

used a knife he had managed to make and always carried with him to cut open the sack and remove the rope with the rock from his feet; not long after, he was up on the surface. The sea was rough and the waves hit him one after the other, but he didn't give up. He swam hard and managed to reach the shores of a small island.



CHAPTER 4

DANTES PULLED HIMSELF ONTO SOME ROCKS, RIGHT BEFORE a wild storm broke out. From the shore, he could see a small fishing boat pushed by the huge waves towards the rocks, and it was not long before it crashed on them. Dantes heard the cries of men, then all the voices suddenly stopped and only the wind was heard howling.

The young man spent the rest of the night wondering how he would be able to leave. Just then, as he looked out to sea, he saw a small ship coming his way. He quickly jumped into the sea, pretending he was shipwrecked. The ship picked him up.

'Who are you?' asked the captain.

'I am a sailor. My boat was destroyed in the storm last night. I am the only survivor,' Dantes said.

'A prisoner escaped Chateau d'I if this morning. How do I know you're not him?' the captain asked again.

'Let me sail your ship, so I can prove to you that I am not lying,' Dantes said.

The captain was so impressed by Dantes' skills that he offered him a place among his crew. Dantes accepted with relief, but, on the very same day, he realised that they were smugglers.

He then started thinking of a way to make the ship land at the

