

Prince Valiant



SWORDSMEN: THE DANGERS OF THE DEEP PROVE TOO TERRIFYING FOR THE CREW OF THEIR SMALL BOAT, SO PRINCE VALIANT GIVES ORDERS TO SAIL CLOSER TO SHORE, JAGGED ROCKS, HIDDEN SHOALS, SURF AND THE FIERCE TIDE-RIPS OF THE NORDLAND COAST SEEM MILD, COMPARED WITH THEIR PAST EXPERIENCES.



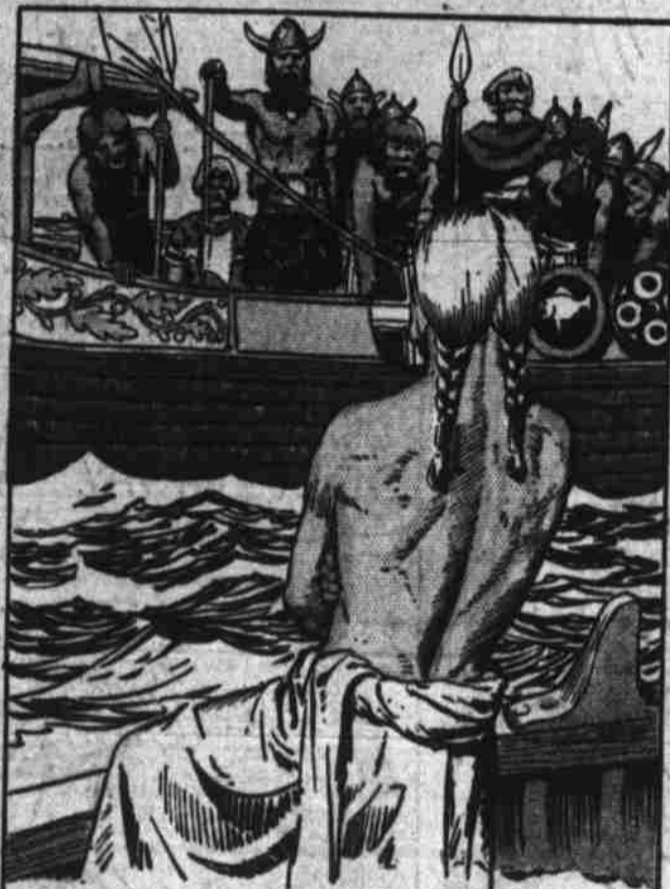
NOW THEY CAN SAIL ONLY BY DAY AND VAL BECOMES IMPATIENT, AS THEIR JOURNEY NEARS ITS END.



PIRACY IS AN HONORABLE PROFESSION AND RAIDING A HOLIDAY FOR THE HARDY HORSEMEN... EVERY SAIL SIGHTED IS A POTENTIAL DANGER FOR VAL AND HIS FRIENDS.



AS THE MENACING SHIP BEARS DOWN UPON THEM, ERIC, WHO HAS BEEN MOPPING THE BILGE, SLAPS THE DIRTY RAG SHARPLY BEFORE AHAH'S FACE!



"IF YOU SEEK PLUNDER," ERIC SHOUTS ACROSS THE WATER, "WE HAVE BUT ONE THING OF VALUE..."



"...A WEALTHY MERCHANT WE ARE HOLDING FOR RANSOM. -- IF HE LIVES THAT LONG, FOR HE IS VERY SICK!"



AS THE BOATS DRAW CLOSER, THE NORSEMEN CAN SEE AHAH'S PALE FACE ALL COVERED WITH HORRIBLE RED SPOTS. "IT'S THE POX! SAIL ON, QUICKLY! SAIL ON!" THEIR CAPTAIN CRIES.

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"SEE WHAT LOYAL FRIENDS YOU HAVE, AHAH!" SAYS ERIC, GAILY. "WE HAVE STAYED BY YOU ALL THROUGH YOUR SHORT, BUT FRIGHTENING, ILLNESS!"

NEXT WEEK - **Trondheim.**



AMURATH

THAGHAR

LAUNCELOT

SIR GWAIN

PRINCE VALIANT

KING ARTHUR

QUEEN MERGUERE

WISE MERLIN

MORGAN LE FAY

RAMUD