

Once, there was an island kingdom called Zapada.



The king and queen were much loved by the people and their son, the prince, was friends with every child on the island.



One day the prince's parents set off on a grand tour of the mainland and left the young prince in charge. As they set sail, dark clouds rolled over the island and snow began to fall. A storm was setting in.







The Zapadans shut their doors and lit their fires. Almost no one saw the black ships that sailed silently into the harbour . . .



... or the strangers who leapt ashore,



snuck through the streets,



seized the city,



and captured the prince.

