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## Chapter – 2

**We are not afraid to die ....** If we can all be together.

- Gordon cook and Alen East

It is description of a sea adventure experienced by the narrator and his family. The narrator, his wife Mary, son Jonathan and daughter Suzanne were accompanied by two experienced sailors - American Larry vigil and Swiss Herb Seigler. In July 1976 they set sail from ply mouth, England in Wave Walker, a specially built boat. The first part of the journey was pleasant and everything went on smoothly up to Cape Town.

Unfriendly weather and gigantic waves of Southern Indian Ocean compelled the sailors to slow theirs peed, drop storm jib and take other precautions. The danger was so implicit that the sailors completed lifer after drill and attached life lines and life jackets. On 2nd January 1977 against wave hit wave walker and caused much damage to it. The sailors got injured and the narrator was thrown overboard but he managed to get hold of wave walker's guard rails. In spite of his multiple injuries, he took hold of the wheel.

In an atmosphere of fear and panic Mary took charge of the wheel whereas Larry and Herb started pumping out water. The narrator managed to stretch and cover canvas across the gaps to prevent water from entering the ship. Their hand pumps stopped working and electric pumps short-circuited.

They we are distressed and busy in pumping, steering, repairing and radio signaling. They studied charts and calculative decided to reach a nearby island. They all were too busy in rescue work and did not take any meal for two days. Children were injured too but they did not draw attention of their parents and just allowed them to save Wave walker. The children said that they were not afraid to die if they could all be together. The narrator became more determined and strong seeing children's courage. Finally they reached. Ile Amsterdam, a volcanic island where they were welcomed by 28 inhabitants. Thus, the collective strength and never failing optimism of the sailors made it possible to come out of the jaws of death. Though, Jonathan and Suzanne did not do anything to save Wavewalker but their courage, forbearance, faith and optimism gave extra strength and persistence to the narrator and his team.

