

Robert Louis Stevenson



THE BOTTLE IMP

Retold by Patrizia Caruzzo



We know
books

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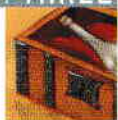


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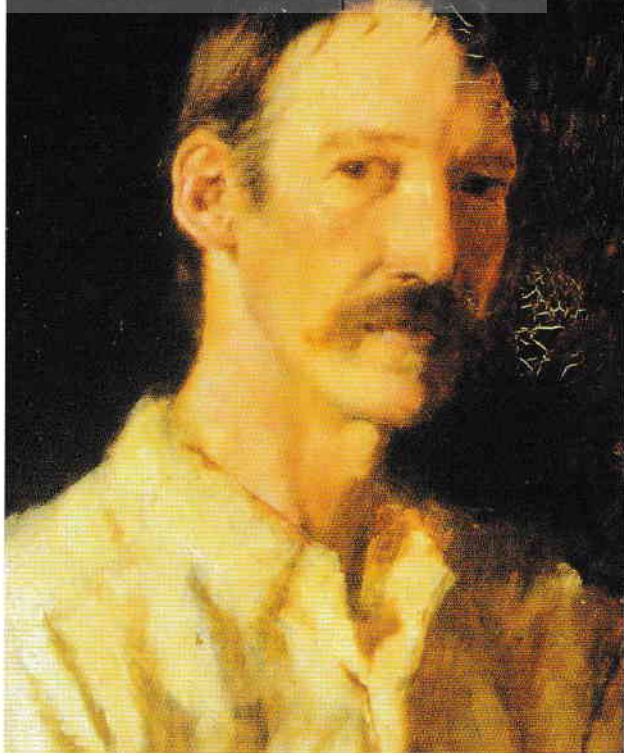
SPECIAL FEATURES:

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This text is recorded in full.



These symbols indicate the beginning and end of the passages linked to the listening activities.



Robert Louis Stevenson

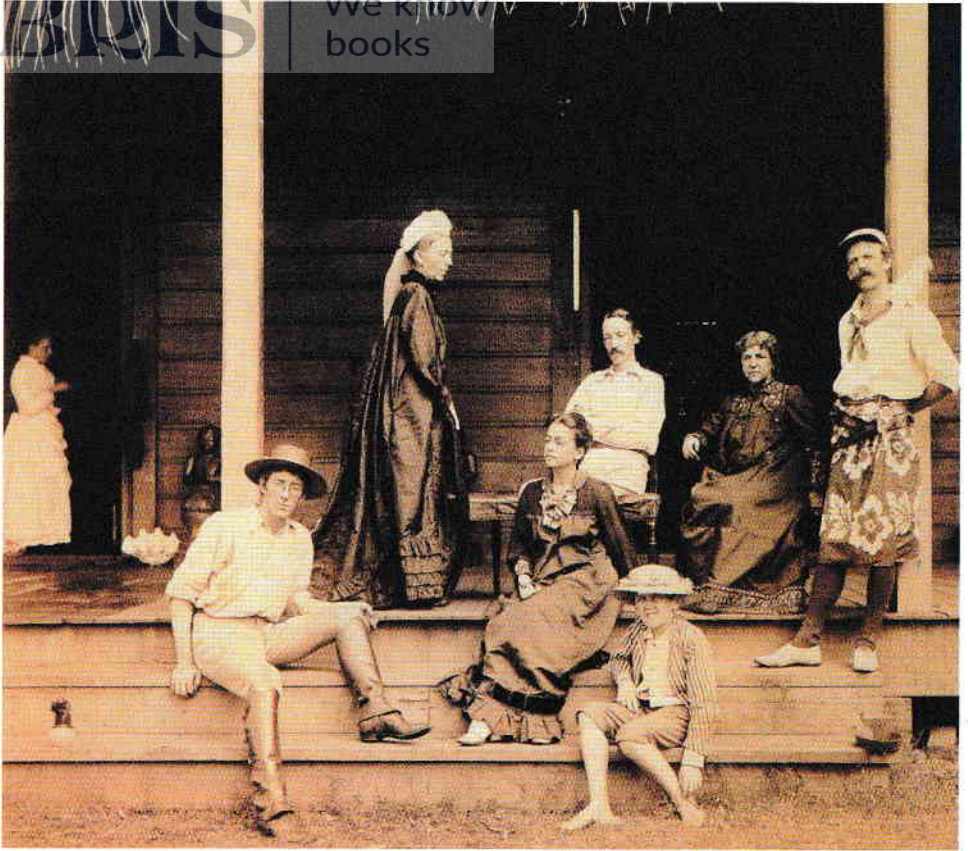


Track 02

Robert Louis Stevenson was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in November, 1850. When he was a child his father told him stories of pirates and adventures. Robert liked these stories very much. When he went to university he first studied engineering, but he did not like it, so he decided to study law. But he never worked as a lawyer¹ because his dream was to become a writer. And his dream came true: he became a popular writer and wrote novels, short stories and poems.

He wrote a lot of stories. Many of them are adventures and fantasy stories. He is very popular as a writer of children's stories because he

1. lawyer : a person who defends or accuses people of a crime.



Robert Louis Stevenson sitting with friends, Samoa, 1891.

wrote famous stories such as *Treasure Island* (1883) and *Kidnapped* (1886). Another very famous children's classic is *The Black Arrow* (1888).

His great success was *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* (1886). It is the story of a doctor and a drug he discovers. This changes him from a good person into a monster.

Stevenson suffered from¹ tuberculosis and was often ill. Scotland is a cold and wet country and this did not help him. So he decided to leave

1. **suffered from** : had problems with.

Scotland and travel to Spain and France because there was warm weather. His first books describe his time there. During a trip in California in 1876 he met an American woman, Fanny Osborne. He fell in love with her, but she was already married. In 1879 Fanny Osborne divorced her husband and, in 1880, she married Stevenson.

In 1888, they decided to go to the South Seas. They visited many islands in the Pacific, including Tahiti, Samoa and Hawaii. They enjoyed this trip very much and decided to move to the island of Samoa. Stevenson continued to write many stories. In 1891, inspired by his visit to Hawaii, he wrote 'The Bottle Imp'. In 1893, he published this story in a collection of eight stories called *Island Nights' Entertainments*. All of these stories were about the islands in the Pacific.

Robert Louis Stevenson died in Samoa on 3 December 1894. He was 44 years old. The islanders decided to bury¹ him on Mount Vaea.



Complete this identity card.

Name	0 Robert Louis Stevenson.....
Date and place of birth	1
Date and place of death	2
University studies	3
Job	4
Wife's name and nationality	5
Famous stories	6

1. **bury** : place his body in the ground.

1 Do you know these words? Match the words to the pictures. Write the words in the spaces under each picture.

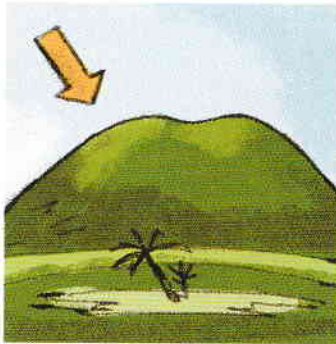
imp sailor ship chest pocket
bottle hill harbour coin



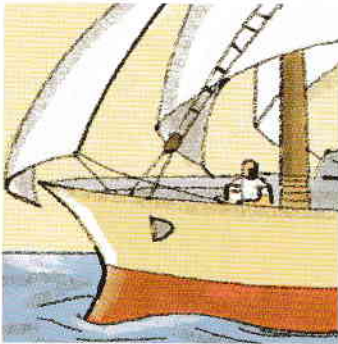
1.



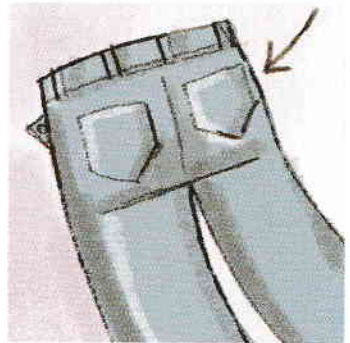
2.



3.



4.



5.