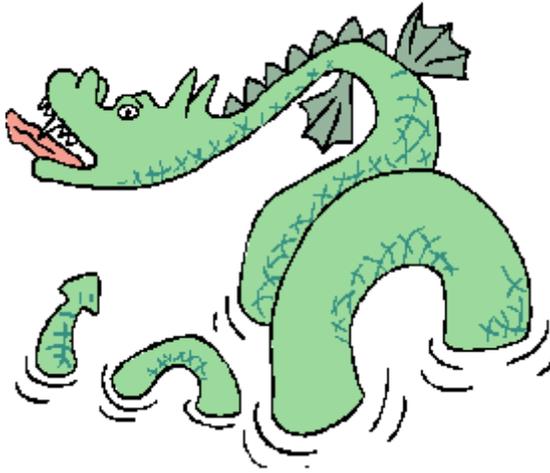


Time for a short literary break...



## Ordeal at Sea

*Dedicated to the Great Sea Serpent of Old*

We built our tiny, hardy craft,  
Of rugged oak and teak,  
For years to plough the Seven Seas  
Turbulent and infested thick  
With serpent, shark, and killer whale.

To distant ports we boldly sail  
Haunted by scurvy and pirate brutes  
On our mission important and grave  
To seek and find and spread the truth,  
And the world's weak and frail to save.

A thousand leagues from home  
The heavens darkened with menace,  
Erupted with furious lightning bolts,  
Spewed torrents of rain and hail.

A whirling force-four gale  
Battered sheet, mast, and sail.  
Forty-foot waves towering aloft  
Crashed thunderously to our decks,  
Straining every timber and plank,  
Campaigning calamitously to drown us  
And plunge us to the deep.  
The tempestuous waves relentless for days

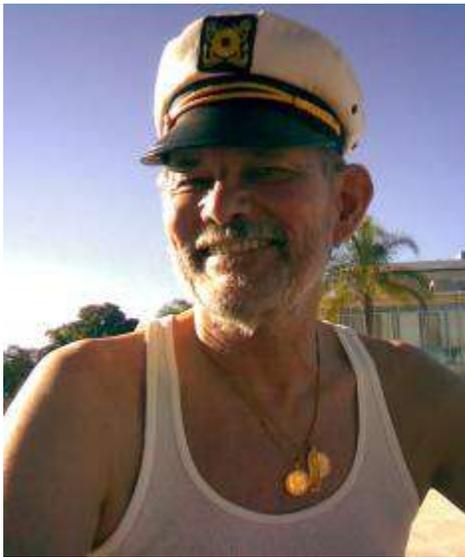
Tossed our ship as though a toy in a bath.

But our mighty captain stood stalwart to the helm,  
Driving us bravely against the storm's deadly wrath,  
Unaware that the Nemesis approached our path.  
Suddenly, her Banshee peal rang shrill and clear,  
And pierced our captain's noble heart with fear.

The gargantuan serpent of poison fang,  
Hoisted her horrid horned head of hate  
High above our churning sea,  
And threatening the most excruciating pain,  
Drove with a leviathan's malignant glare,  
Domineering roar, and evil stare,  
Our courageous captain to his terrible fate:

"Robert, it's time to get out of the tub."

## Bob Hurt



Still a tubboat captain.

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Truly, sincerely, and without prejudice (UCC 1-308),

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I am no attorney. I do not practice law or give legal advice.

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