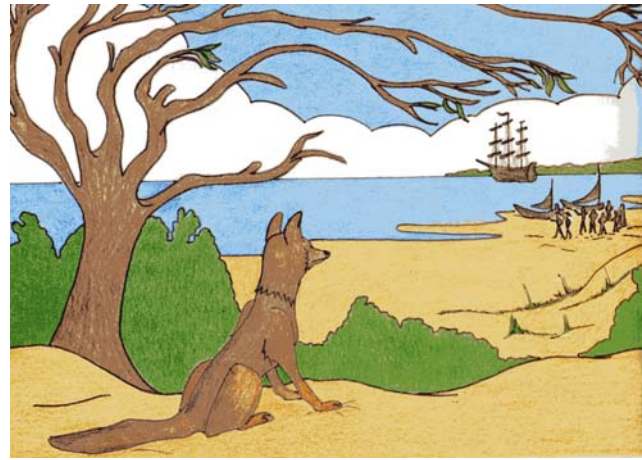


# *The Mystery of the Lost Colony*

**A Quality Serials Story**

**By Mary Maden**

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## Chapter One:

### A New World—The Adventure Begins

The noble red wolf sat on the sandy shore. His ears picked up odd sounds coming from the waters beyond the shoreline. The wolf's keen nose sensed an unusual, but not totally unfamiliar smell. The wolf's intelligent eyes looked straight-ahead—watching. The noble red beast didn't move. He just stared at the strange sight in front of him.

Some ships were anchored in the harbor. The red wolf watched from a distance as a small boat filled with people headed to shore.

"Finally, the end of our journey is near!" said one of the men in the boat. The man was Governor John White, the leader of the group.

"Praise be," whispered a young woman, tears in her eyes. The woman was glad to see land after such a long time at sea!

The brave people had sailed all the way from England. Sir Walter Raleigh, a favorite of the English Queen, Elizabeth, had sent 91 men, 17 women, and 9 children to establish a colony on Roanoke Island. Raleigh had hoped to make a name for himself, as well as get rich from the new colony. So 117 colonists left their homes, their friends, and their families to sail to this land they called, "Virginia."

The small craft came ashore. Governor White hurriedly climbed out of the boat and stepped into the shallow waters of the sound. He held out his hand to a woman in the boat.

"Let me help you, daughter," White said.

Governor White helped his daughter, Eleanor Dare, out of the boat.

"Oh my!" Eleanor cried, as she looked around. She couldn't believe her eyes. "It is all so wonderful. It is even more beautiful than I imagined!"

There were huge live oak trees, tall, straight pines and many different kinds of plants. Sea gulls squealed loudly as they circled overhead. Fish jumped out of the water. Fat, lively squirrels played in the branches of the trees.

"Grape vines!" Eleanor said with wonder. Through the trees, she could see the vines. She imagined plump grapes growing in abundance. "Husband, this is indeed a goodly land!"

Ananias Dare smiled at his wife. He got out of the boat with the rest of the passengers and came ashore.

"This is indeed a land of plenty," Governor White said. "And now, in the year of our Lord, 1587, we start on a new adventure."

The colonists had come to the New World, not just to build a new settlement, but to build new lives!

"Come let us explore our home!" Governor White said.

The colonists followed Governor White's lead and made their way inland.

The people walked right by the wolf. They never even saw him!

But the noble red wolf saw them. White people! The wolf had seen these strange people, these English before. What would his red brothers think about the return of the white men to their land?

Next Time... Chapter Two: Footprints in the Sand