

The Golden Seal

James Vance Marshall

American English

Contemporary

One night, away from his family, Eric finds a golden seal. A lot of men want to shoot golden seals for their beautiful fur. Eric's father is one of those men. And then Howard Crawford arrives in a boat. What does he want? Eric loves the seal. He wants her to live. But what can he do?

Number of words (excluding activities): 4,691

Series Editors: Jocelyn Potter and Andy Hopkins

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Easystarts	200 headwords	
Level 1	300 headwords	Beginner
Level 2	600 headwords	Elementary
Level 3	1200 headwords	Pre-intermediate
Level 4	1700 headwords	Intermediate

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The Golden Seal

James Vance Marshall

Level 1
300 headwords
Beginner

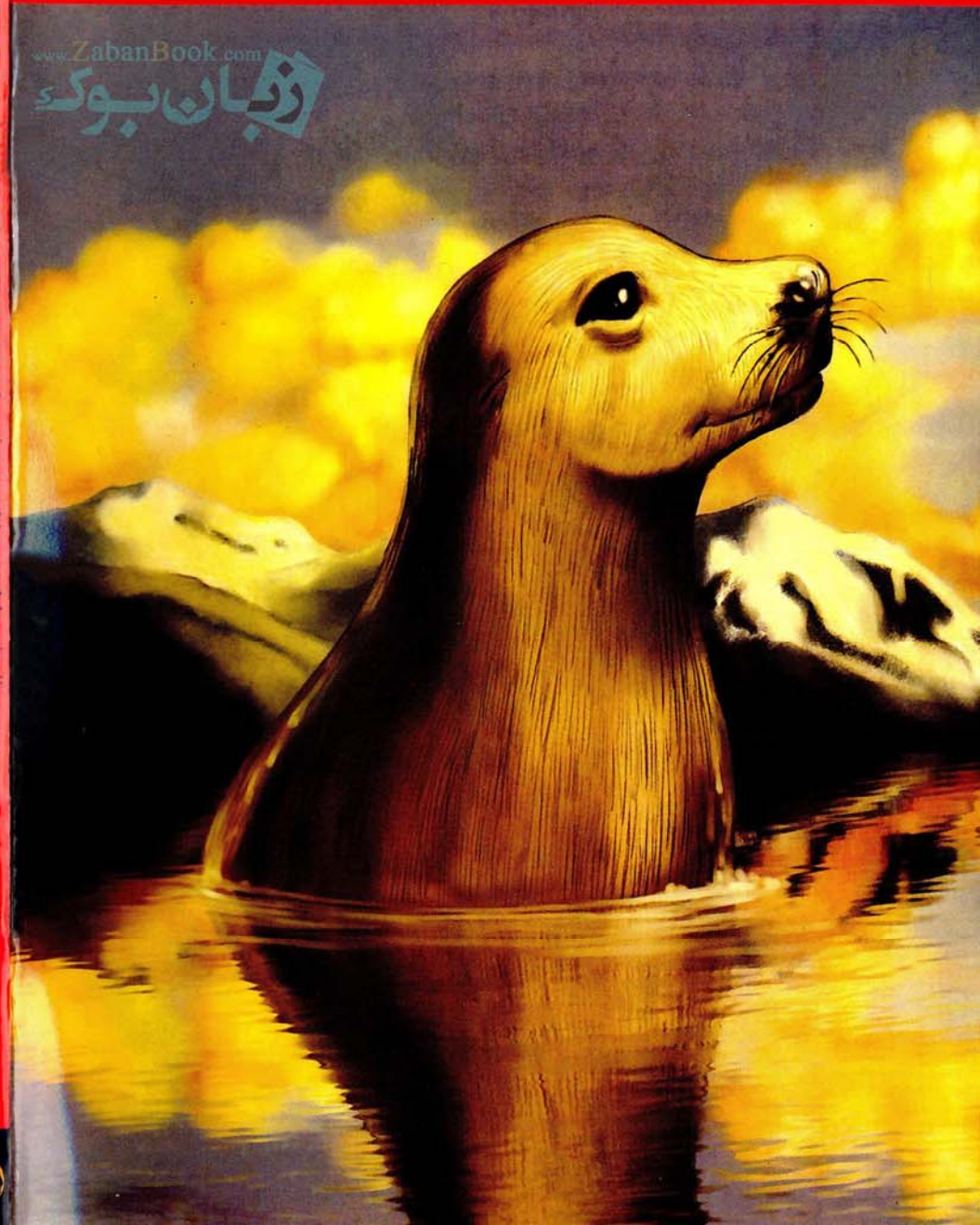


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James Vance Marshall



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LEVEL 1

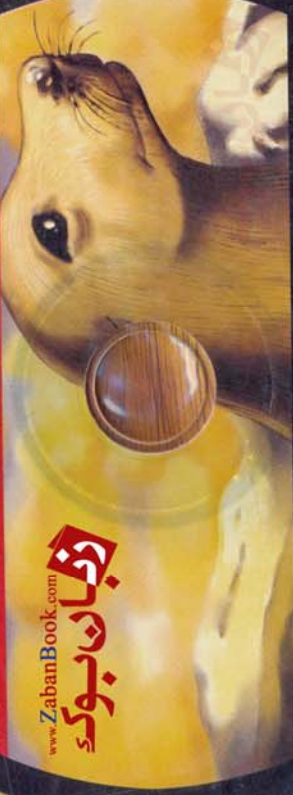
PENGUIN ACTIVE READING

The Golden Seal

CD-ROM & Audio Disc

James Vance Marshall

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Operating system requirements:
Windows®
XP/Vista/7
Macintosh OS X
10.4 or above

Hardware requirements:
1GHz Processor
256MB RAM
1024 X 768 Screen Resolution



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James Vance Marshall

Level 1

Retold by Chris Rice

Series Editors: Andy Hopkins and Jocelyn Potter

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Pearson Education, Edinburgh Gate, Harlow, Essex CM20 2JE, England.

1.1 What's the book about?

Talk about the animals in these pictures. What do you think?

- 1 What are their names in your language?
- 2 What do you know about these animals? Where can you find them?



1.2 What happens first?

Look at the pictures on pages 1 and 2 and at the words in bold. Then put the right words in these sentences.

- 1 Unimak is
a person / an animal / a place
- 2 The story starts in
the morning / the afternoon / the evening
- 3 The man works
on an island / in a town / at an airport
- 4 The man and the woman live in
an apartment / a big house / a small house
- 5 The man and the woman are
happy / frightened / angry

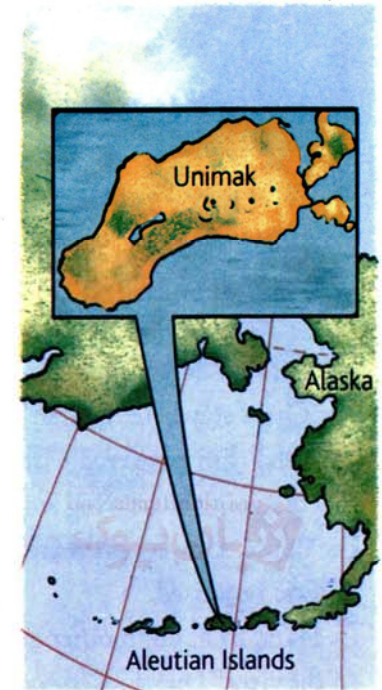
A Big Storm

Tania put her face in her hands. "Oh, no. No. No."

With a noise like a big, angry animal, the storm arrived.

Unimak is one of the Aleutian **I**slands, near Alaska. It is a small, cold island—a difficult place for people. For many years there were no people there.

Then, one day, an American man and a young Aleutian woman moved to the island and called it home. They **shot** rabbits and bears for food. There were salmon in the rivers, too. A little boy arrived and the family was happy. The three of them all watched for an animal from Aleutian stories—the beautiful golden seal. They looked every day for a golden seal, but they didn't see one.



One late summer evening, Jim Lee walked down to the **beach**. At this time of day, rabbits usually played in the **sand dunes** and there were wild geese in the sky. But this evening the island was very quiet. There were no rabbits in the sand dunes and no geese in the **sky**.

- island** /'aɪlənd/ (n) We stayed for two weeks on an *island* in the Pacific Ocean.
- shot** /ʃɒt/ (v, past of shoot) He is at the police station because he *shot* a man.
- beach** /bi:tʃ/ (n) Let's go to the *beach* and swim in the ocean.
- sand dune** /'sænd dun/ (n) Let's play in the sand. Behind the beach there are tall *sand dunes*.
- sky** /skaɪ/ (n) Look at the airplane, up in the *sky*!



A big storm is coming, Jim **thought**. He quickly went back to his small house. “There’s going to be a big storm,” he said to Tania and their eight-year-old son, Eric. They closed the door and the windows, and waited for the storm.

Aleutian summers weren’t usually hot, but that night it was very hot. Tania was **frightened**. Aleuts didn’t like storms. In old Aleutian stories, no good came from them. Tania didn’t sleep all night. She **sat** at the open door and watched the ocean.



In the morning, the ocean was a dark green color.

“Let’s go down to the river and look for salmon,” Jim said.

“Can I stay here, Father?” Eric asked. “I want to play.”

“OK,” Jim answered. “But listen, Eric. There’s going to be a big storm. Stay near the house. Do you **promise**?”

Eric promised.

Hand in hand, mother and father went to the river. They looked for salmon all morning, but they didn’t find any.

Early in the afternoon, the sky went very dark.

“Quick,” Jim said. “Let’s go.”

Hand in hand again, Jim and Tania started to run back home.



storm /stɔ:rm/ (n) In a *storm*, there is a lot of noise and the rain is very heavy.
thought /θɔ:t/ (v, past of **think**) I *thought* about the question for a long time.
frightened /'fraɪnd/ (adj) I don't swim because I'm *frightened* of water.
sat /sæt/ (v, past of **sit**) She *sat* down and watched TV.
promise /'prəmɪs/ (v/n) I *promise* to give your money to you tomorrow.

The sky was now black. Suddenly, there was a strong **wind**. Behind them, the dark green water of the ocean started to move up the beach.



At their house, Tania called, “Eric! Eric!”

But there was no answer and Tania was very frightened.

There was a letter from Eric on the table. It said:

“I’m going up the sand dunes. I want to find a golden seal. Don’t be frightened. I love you. Eric.”

Tania **put** her face in her hands. “Oh, no. No. No.”

With a noise like a big, angry animal, the storm arrived.

“Don’t be frightened,” Jim said to Tania. “Eric’s a good boy. Maybe he’s in one of the little buildings on the sand dunes.”

“But that’s not a place for a small boy in a big storm!” Tania said.

“OK,” Jim said. “I’m going to the sand dunes now. You stay here.”

He opened the door and walked out into the storm. But the wind was very strong and it was very difficult. After a short time, he **fell** down, with his face in the sand. He looked up at the sand dunes. No Eric. Then the wind came again and Jim stopped moving.

wind /wɪnd/ (n) Many trees came down in the strong *wind*.
put /put/ (v, past of **put**) I *put* my bag under the table, but now it isn’t there!
fell /fel/ (v, past of **fall**) He can’t walk very well and yesterday he *fell* in the street.