

The Impending Storm

by Trevor Hudgins (Adamant Drakon Freelance Productions)
and Todd Zircher

Setting:

Boom! Was that the sound of a cannon crack? Maybe thunder overhead? It is impossible to tell from the safety that is deep within the Platinum Shark. However, it has scared your caretaker, Orphan Rose and has sent her above decks to investigate. This was about an hour ago. You and the rest of the small animals aboard have become worried.

Crash! With this second unknown sound and growing concern over Rose, you and the rest of the animal crew have come to meet and decide on what to do. Many wish to hide out in the hold and wait to see what happens. Others want to return to their various duties that will take them all over the ship. There are only a handful of you that are brave enough to take up the search for your human caretaker.

Crack! Oh! Was that the sound of timbers snapping? Chaos is breaking out on the upper decks. It's time to scurry and help the human crew.

The NPCs:

Orphan Rose is the animal caretaker of the Platinum Shark. She's a skinny red haired girl with a nose for trouble. Rose went above decks more than an hour ago. Where is she? Why hasn't she returned?

Rupert Parsons is the navigator for the ship. He really likes rabbits and is a little dense. But, he's a wiz with the charts and has never steered the Shark wrong.

The Captain, no one knows his real name. He's tough but fair and makes sure that the human crew does not pick on the jacks. It's said that he rescued Savannah from a tribe of cannibals.

The other members of the animal crew are hiding out, doing their chores, or looking around the ship to see what is happening. They are willing to help, but not at the risk of themselves.

Most of the human crew is still asleep below deck, except for the few on night duty. However, you have not heard any sounds that you would hear from them since Rose has gone missing.

The Stage:

Play normally happens anywhere on the Platinum Shark, especially on the upper decks. From front to back we have the bow spirit, the foremast, the forecastle (fo'c's'le) or crew quarters, the main deck, the main mast, the mizzenmast, the quarter deck, the poop deck, and the rudder. From top to bottom we have the crow's nest, the sails and rigging, the poop deck, the quarter deck, the main deck (crew quarters and the captain's cabin), the gun deck, the hold, the bilge (the really stinky part of a ship) and the keel. Other interesting parts of the ship include the anchor, the galley and the store room, the ammunition magazine, the water casks which are in the hold.

(Bunny jack is pirate slang for any intelligent animal crew member, even if they're not of lapine ancestry. Pirates are funny that way.)

Copyright 2011 by Todd Zircher (The [Trouble with Rose](#)).
Copyright 2011 by [Adamant Drakon Freelance Productions](#)
(The Impending Storm). Readers are free to share and print.

Name: Mister Patch

Details: A salt and pepper rabbit with a black patch over his left eye. His remaining red eye oversees the duties of the other bunny jacks.



I am working. My job is to tell you what to do.



Back to back with Jolly Roger and lived to tell it.



Aye, I do have eyes in the back of my head.



I know where the best grog is located.



Neither man nor jack can best my steel.



Aye, there's a story behind this eye patch.

Name: Suzie, Rupert's Cabin Rabbit

Details: This pure-bred grey rabbit was once the play mate of William Stuart (Queen Ann's son.) But, that was before she was nabbed by Parsons, the navigator.



I am royalty. Do not lay your filthy paws on me.



Rupert Parsons is very nice, but I miss my prince.



Mr. Patch leaves me alone and for good reason.



I like Rose, because she is my servant.



Behind the bluff, she's terrified of pirates.



Of course I can handle a sword, Prince William insisted on that.

Name: First Mate Bucky

Details: A robust and hard working white rabbit but is known for his lewd jokes.



Did you hear the one about...?



There isn't a knot that I can't tie or untie.



Served with Captain Cook, finest chef on the seven seas.



Ah Suzie, what wouldn't I give to be with that doe?



Sure Orphan Rose knows, but she won't tell a soul.



I spent some time in Barbados behind bars.

Name: Able Hand Jack

Details: He is a grungy mouse that is loyal to Mr. Patch. He is cheerful, enjoys his drink, and is always hungry.



Heard anything new, Bucky?



What needs to be done, Captain?



Suzie's mood is...



This was grandfather's pocket watch.



Sure, I keep a private stash of goodies, doesn't everyone?



"Nothing that a good bonk on the head can't fix."

Name: Savannah, the Captain's Bird

Details: She is a toucan that is unable to talk but can speak magically to the other jacks on the ship. She can get messages to anywhere on the ship when the Captain needs to give orders in a hurry.



With the power of my mind!



I've got the top perch between the Captain and Mister Patch and I plan to keep it.



I eat and drink what the captain gives to me.



Here's the latest gossip about Orphan Rose...



"I forgot about Eli Blackbird in the crow's nest!"



No, I won't forget. ... Oh, a shiny...

Name: _____

Details: _____



Name: _____

Details: _____



Name: _____

Details: _____

