



COME SAIL AWAY

Some Pirates Are More Equal Than Others

Revenge, it's a serious motivator. Especially if you feel you been picked on your entire life. Now multiply this with a feeling of inferiority, centuries of being bullied, and a generally bad attitude... and you've got serious trouble.

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Likks hated humans. “Stupid towering giraffe-like beasts. Smooth skin, not even any scales.” he snickered. But the *Ronnu* was going to fix everything. The three-foot-tall red-scaled kobold grabbed the bottom of the ladder. He tested the ropes. Likks still wasn’t sure the balloon and the boat hanging beneath it would stay in the air. After all, you can’t trust wizards. Most of them just don’t understand the universal nature of property. As in what is yours is, *in reality*, mine. Likks had to teach the mage who made the *Ronnu’s* balloon with the appropriate application of a knife blade to his sternum.

The summer sky was dark but clear. All you could see was a few blinking stars. “The humans will never see us coming in the dark. Stupid, scaleless bean poles,” he announced to the crew as they scrambled about the deck. Even humans wouldn’t be tall enough to reach the *Ronnu* floating over their village. He could hardly wait.

The boat barely moved as Likks climbed. Which the kobold took as a good sign. They needed enough ballast to keep the ship low, to avoid freezing at altitude. He reached the deck of the *Ronnu* and had the crew pull up the ladder. It was a nice-looking boat, sturdy, and well-made. The air up here smelled fresh. Likks didn’t know what to do about the smell. Kobolds tended to prefer damp, moldy air. It was comforting. Likks found this fresh air smell disturbing. He walked to the rail and looked down. He had to fight to keep from vomiting. This whole plan would work out much better if he wasn’t afraid of heights. At least they weren’t too high up. Kobold’s freeze in the cold. This is why you don’t see any kobold mountain climbers.

Likks strode over to a massive pile of rocks in the center of the deck. “Now remember,” Likks explained, when we get to the village of the lousy tall humans, everybody grab as many rocks as you can and throw them over the side.”