

You swim as hard as you can, directly toward the beach. You make good progress, but the current is sweeping you faster and faster toward the point. If you can't touch bottom before you pass the point, you won't stand a chance. Now your arms feel like lead weights. Numb with cold, you struggle on a few moments, then feel yourself slipping beneath the waves. . . .

Hoosooop, hoosooop, hoosooop—erie and beautiful sounds reach your ears, bringing you to life. Dimly you realize you are hearing the song of a humpback whale! In a moment other whales join in—singing the new whalesong. At the same time you feel a surge of energy throughout your body, coupled with an overwhelming urge to live!

You start swimming again—faster. In a few moments you are close to the point; the current is sweeping you past it; you try to touch, and, for a second, feel the sand brushing against your toes. You stroke furiously. Suddenly you are standing! Still fighting the current, you wade ashore and drop exhausted on the sand.

A moment later, looking out over the misty sea, you see a spout of water, then another further away. You hold your hand up in salute. Do the whales know that their song gave you the strength to make it to shore? Somehow you feel sure of it.

**The End**