

The Lost Prince

As Prince Garlet wandered about the castle, he felt uncertain and somewhat lost. Being a prince wasn't what he seemed to be cut out for; what with giving orders, all the responsibility, always having to look your best, and always being a symbol of "hope" for all the townspeople to look up to. Looking out the window, he noticed that some of the servants that worked in the castle were all down in the courtyard going towards the ship ports. Prince Garlet ran to his mother, Queen Anthia.

"Mother, what is happening out in the courtyard?" inquired Prince Garlet.

"Well, we have decided to go on a voyage down the South Sea of Coral for the space of five days," exclaimed the Queen.

"What?" shouted Prince Gauten, Prince Garlet's younger brother, as he ran down the hall.

"Yes, were going on a journey. Yippee," responded Prince Garlet surly.

They then walked down the stairs to the courtyard to be prepared for the voyage. Walking down, Prince Garlet noticed that his father wasn't even outside.

"Where is Father?" questioned Prince Garlet.

"Your father is badly ill with fever and such," explained Queen Anthia tearily, "so he will not be joining us."

" Oh," said Prince Garlet without enthusiasm. Just then, Prince Gauten decided that that was the best time to shout and run up the plank to the

glorious ship, The Love Bird.

“We might as well go up and see how badly they messed up,”
decided The Queen.

“Coming,” mumbled Prince Garlet.

Walking up the plank, they saw that the servants actually did an amazing job, from the gold and pink curtains right down to the sterling silver platters that food was served on.

Prince Garlet went straight to his room on this grand schooner. “Someday,” he promised himself, “I will become something other than an underappreciated prince.”

Later that afternoon, Prince Garlet stepped on deck and was immediately sea sick. After relieving himself overboard, he looked out into the abyss and was taken aback at what he saw. Or what he thought he saw. As he looked out, he thought he saw another ship. A huge ship, quite a bit bigger than his own. And the worst of it was the flag. Most ships fly their countries flag, but this ship had flown the most feared flag of all: The Jolly Roger. Or maybe it was just his imagination. Yes! That was it, for he just didn't want to be a prince anymore. So, he was just making it up in his head to make this journey sound more enticing. But no. He knew in his heart that he wasn't just making it up. Somehow though, he decided not to panic and hope that the seafaring buccaneers didn't see The Love Bird sailing peacefully in its wake.

Sadly though, what Prince Garlet didn't know was that the pirates had

seen their schooner, but hadn't seen him. Later that night, Prince Garlet was eating a hearty dinner of turkey, deep fried potatoes, and oiled asparagus. All of a sudden, the ship started vibrating and the lights flickered and went out. And you could hear the feared song of the deep.

"Fifteen men on a dead-man's chest. Yo ho ho and a bottle of rum."

"Pirates!" Queen Anthia shouted.

"All hands on deck!" exclaimed the Captain of The Love Bird.

After a quiet and peaceful dinner, everything turned chaotic. Everyone was running around trying to herd the Queen to the ship's cellar where hopefully the pirates wouldn't find her, but she wouldn't for fear for her sons.

"We'll be fine Mother," they shouted.

Finally, she went toward the cellar, but slipped off the side of the ship.

"Mother!" Prince Gauten exclaimed. Prince Garlet was just silent for it was so sudden. All at once, everything was quiet. Everyone mourned the loss of their Queen. But they mourned a bit too long, for everyone started screaming. Their worst enemy had arrived.

"Everyone drop down and don't try to escape, we have you surrounded," said a deep voice no one recognized. Everyone hurried to obey this newcomer's orders. Once everyone was on the ground and situated, he started walking around and looking over everyone. "You," he growled at Prince Garlet, "Come here, now." So Prince Garlet got up and faced the pirate. "Empty your pockets of

all the galleons and slivers that ye have of ya," continued the pirate.

But then, Prince Garlet surprised everyone with his words, and what he said would have made his mother have a heart attack. He said, "No, I will not give you my money, but I will come with you to sail the Seven Seas and steal under the mighty flag of the Jolley Roger!"

All the pirates were of course taken aback. They would never have guessed that a prince, who had basically everything that anyone and everyone could dream of, would want to come to the seas and plunder and steal.

"Do we even allow that?" questioned the first mate.

"Of course we do! I think we do, I mean I've never actually read The Pirates Handbook to Awesomeness, but I am Captain, so I shall choose whether or not it's aloud!" decided the Captain.

At that, everyone started protesting that he was just joking, and that he was stunned from loss of his mother, and that he didn't mean it at all. What his servants didn't know was that he very much meant what he said, and he wasn't just kidding, and most of all, he knew that he wasn't just stunned by the loss of his mother. He knew in his heart that he would never be happy if his mother was still alive and telling him what to do. He couldn't be a prince anymore and he wasn't going to.

"I am Prince Garlet of the Shoreless Isle. Even at the price of becoming a pirate I will not be your Prince any longer. I have decided that being a prince was not my destiny and never will be. I apologize for the inconvenience. Can I

come with you or not?"

Obviously, the pirates had started to believe the townspeople about the fact that the prince had lost his marbles, but when they heard this grand speech, they all cheered!

"Of course you can come, Freddie! Can I call you that?" Well Captain Giggly-Spurt didn't wait for Prince Garlet to answer. He then decided on the spot that Freddie was a better name than Prince Garlet.

So on they went to the ship The Black Spot to officially make him a pirate of honor. Waving good-bye to all the townspeople and servants, Freddie climbed aboard, went to the middle of the ship, and immediately shook off his jacket and all of his wavy locks fell out of his ponytail.

"Argh!" Freddie cried and fell down laughing. He knew that sailing the Ocean and being a pirate was his true destiny and what he wanted for his future.

The End.