



The Wilson's Tales Literary Supper

100 Word Tale

The Vacant Chair

Poor Tom Elliot.

Snatched by smugglers on his 18th birthday. Enslaved on a Dutch man o'war. Forced to fight the English, then the French, who took him prisoner. Finally escaped - now aged 30.

Battled his way back, to the Christmas feast where his parents still kept a vacant chair awaiting his homecoming. And finally, surrounded by his loved ones, he sank exhausted into the chair that had stood unused these 12 years past.

All watched horrified as the chair legs crumbled. Throwing Tom backwards to crack his head on the hearthstone. He lay motionless.

"Dead!" cried his dad. "Murdered! By woodworm!"

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