



Adventures of a five-year old boy growing up in the 1800's as a Cabin-Boy on whaling ships as he travels through France where he learns about the occult and it's hidden mysteries.

Jardine

By Dan Gordan

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CHAPTER 22

Captain Samuels had the Dreadnought up to full sail soon after they had cleared the ice. The ocean breeze still carried a cool bite to it, but the warm sun was a nice contrast and Derik and Rani enjoyed spending time on the stern deck.

"I could feel your mind looking in on me last night. You have come a long way with your meditations," said Rani.

"Thank you. I'm hoping that we can soon communicate with our minds. Have you tried to reach me in that manor yet?"

"No. We must respect the privacy of each other, but I'm ready for you and me to give it a try. The most important thing up next for you is to really know what people are thinking about you or the truth about what people are planning to do with you. I think that you already have this gift, but you must be careful not to let anyone know that you can do such things."

"Yes, I can see why. I believe it would destroy relationships and prevent accomplishing whatever task that you had set out to achieve."

"You must learn to adjust your actions to your favor without overdoing it," said Rani with a wink.

"Tell me about the beings you have contacted through your meditations," asked Derik.

The clipper sailed up a large wave before plunging down the back side causing both to splash their drinks on each other and laugh as they fell into each other.

"Do you think that was the work of an undine, a water Elemental warning us not to reveal any of their secrets?" Asked Derik with a broad smile.

"Don't be so quick to laugh. The Elementals can be quite disturbing if they feel you have shared something, they taught you without asking permission," said Rani with raised eyebrows.

"I've encountered some teachers that have helped me know how to defend myself against harmful entities, and taught me that there are many other dimensions, but all I've learned about the four Elementals is that they exist and affect our world with their powers."

"It's easy to offend them. It's why I've left teaching you about them this long, but I feel that it is they who will help you release Emily from the terror that has her mind trapped."

"Why didn't you help me seek their help back in Bridgewater?"

"A wrong move could have trapped you along with her. It's necessary for you to develop your knowledge and power to a high degree before you challenge the powers of the Hock. The both of you could be lost forever."

"The Captain invited us to have lunch with him. I believe they were able to catch some lobsters while we were creeping through the ice. I'm starved!" Said Derik.

"That sounds wonderful. I'm ready."

*

"We should be in England in a few days. Let's go on deck and grab a breath of fresh air to go with a mug of coffee," said Derik.

"Good idea. Let's do it." replied Rani.

The silvery-gray fog surrounded them like a cold, wet blanket. Visibility was no more than a few feet in any direction. The light from a couple of the ship's lanterns seemed to dance its way through the swirling fog but illuminated nothing. The sea could be heard slipping by, but the undulating fog cloaked it from sight.

Rani reached out and took Derik's hand.

"This is scary," she said in a whisper as if she were afraid that some evil being could hear her.

Derik squeezed her hand and said, "Let's sit with our backs against the mast and finish our coffee."

The hot coffee was welcomed as it comforted them from the wet cold. The fluid fog was so thick that you had the urge to reach out and grab a hand full.

"Did you see that?" cried Rani.

"What?" Answered Derik.

"I saw a light flash out there! Look out over there," she said as she pointed out across the hidden sea.

"I don't see anything."

"Just wait a minute. I tell you I saw a bright light flash out there."

Both remained still as they continued to look in the direction that she had pointed.

Suddenly a bright sliver of light flashed through the gray cloud once more.

"Derik! It looks much closer this time. Did you see it?" She said in a frightened voice.

"Yes! I saw it," replied Derik in a tone just below a shout as he stood.

Rani joined him dropping her mug and clinging to him with both her arms.

"What is it?" She cried.

Now flickering lights cut through the oscillating, gray fog that appeared only a few feet away. In the next instant the sound of something heavy crashed in front of them along with icy water covering them completely.

Both screamed as they clutched each other with eyes closed not knowing what horror was about to consume them.

The Captain emerged on deck with a half dozen of his crew.

"Get those two below!" He yelled.

"We've been struck by another ship!" Called one of the crew.

The crewman pulled Derik up from the deck.

"Are you injured?" He asked as he pushed his face only inches away from Derik.

"No. I think we are alright."

"Good, both of you below, now!"

"Get inside your cabin and stay there while we assess the damage."

They scrambled a few steps to the hatch leading below and stumbled inside their cabin.

"Did the Captain say we were struck by another ship?" Asked Rani in a breaking voice.

"Yes."

"Are we going to sink?" She asked in a frightened tone.

"I don't know. Let's be quiet and listen," he replied in a calming tone.

Outside they heard men scrambling about.

"Throw that ship a line!" Yelled Captain Samuel.

"Sir we've got men patching the break below. I believe we can handle the damage," hollered another sailor.

"You take charge of the bilge pump crew and stay with it until we've drained that water out. Where is my second mate?"

"I believe he's directing the crew handling the patch at the break Captain."

"Get someone else on that and have him take charge of dropping sail. I want us dead in the water. Now!

Ahoy! This is Captain Samuels of the Dreadnought. Is your Captain on deck?"

They heard a distant sounding voice reply. "I'm Captain James of the British ship Eugenie."

"Are you in need of assistance?" Called Captain Samuels.

"I believe we have it under control Captain. I suggest that we drop anchor until first light to better assess the damages. Is there anything we can do for you? " Replied Captain James.

"We'll know better after first light. We have a doctor on board. If any of your crew needs any medical assistance," called Captain Samuels.

Rani sat next to Derik on his bunk shivering in his arms.

"It sounds like we're not going to sink, whispered Derik close to her ear.

"Is being around you always this exciting? Asked Rani with a quivering smile.

"I don't think so, but I'm starving," He said with a large grin.

"Hungry? You've got to be kidding," she said with wide eyes as she pulled back and looked at him in astonishment.



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