

Annie's Tales
She hated it.
Most of the time, she had to stay in the dark cabin and could only sew and read the bible.
She had to sew (harsh cloth and sails on board?) and but she collected silk scarves in land, as they were the opposite.
She never told stories of whales, alive or dead - at least that anyone ever passed down.
She never told stories of the sailing. We don't know if she knew anything about it.
There were crew members from Pitcairn, including a Christian (ancestor from Bounty).
A fire in the hold was set over terrible conditions, but the mutiny was quashed as was the fire
On crew lists, island sailors were all assigned the last name Kanaka, and a 'christian' name such as Joseph or Peter, or Moses.
Sailors were kind, and did scrimshaw drawings and made toys just for her.
When earthquakes shudder in the Peruvian highlands, they stir up great clouds of dust.
During a mid-ocean visit from another Captain's wife, Annie was transfixed by her gold snake ring with ruby eyes. She may have been able to see it glinting in the candle-lit cabin.
Her ship was once blown way off course, and Annie heard the drums of Africa just off its coast.
On his last voyage, Annie's father (the Captain) had to deep-six a casket of Australian black opals. Many of the crew believed that opals were evil and would curse the voyage causing some terrible disaster. Although he hid them from them, the crew had somehow learned he had them and made him throw them overboard on threat of mutiny [when they were in the deepest part of the ocean the farthest from land]. He had used all his retirement savings to buy them, and thus lost his hope of a comfortable retirement.
Going to school – at six in Latin America, for the longest time she'd been on land - six months – her classmates knelt in the mud as the priest walked by. She was wearing her first white dress, and simply could not do it.
Although she longed to, Annie could never set foot on any small island. She was only allowed off at the largest ports, like in Australia and in Peru. Mother got to row in a time or two to meet a king but never Annie, lest she be kidnapped and killed or worse.

Annie's Tales

Even though it meant that Annie couldn't get off the ship, the Captain had to anchor at small islands. Some crew were almost certain to desert, but on a small island, he could send men after them who could capture them easily.

Tales of Annie

She hated it. She refused to speak of it in public, but did tell her grandchildren (my mother and aunts) stories at bedtime. She stopped when she thought they were old enough to remember them. Fortunately, the oldest one did, and told us.

As much as she loathed hardtack on shipboard, she would still sometimes make a gruel with it and boiling water and sugar as a treat for her grandchildren. (Boiling water had a dual purpose of softening the hardened flour and making sure that any vermin who had drilled their way in would exit their burrows and be killed so that they could be sieved out.)

She refused to look at the ocean. [& to ever float again] Long after her voyages, and during the family's week at Pine Point, Maine each year, she always kept her back turned to it completely. This meant she was unable to watch over her grand-children playing in the sand, a most unusual experience for them.

She refused to ever float again, not even on the Swanboats in the Boston Public Garden. She'd bring her granddaughters there and, even though they were a bit too young to ride by themselves, she simply could not bring herself to do it. She watched every move they made from the bank.

The Fisher children believed that Annie's doll, Janet Rose lived on the Ship. Perhaps the sailors made her... But Rose was her husband's name, so if Janet Rose was already named Janet Rose, there is more to that story we do not know.

There'd been no hurricanes for years in the 1920's. No one knew much about identifying them. Grammy Rose came to the door and called urgently, "Louise, you bring those girls in here now!" just before one hit.

Lost fortune in Crash of '07 (?), lost husband in 1909 (?) (The crash that spawned the Federal Reserve.

Annie was born in Pita Peru and lived her first 15 years mostly at sea, with Australia being her first landfall when she was about 2 and a half..

It is a **mystery** how many thousands of miles she went and how long she was on land (we heard it was 6 mos in her first 6 years... (and virtually non for the first 3????)

Tales of Captain and Mrs. Chase, Annie's Father and Mother
Amos was a great captain. He even got a boat soon after his ship was burned to the waterline at the end of the Civil War.
Her father helped sink things in a harbor (Charleston/) so that southern boats could not get in. (Said to me rumor in Songini)
Known as a sweet man on "earth," He was also cruel to his men, forcing them to work, punishing their disobedience and squelching their mutinies. He had a choice as we say today.
Captain's wives were Jack's of all trades: nurses, navigators, log keepers, provisioners... but Annie never spoke of this, and one wonders what Louise actually did, f she saw too much (wounds, whipped) and/or envied mom for having more to do / not teaching her???
Her father's boat was captured and he had to live for six months on a tropical island, bound over to the king.
there was a brother, too, a rolling stone, and he got to do so much more on board, we think.
Amos was shipwrecked and had to make his way overland through Africa to Morocco, where he took a steamship home.
Amos just made it out before all those other ships were "stuck in the ice" over that terrible arctic winter.

Tales not Told
Anything about whales? Certainly anything such as blood, killing, brutality. Even the good stuff?
Anything in public to anyone (only did she tell anything in bedtime stories with her grandchildren who she believed were to young to remember them). Her namesake, Anne, did.
many more...

Tales not Told

and so on...