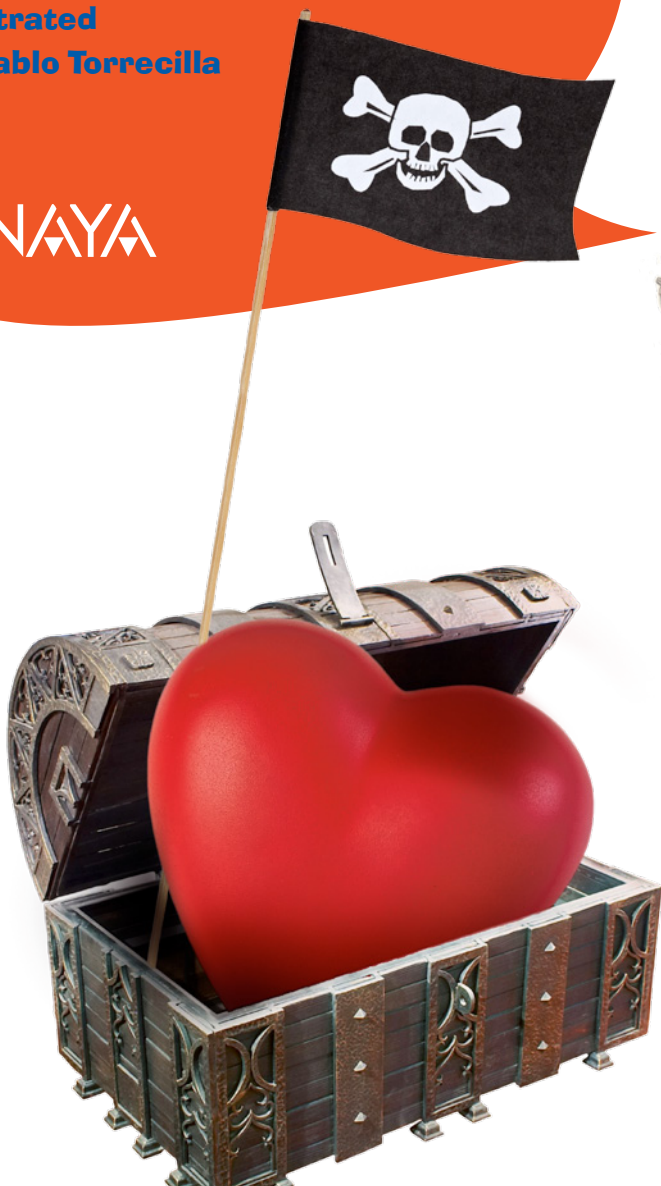


Ana Alonso

The Heart Cave

Illustrated
by Pablo Torrecilla

ANAYA



PINCH OF SALT
A LITTLE BIT

1st edition: September 2013
Original title: *La cueva del Corazón*

© Text: Ana Alonso, 2011
© Illustrations: Pablo Torrecilla, 2011
© Translation: Sharon Prime, 2013
Linguistic supervision: David Silles McLaney

© Cover photography: Cosano/Anaya archive
and 123 RF/Quick Image
© Work card photography: Anaya archive
(Cosano, P.; Moreno, C.)
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Cover design:
Miguel Ángel Pacheco, Javier Serrano
and Patricia Gómez

ISBN: 978-84-678-4291-3
D. L.: M. 17.907/2013
Impreso en España - Printed in Spain

Note: The audio contains the recording of all the chapters
(Locution by Caroline Ann Zihler)

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CHAPTER 1



Pablo loves pirates. He is a big fan of them. Sometimes he dresses up as a pirate and plays with his pirate ships.

In his games, his bed is an island with palm trees and his bedroom carpet is a sea full of sharks.

He also likes drawing pirate ships and flags. He is very good at it.

One day, his mother buys a new type of biscuits with the shape of a fish. Inside the box, Pablo finds a coupon with a picture of a pirate ship. Above the picture there is an advertisement:

*Do you like pirates?
Would you like to be one of them?
Send three coupons like this one
to P.O. Box 444444 and make
your dream come true.*



Pablo is curious about the advertisement. He wants to send the three coupons to that post office box soon and see what happens.

He will probably get a pirate's hook or an eye patch. Or maybe the prize will be a ticket for a theme park.

There is only a way to find out: he must eat a lot of biscuits.



Pablo eats biscuits with the shape of a fish for breakfast and tea. He even eats them during school breaks. When he finishes the box, his mother buys another one. And then another...

Pablo gets his three coupons very fast. He puts them in an envelope and his father posts it.

After that, Pablo tries to forget about it all. But he still eats a lot of fish shaped biscuits because they are really good.

And then, an afternoon in June, something amazing happens...

When he arrives home, his grandmother opens the door. She looks different. Something strange is going on.

Grandma's face is very red, and she is breathless. Then she starts to move her arms in a strange way.

'Here it comes again!' she cries. 'That bird is killing me! Please, Sir, take it away from me!'

Pablo sees a red parrot with blue and yellow feathers in its wings. The parrot is following Grandma. Grandma's grey hair attracts the bird like a magnet. The parrot wants to sit on her head!



But there is someone at the end of the corridor: someone tall and big, with very long hair. It's a man, a stranger... When he hears Grandma's screams, he runs towards the parrot.

'Elisabeth!' he shouts. 'Leave the lady alone, do you hear?'

The parrot lands on the stranger's shoulder. From there, it looks at Pablo.



‘Yo ho ho, and a bottle of rum!’ says the animal.

Pablo can’t believe it. Can it be true? This man with a parrot looks like a pirate!

‘But pirates are not real!’ he says aloud.

The stranger looks at him.

‘What do you mean?’ he asks. ‘Do you really think pirates are not real? What am I then, a Russian ballet dancer?’



Pablo looks at his visitor up and down. He is wearing leather boots, green trousers and a wide belt. He is also wearing a red waistcoat and a white shirt with lace sleeves.

He is a pirate, obviously. Only a pirate could dress like that. Only a pirate wears a red scarf on his head, with a knot on one side. His dark beard, his strange moustache... Only pirates have beards and moustaches like these!

Even his eyes are pirate’s eyes. Normal people don’t have eyes like that, eyes that make you tremble.

‘I’m Captain Caribe,’ says the stranger. ‘You expected my visit, didn’t you? But your parents know nothing about me. Why didn’t you tell them?’

Pablo’s mother and father are behind the pirate. They look really angry. They are waiting for an explanation, but Pablo doesn’t know what to say. He hasn’t invited that man to visit him. He doesn’t even know who he is.

The Heart Cave

In the search for Zafir the pirate's treasure, Captain Caribe's school ship enters a cave that looks very much like a human heart. Will the pirates solve the mystery that is hidden in the cave, and which explains the origin of Zafir's immense wealth?

With «The Heart Cave» you will learn...

The function of blood as a means of transport of food, gases and waste materials, and the work performed by the heart and the circulatory system.

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