

# THE SWORD AND THE RIVER



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### CHAPTER 14

Ashore, I kept my find behind my back.

I tried to keep it hidden whilst telling the others about the boat. I described the boat as best I could using only one hand.

Then, holding out my find, I asked: "And what do you think THIS is?"

I was sharing my own first proper sight of it with them.

Lying on my palm, it was almost six inches

in diameter, flat, then becoming domed at the centre. I guessed it was made of brass or something similar.

It had six small holes equally spaced around the edge. These had once held iron nails or rivets. They had almost entirely rusted away.

There was much discussion as to what it could be. Then I spotted there was a shallow groove across it.

“See that cut? Could it have been made with a sword, perhaps?”

“This must be from a shield. It’s probably the central boss. And – if I am right – there must surely be other bits down there, too!”

It was such an exciting prospect!