

under Dantes' bed. The tunnel would go under the floor until it reached the wall that looked onto the sea. There were huge rocks below in the water and great danger for them, but they had no other choice.

At night, they used the light the Abbe Faria would make by separating the fat from meat and melting it to make oil that he put on a cloth. They wrote with a pen the Abbe made out of fish bone and ink made out of mixing water and soot from the old fireplace in his cell. They wrote on pieces of cloth which they tore off the sheets on their beds. Dantes was a good student and picked everything up easily.

Five years went by like that. But only a few nights before their escape, something happened that would change their plans. As Dantes went into the Abbe's cell, he found him on the floor, pale as death. Sweat ran down his face and his body was shaking violently. Dantes tried to raise his friend from the ground.

'No,' said the Abbe in a weak voice. 'I am dying... You will go alone. Take this...' He gave Dantes the map he held in his shaking hand. 'They thought I was mad. But there is a huge treasure on the island of Monte Cristo. Go and find it, or else it will be lost forever.'

Those were his last words.

Dantes was devastated. However, his mind was set to work immediately, and soon he had a plan of escape.

When the guards found the body the next morning, they placed it in a sack; they were going to return in the evening and take the body away. Dantes entered through the secret passage, removed the body from the sack and took it to his room. He placed the body under his bed covers, making it seem like he was sleeping there, and then went back into the room and got into the sack himself.

He stayed there until the guards came and took him away. From the inside of the sack, he could smell the sea. His heart was beating fast, but he could not stir because he would be found out. He soon realised that they were not taking him somewhere to be buried. They then put him down and tied a heavy rock around his feet; only minutes later they threw him into the water!

Dantes was shocked, but he acted fast. Under the water, he quickly

