree log & started around the island, but a current almost took him out to sea except the wind brought him back in an eddy [from 6 miles out]. He thanked God for saving him.

He explored parts of the island & found skulls & bones from cannibals that came to the island. One day he saw them on the beach. He stayed closer to home more & didn't fire his gun very much after that. But they only came about once a year. He had a dream that he saves a man from these cannibals. Then in his 24<sup>th</sup> year he saw a man running for his life from cannibals that were about to kill him. He saved the man who became his servant. He called him Friday.

He taught Friday to speak English & Friday became a Christian & gave up cannibalism. Friday told him they were SE of Trinidad. In his 27<sup>th</sup> year 3 canoes of savages came. The two of them shot most of the savages, but some escaped. They saved a Spaniard & believe it or not, Friday's dad. The Spaniard & Friday's dad went back to the mainland to save 14 more Spaniards.

A week later RC saw an English ship anchored off shore. There was munity onboard & the crew & a small boat brought the captain & 2 mates to shore to leave them. RC & Friday were able to save them & kill the others on the boat. They went back to the ship at night & overtake the guards & lock the rest up. They shot the new captain. RC & Friday left the island 19dec1686 [after 27 years] & went back to England.

He sold his plantation & gave money to the old captain & widow who helped him years ago. He also gave money to his 2 sisters [his parents died long ago]. He married & had 3 children.

Quotes:

“Call on Me in the day of trouble & I will deliver thee & thou shalt glorify Me.”

“I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.”

“We never see the true state of our condition, until it is illustrated to us by its contraries; nor know how to value what we enjoy, but by the want of it.” [RC]

“...on the island I wanted nothing but what I had, & had nothing but what I wanted.” [RC]