

Robinson Crusoe

EXTRACT FROM THE NOVEL

I now began to consider seriously my condition, and the circumstance I was reduced to, and I drew up **the state of my affairs** in writing [...]; I began to comfort myself as well as I could, and to set the good against the evil, that I might have something to distinguish my case from worse, and **I stated very impartially, like debtor and creditor**, the comforts I enjoyed against the miseries I suffered, thus:

EVIL

I am cast upon a horrible, desolate island, void of all hope of recovery.

GOOD

But I am alive, and not drowned, as all my ship's company was.

EVIL

I am singled out and separated, as it were, from all the world to be miserable.

GOOD

But I am singled out too from all the ship's crew to be spared from death; and He that miraculously saved me from death, can deliver me from this condition.

EVIL

I am divided from mankind, a solitaire, one banished from human society.

GOOD

But I am not starved and perishing on a barren place, affording no sustenance.

EVIL

I have no clothes to cover me.

GOOD

But I am in a hot climate, where if I had clothes I could hardly wear them.

EVIL

I am without any defence or means to resist any violence of man or beast.

GOOD

But I am cast on an island, where I see no wild beasts to hurt me, as I saw on the coast of Africa; and what if I had been shipwrecked there?

EVIL

I have no soul to speak to or relieve me.

GOOD

But God wonderfully sent the ship in near enough to the shore, that I have gotten out as many necessary things as will either supply my wants or enable me to supply my self, even as long as I live.