

# ANCIENT ADVENTURES



## EXAMPLES

### Captured! [The Slave Trade]

I thought of my mother and father but couldn't remember their faces; it had been so long since I'd seen them. I couldn't see anyone here, it was so dark. But I could smell them and hear them crying. We were crammed in like animals, unable to move, not allowed to speak. It had been just a normal day when they'd come. They came with chains and shackles and led us away. To the coast. To the boats. They said we were headed for England, they said it was the greatest country on Earth. I only wanted to go home.

### No Escape [Pompeii]

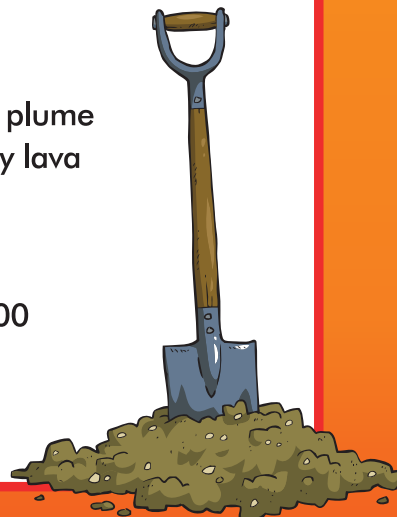
A siren wailed, lights flashed. The Time-Traveller 3000 was spinning uncontrollably. Boom! It crashed. Ben and Ella crawled out into a hot, dusty street. People were running past them, screaming.

"It's okay, we're friendly," Ben shouted, but none of them listened.

"I don't think it's us they're running from," said Ella, pointing up. A huge plume of black smoke filled the sky, coming from a grumbling volcano. Suddenly lava spewed out ferociously!

"RUN!" screamed Ben.

They sprinted through the streets, leaving the battered Time-Traveller 3000 behind. There was no time to fix it. But how would they get home now?



## The Trojan Horse [Ancient Greece]

The sand was hot beneath my toes, the sun beat angrily and sweat poured down my brow. The city walls were tall and strong and there was no way to scale them or break through. All of this because our queen had been stolen from us by that boy. Our king had brought us, his entire army, to claim her back. But how? We weren't heroes or gods, just men. How could we possibly invade the mighty city of Troy?

"Fetch wood," I shouted suddenly. "We'll sneak in."

"How?" Achilles asked.

"A horse," I said, "we'll build a wooden horse."

## The New World [Christopher Columbus / Exploration]

"The New World!" I said, looking across the waves to the sandy beach, glimmering in the distance.

"What do you think, Captain?" my first mate said to me.

"It is beautiful," I replied. "A land where we can build a new nation that will understand God's laws and follow him. Here we can be free."

"Aren't you scared though, Captain?"

"Of what?" I replied.

"The natives," said my mate. "People say they are savages."

"Then we will have to teach them everything we know. They'll be part of our new land as well. As long as they follow our rules."

## The Maid [Victorian]

It was as if she wasn't there!

Eddie was a maid, and while she laced her mistress' corset and buttoned her boots, helped her with her coat and her jewellery, she heard secrets. Her mistress would tell them to her friends as if Eddie wasn't there at all!

Eddie was a clever girl, and listened carefully. Most of the secrets were boring, but some of them... some of them were very interesting indeed - like where her mistress had hidden the money she'd stolen.

Eddie decided she wouldn't wait any longer. Tonight, she would take that money, and run!

## The Discovery [Victorian / Scientific Discovery]

After all those years, after all that work, finally I was close to succeeding. I sat in my study, surrounded by books, papers and charts, the light glittering in the jars of formaldehyde in rows on the shelves, and carefully wrote down the last of my equations.

Before me lay a set of frog's legs. For now they were lifeless, but I could make them move with the use of electricity! With this proof I was ready to show the world what I had learned! About muscles, about the body, about science and life itself!

## The Healer [Witch Trials / Tudor/Stuart]

*Witch.* That was what they'd call me if they wanted me gone. But for now, they didn't say it. They liked me, and they came to me when they needed cures for their headaches or medicine for their children. I was useful. They didn't want me gone, not yet, but I didn't know how much longer I had. Someone would say it eventually.

I wasn't a witch. I was just clever and kind and good with herbs. But that didn't matter. If one person decided they hated me, they could say that word and it would be over.

*Witch.*

## The Ambush [American Wild West]

Jack had never had much money. His work as a cowboy didn't pay much, though he enjoyed being out on his horse all day. That was why, when the suspicious-looking stranger at the saloon promised him he could make a lot of money, he didn't get up and leave.

"It'll be easy," said the stranger, smiling. "There's going to be a wagon coming through town, it's going to have a lot of money on it. You'll be rich. What do you say?"

Jack looked at the stranger, and nodded.

"I'll do it."

"You'll be needing a gun. Just in case..."

## A New Home [American Frontier / New World]

We were a long way from our old home, and even further from our next one.

My boots were worn, the rainwater leaking in at the edges, and my skirts were dirty where my feet had kicked up mud.

"Mama, can we stop soon?"

"No, Missy. We've got a long way to go."

My papa lifted me up onto the wagon to sit between the crate of rations and Mama's dresser, and kissed me on the forehead.

"Be patient."

I looked back at the track and the forests we were leaving behind, and dreamed about what Oregon would be like.

