



# Taco's Wild Pirate Adventure

gaberoman flannery



Taco, a cheerful walking taco, gasps at a tiny, bundled 'baby' on the shore. Suddenly, Stapy, a sentient staple, declares it an anchor and begins to scale its towering, rope-like chain with determined gusto. Lollipop, a sweet lollipop stick figure, and Taco look at each other, then reluctantly follow Stapy's wild ascent.



After a long climb, the trio finally reaches the deck of a grand, rickety pirate ship, swaying gently on the waves. Taco squints, a glimmer of recognition in her eyes, while Stapy confidently strides to a rusty doorbell and gives it an enthusiastic push, a loud DING-DONG echoing across the silent deck.



A ghostly pirate hat, shimmering with an eerie green glow, materializes from thin air, floating ominously before them. Stapy lets out a comical shriek, leaping back in terror, while Taco, though startled, puts the pieces together and realizes this spectral headwear is the ship's mysterious owner.



With a mischievous cackle, Ghost Pirate Hat unleashes a puff of spectral fire, comically singeing Stapy's already frazzled edges. Taco and Lollipop try to make a run for it, but no matter which way they turn, they find themselves back on the ship, as Ghost Pirate Hat declares his intention to make them his new crew. Stapy defiantly shakes his head, refusing the offer.



Ghost Pirate Hat, annoyed by Stapy's refusal, opens a trapdoor beneath him, sending Stapy spiraling down into the 'Fly of Despair' with a dramatic 'WHOOSH!' Wide-eyed, Taco and Lollipop quickly agree to join the crew, not wanting to share Stapy's unfortunate fate.



Lollipop bravely takes the ship's wheel, expertly navigating through treacherous, jagged rocks. Taco spots a burly, muscular man on the shore, but Ghost Pirate Hat dismisses him as 'too tough,' instead choosing a small, innocent-looking child to scare. With a mighty roar, Ghost Pirate Hat unleashes a terrifying spook, sending the kid scrambling away.



Taco and Lollipop attempt their own spooky faces, but the kid just giggles, finding their efforts hilariously funny. Later, Ghost Pirate Hat successfully frightens an entire town, sending everyone fleeing in comical panic, but when Taco and Lollipop try to join in, the townsfolk simply laugh at their silly attempts.





Frustrated by their lack of scariness, Ghost Pirate Hat declares he'll eat Taco and Lollipop as punishment. Lollipop whispers a plan to escape, but the ship's door is locked. They burst into a perfume department, where thick, sweet-smelling mists make it incredibly hard for them to breathe as they stumble through.



Coughing and sputtering, Taco and Lollipop finally burst through to the other side, clutching a long, striped dining sock they'd overheard was essential for Ghost Pirate Hat to eat. The spectral hat catches up, furious, but hesitates, unable to harm them without risking damage to his precious sock.



Ghost Pirate Hat offers three wishes for his sock. Lollipop's wish for 'pigs in a blanket' comically summons real baby pigs, and Taco's wish for a race car to 'catch' them accidentally brings Stapy back to the ship. With the final wish, decided by a landslide vote, Taco wishes Ghost Pirate Hat 'wasn't bigger than them' to stop him from eating them. Instantly, Ghost Pirate Hat shrinks to a tiny, adorable size, much to Taco's surprise, as the magic is irreversible and not quite what she intended.