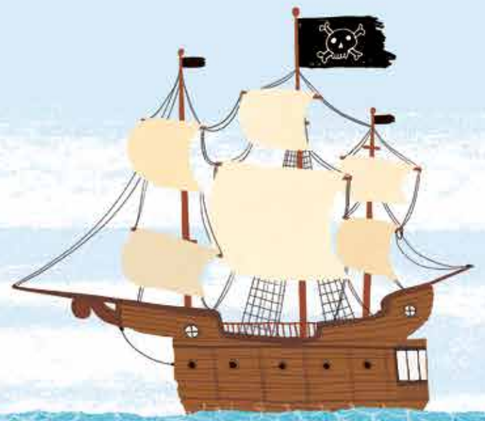
For Mandy – JC
For Hayley and Bump – MH



JOHN CONDON AND MATT HUNT

THE PIRATES ARE COMING!



First published 2020 by Nosy Crow Ltd • The Crow's Nest, 14 Baden Place, Crosby Row, London SE1 1YW • www.nosycrow.com
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Every day, Tom climbed
the hill to watch for pirates.

It had been a long time
since anyone had seen them,
but Tom knew that they would be back.

So he waited . . .
and waited . . .
and waited.
Until at last he saw . . .

. . . a ship!



"PIRATES!" shouted Tom.

"THE PIRATES ARE COMING!

THE PIRATES ARE COMING!

DING!

DING!

QUICK!

EVERYBODY HIDE!"

And quick as a flash, everybody hid.



They waited . . . and waited . . . and waited, UNTIL . . .

. . . it was clear there were NO pirates, just a little fishing boat bobbing home.

"Tom," said the villagers. "That's not even a ship."

"Never mind, Tom," said his dad. "Just remember, pirate ships are BIG."



Tom knew it was very important to keep watching and so the next day, he went back up the hill.

And again he waited . . .

and waited . . .

and waited.

Until at last he saw . . .

a ship!

A **big** ship.

