



opening extract from **Pirate Girl**

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published by

Chicken House

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Captain Firebeard was the terror of the high seas. His ship, the Horrible Haddock, sailed faster than the wind over the waves. Whenever the Horrible Haddock appeared on the horizon, the knees of honest seafaring folk would shake like jelly.

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Captain Firebeard had a fearsome crew. His helmsman was Morgan O'Meany. His cook was Cutlass Tom. Not forgetting Bill the Bald, Willy Wooden Hand, Crooked Carl and twenty more terrible pirates just like them.

When Firebeard's crew boarded a ship, nothing was safe. They stole the silver spoons and the captain's uniform. They stole the ship's figurehead, the pots and pans, the hammocks and the sails. And, of course, they stole ALL the casks of rum.

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