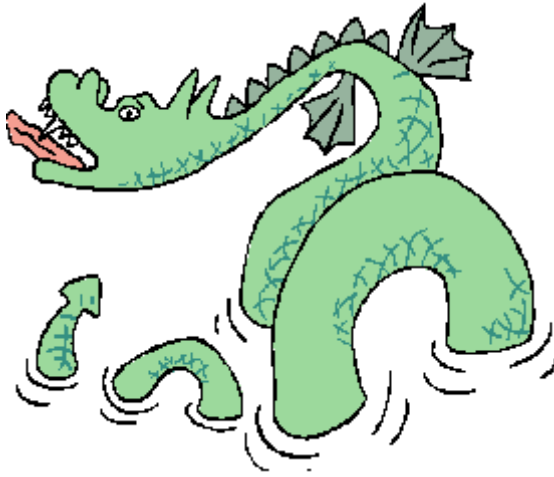


Time for a short literary break...



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.
