

- 3 A sailor named Keawe explores the world.
 36 Keawe meets an old man with a magic bottle.
 35 Keawe buys the bottle.
 26 Keawe tests the bottle by selling it to a shopkeeper above its price.
 4 Keawe leaves the shop – and the bottle.
 11 Keawe and his friend Lopaka discover the bottle has returned to them.
 6 Keawe and Lopaka return to Hawai‘i.
 7 Keawe inherits his uncle’s grand house.
 5 Lopaka buys the bottle with plans to get a schooner.
 18 Keawe becomes famous for his grand house above the Kona coast.
 17 Keawe rides home one night.
 8 Keawe sees Kokua, a girl with eyes like the stars.
 9 Keawe wins Kokua’s heart.
 16 Keawe rides home the next morning after wooing Kokua.
 14 Keawe discovers he has leprosy.
 28 Keawe travels to Honolulu to find Lopaka and the bottle to cure himself.
 2 Lopaka is away on his schooner.
 1 Lopaka has sold the bottle; it has changed hands many times.
 13 Keawe finally finds the bottle but it is now worth only two cents.
 19 Keawe buys the bottle for one cent and is damned.
 12 Keawe, healed, weds Kokua.
 10 Keawe keeps his sad fate from Kokua.
 29 Kokua accuses Keawe of not loving her because of his sadness.
 21 Keawe confesses all and Kokua devises a plan to save him.
 22 Kokua and Keawe sail to Tahiti where the bottle may still be sold.
 15 Kokua and Keawe buy a grand house to display the bottle’s power.
 25 When people learn of the bottle’s price they will have none of it.
 23 Kokua and Keawe are shunned.
 24 Kokua takes matters into her own hands.
 30 Kokua convinces an old man to buy the bottle from Keawe for four centimes.
 32 Kokua buys the bottle from the old man for three centimes.
 27 Kokua wanders under the weight of damnation.
 20 Keawe accuses Kokua of caring more for the old man than for him.
 33 Keawe drinks to assuage his anger and guilt.
 31 Keawe secretly learns of Kokua’s sacrifice.
 34 Keawe plans to trick Kokua into selling him the bottle with the help of a lout,
 but that drunken sailor refuses to sell the bottle back to him.
 37 Keawe and Kokua live happily ever after. The bottle is now worth two
 centimes and is not seen again.

The Bottle Imp

by *Robert Louis Stevenson, 1891*

abridged by *Jeff Hohner, 2018*



also

The Bottle Imp

as told in pictures by *Günter Cornett (game design),
 Tuuli Hypén (illustration), Jere Kasanen (graphic design)
 ...and Jeff Hohner (captions)*

money, or a bottle of the best rum, or what you please, and you will see the virtue of the thing.”

“Very well, Kanaka,” says the boatswain. “I will try; but if you are having your fun out of me, I will take my fun out of you with a belaying pin.”

So the whaler-man went off up the avenue; and Keawe stood and waited.

It seemed a long time before he heard a voice singing in the darkness of the avenue. He knew the voice to be the boatswain’s; but it was strange how drunken it appeared upon a sudden.

Next, the man himself came stumbling into the light of the street lamp. He had the devil’s bottle buttoned in his coat; another bottle was in his hand; and even as he came in view he raised it to his mouth and drank.

“You have it,” said Keawe; and he reached for the bottle.

“Hands off!” cried the boatswain, jumping back. “Take a step near me, and I’ll smash your mouth. You thought you could make a fool of me, did you?”

“What do you mean?” cried Keawe.

“Mean?” cried the boatswain. “This is a pretty good bottle, this is; that’s what I mean. How I got it for two centimes I can’t make out; but I’m sure you shan’t have it for one.”

“You mean you won’t sell?” gasped Keawe.

“No, SIR!” cried the boatswain. “But I’ll give you a drink of this fine rum, if you like.”

“I tell you,” said Keawe, “the man who has that bottle goes to hell.”

“Give it a try. Give me your fifty dollars and ask for your money back. If the imp doesn’t immediately fill your pockets, I will gladly return your money.”

