

The cabin boy Ben Briggs

Hello, I'm Ben and I'm 14 years old.

I'm on Cutty Sark right now and we're on the way to England with tea from China. But only after a week a bad storm starts. Big waves throw the ship here and there. The captain can't hold the wheel. "Reef the sails everyone fast!" He shouts. "You too", he tells me.

I try climbing the rigging but the work is new for me and I'm slow. The captain thinks I'm scared and shouts, "Come down, Briggs, you're in the way!"

The sailors reef the sails. Now the captain can hold the wheel with the help of the first mate. "Bring us something to drink, Briggs!" The captain tells me. I run and come back to the deck with water. But I don't get to the deck because just then a monster wave hits the ship.

Whoosh! The wave hits the wheel and the first mate falls into the water. "Help! I can't swim! Save me!", he shouts. Two sailors run to one of the lifeboats. But I notice that he needs help right away, so I jump into the water, take the lifebuoy, bring it to him and stay with him until the lifeboat comes.

And that's the moment the captain finds out he's wrong about me. After the storm he talks to me and says, "Brave people make good sailors."

The End

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