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Prologue

She stood alone under the moonlight. A figure wrapped in shadow, slender and still. One elegant hand rested on the banister, covered by a glove made of soft wool. There was a single lock of hair grazing the side of her face, caressing a well-drawn cheekbone dulled by youth.

"You shouldn't be outside of your rooms at these hours, Milady." Came the roughened voice of the young woman's chambermaid, who accompanied her at all times.

The young Lady Harriet Lynn turned towards her worried servant, rosy lips pursed with unhappiness.

"I bore of this trip, my friend. It has been many fortnights now, and we arrive nowhere." The pampered, sheltered girl responded. The servant shook her head, disbelieving at her lady's lack of understanding of the dangers presented by a ship full of mariners, all of which have been on the sea for over a moon. "It's all the same drivel, day after day. Even the sky has given up on us, always grey and bland. I simply desire for something to change, my friend."

"You shouldn't wish for change, Milady, you never know what kind you're getting." The older woman warned, bringing a trembling hand to her lips as she pleaded her Lord to be merciful to the witless young woman.

Alas, he wasn't. In the dead of that night, long after the lady and her servant retreated to their quarters and just before the time in which the whole world seemed to go quiet and cold, the darkness was lit up by orange and golden flames. Lady Lynn and her father, the Duke, were rudely awoken by the hollering of the dying men. Dozens lost their lives in a matter of minutes, all for naught, as soon after the Duke and his daughter were captured. Captain Emmett Bloodworth, the ruthless young owner of the Scarlet Blade Pirate Ship, couldn't have been more satisfied at his successful taking over.

Harriet's chambermaid kept muttering to the girl, as they were tied up and thrown in a stinky, musty, dark corner of the pirate ship.

"May the Lord have mercy on us all." The old woman prayed, as it was all she could do.