

YOU CHOOSE...

**THE TREASURE OF
DEAD MAN'S COVE**

GEORGE IVANOFF



RANDOM HOUSE AUSTRALIA

For my daughter, Nykita – G.I.

A Random House book
Published by Random House Australia Pty Ltd
Level 3, 100 Pacific Highway, North Sydney NSW 2060
www.randomhouse.com.au

First published by Random House Australia in 2014

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National Library of Australia
Cataloguing-in-Publication Entry

Author: Ivanoff, George, 1968–
Title: The treasure of Dead Man's Cove
ISBN: 978 0 85798 383 1 (pbk)
Series: You choose; 1
Target Audience: For primary school age
Subjects: Plot-your-own stories
 Treasure troves – Juvenile fiction
 Pirates – Juvenile fiction
Dewey Number: A823.3

Cover and internal illustrations by James Hart
Cover design by Christabella Designs
Internal design and typesetting by Midland Typesetters
Printed in Australia by Griffin Press, an accredited ISO AS/NZS
14001:2004 Environmental Management System printer

Random House Australia uses papers that are natural, renewable and recyclable products and made from wood grown in sustainable forests. The logging and manufacturing processes are expected to conform to the environmental regulations of the country of origin.



‘T^{reasure!}

You freeze. Where did that voice come from?

You are in the hallway of the small guest-house in the seaside town of Seabreeze. You and your parents are staying here for the summer holidays.

‘Treasure!’

The screeching voice is coming from the living room. You edge your way to the door and peer inside.

A large colourful bird is sitting on a perch by the window. It’s a macaw.

‘Treasure!’ it screeches again.

You are about to enter the living room, when you hear your mother calling from the kitchen that breakfast is ready. Your stomach rumbles.



*If you are hungry and decide to eat
breakfast, go to page 3.*

*But if your curiosity is greater than
your hunger, approach the bird and
go to page 6.*

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You enter the kitchen and sit down at the dining table with your parents. Mrs Tisdale, the owner of the guesthouse, brings a plate stacked high with pancakes.

You ask her about the macaw and why it keeps saying 'treasure'.

'Mr Fibuli. That's his name,' says Mrs Tisdale, wiping her hands on the front of her floral dress. 'It seems that everyone in this town is obsessed with treasure and pirates. Even the birds.'

'Pirates?' your mum asks.

'Oh yes,' says Mrs Tisdale with a wink. 'The town of Seabreeze used to be inhabited by pirates, and Dead Man's Cove is where they launched their ships. According to legend, the fiercest pirate of them all, One-Eyed William, was buried somewhere

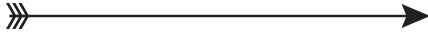


around here along with his treasure. They say he kept a huge ruby in his deformed, empty eye socket!’

Someone behind you grunts and you whirl around to see a strange man leaning in the kitchen doorway. He has long black hair tied back into a neat ponytail and mismatched eyes – one small and squinty, the other wide and staring. Even though it’s a warm day, he’s wearing a tweed jacket with leather patches on the elbows. Mrs Tisdale introduces him as Professor Wagner, the only other person currently staying in the guesthouse.

The professor questions Mrs Tisdale about the legend of One-Eyed William’s buried treasure. But she doesn’t know much more. She suggests that the museum would be a good place to get more information.

Your parents decide to visit the museum and then go down to Dead Man’s Cove.



*Do you want to find out more about pirates?
To visit the museum with your parents,
go to page 24.*

*If you'd rather ditch your parents
and explore the town on your own,
go to page 8.*





You enter the living room and approach the macaw.

‘Treasure!’ the bird screeches again.

‘What treasure?’ you ask, reaching out to stroke its feathers.

The bird screeches and lunges at your outstretched hand, its beak biting down on your finger.

You pull your hand back, but the bird doesn’t let go. It flaps its wings and lands on your hand, its claws digging into your flesh.



You are in great pain. If you want to yell for help, go to page 10.

If you try to shake the bird off, go to page 82.



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