The Pirate's Treasure

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Patience & Listening

"And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven..."

-Matthew 5; 2, 11-12

Old Willy, the one eyed, one legged, one toothed, one handed pirate was the oldest pirate around.

Some said that he was even older than the sea itself, or that maybe the sea gave birth to him!

Every pirate worth his salt knew of Old Willy, and pirates everywhere sang of his deeds wide and far.

Old Willy had seen his share of treasure hunting on the open sea, and rumor had it that he had the largest collection of treasure any pirate had ever seen!

So when Old Willy announced that he was giving his treasure away to the pirate he deemed to be worthy,

Every pirate came on the appointed day, from sea to sea and from coast to coast, every pirate set his sail!

They sailed to his home in Pirate's Cove, setting up anchor and coming ashore, every pirate watching his back.

They marched to his home and once gaining entrance filled his humble house to bursting.

"Arg, so ye be here for my treasure?" Old Willy said with a grin and he rocked on his old rocking chair.

"Ye thinks ye gots what it takes to earn my treasure?
Well then sit down and hear my tale... it begins on
the island we pirates call 'Bones'..."

"The treasure is on Bones!" cried some pirates, "you will not beat me there!" and a handful of pirates went funneling out as they hurried for their anchored boats.

"Arg, like I was saying," Old Willy continued his tale,
"I was born on an island, that island be 'Bones'... But
I didn't find me first treasure till I sailed to

'Shipwreck Point'..."

"So the treasure is at Shipwreck Point!" howled some pirates, "The treasure is as good as mine!" and the pirates slammed out the door as they rushed to their anchored boats.

"Arg, like I was saying," Old Willy continued his story, "I found the treasure at Shipwreck Point but then had to move it to 'Shadows Bay'..."

"He's told us, the treasure's at Shadows Bay!"
shrieked some pirates, "the treasure is mine, you shant
beat me there!" and some more pirates shoved out the
door as they ran to their anchored boats.

"Arg, like I was saying," Old Willy continued his story, "The treasure piled high at Shadows Bay, until there was no space; so I moved it all to Dead Man's Harbour..."

"It's at Dead Man's Harbour, it has to be!" wailed the remaining pirates, "I will be the first to be there!" and all but one of the pirates heaved out the door as they scuttled to their anchored boats.

"Arg, like I was saying," Old Willy stopped and looked at the lone pirate lass left in his presence, "why do ye remain when the others have left?"

"You have not told me how to prove my worth," said the lone quiet pirate lass, "So tell me Old Willy, what must be done to earn your priceless treasure?"

"Arg, like I was saying," Old Willy continued his story, "You've proven your worth by lending an ear when asked to hear a tale... and now no more, you shall be the one that hears how this tale ends..."

"For you see the treasure grew large and I wanted it near so I had it all brought together...

Then I had built this very same house to cover and hide my treasure... and what I have is now yours, too, if you will keep this one great secret!"

And so the young pirate lass proved her worth and gained Old Willy's secret: piles of treasure as far as the eye could see, resting quietly in Pirate's Cove.

THE END