

Let's read Chapter 10 and see what is happening to Raven Boy and Elf Girl!

'Did you see that?' asked Raven Boy.
'No, I didn't,' said Elf Girl. 'No way.'
'You did! I know you did,' said Raven Boy.
'Yes, all right,' said Elf Girl. 'I did see it,
but I must be crazy in the head.'

Raven Boy said nothing, because just
then, they got a last glimpse of Molo as she
swam away. There, where her legs should have
been, they caught sight of a long and glistening
fish's tail.

'Mermaid,' whispered Raven Boy.

'Wow,' whispered Elf Girl.

Raven Boy looked at the shell whistle,
and tucked it in his pocket, next to Rat.

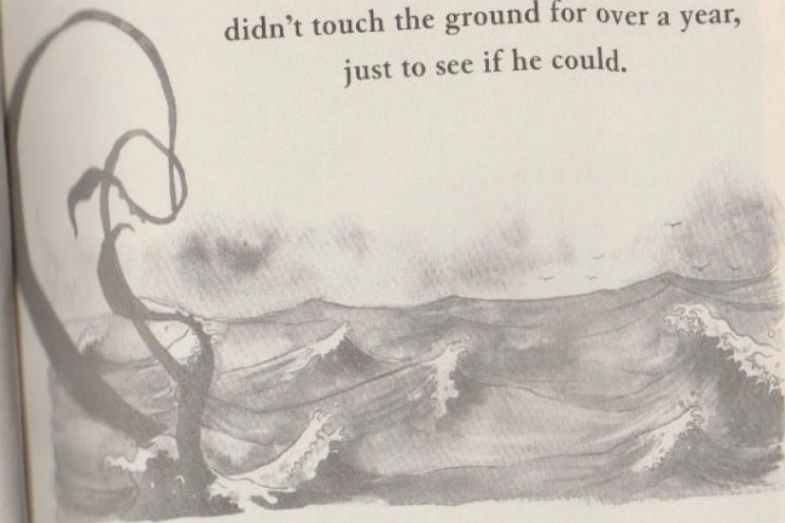
The shouts
of angry pirates
floated across the
water.

'Come
on, Elf Girl, we
need to row some
more.'



TEN

Raven Boy lives in the treetops, and once
didn't touch the ground for over a year,
just to see if he could.



It didn't take them long to put the pirate ship
out of sight. It was dark and they were very
small. And the pirates had drunk an awful lot
of rum.

'So that's why she was worth so much,'
said Elf Girl, as they kept rowing. 'She was a
mermaid. She didn't have a tail when she was
on the ship though.'

'Maybe because she was out of the water.'

She turned into a normal girl. But that explains where she came from too,' said Raven Boy. 'No land around here; they must have pulled her out of the sea.'

'Well, it was very foolish of her to get caught,' said Elf Girl.

'You could say the same about us,' said Raven Boy.

They rowed on in silence for a while.

'I've lost my bow,' said Elf Girl sadly.

'I know,' said Raven Boy. 'Maybe it's for the best.'



Elf Girl stopped rowing and glared at him.

'What's that supposed to mean?'

'I just mean it didn't always do what you wanted it to. We might have had an accident one day with it. A serious accident.'

'And without it we'd both be troll food by now, wouldn't we?'

'I suppose so,' said Raven Boy, grudgingly.

'Which way are we rowing, anyway?' asked Elf Girl.

'Towards the moon,' said Raven Boy.

'What, just because Molo said so?'

'Yes, just because Molo said so,' said Raven Boy. 'Do you have any better ideas? And anyway, she told us not to head north, which must be over there, if the moon's that way.'





He pointed with his chin.

'But we don't know what's out there,' said Elf Girl. 'She doesn't need land! She's a fish! Maybe she doesn't know we need to find land. And then water, and food.'

'I think she was trying to help us,' said Raven Boy.

'You would,' said Elf Girl.

'And what's that supposed to mean?'

'Nothing,' said Elf Girl. 'You're just so nice to everyone. All the time. And look where it gets us! Always in trouble.'

Raven Boy ignored her. He could tell she was just tired and grumpy.

'Elf Girl,' he said, gently, 'you're nice too. I know you are. You're just scared, that's all.'

'Am not!' snapped Elf Girl, and Raven Boy decided to keep his mouth closed for a while.

They rowed on, and on, and finally, the sun began to come up.

When it did, they saw that they were alone on the wide, wide sea, and that there was not a single other thing in sight.

'If there was even a seagull I could talk

to . . . ' said Raven Boy. But there was no more a seagull in the air than a horse.

'Oh, Raven Boy,' said Elf Girl. 'Now which way do we go? The moon's gone! Look!'

'Maybe we should blow Molo's whistle. Get her help.'

Raven Boy pulled the shell from his pocket and looked at it.

'I don't think she meant us to use it for something as simple as being lost. I think it's for something more serious.'

'If we never get off this ocean, that will be pretty serious!' cried Elf Girl. She looked upset.

'Don't panic,' said Raven Boy, at which Rat poked his head up and squeaked loudly.

'That includes you, Rat,' said Raven Boy, but as the day wore on, they gave up rowing and lay in the boat, just drifting on the ocean.

It began to get hot, very hot, and there was no shelter in the boat, nor anything to drink. They tried to rest, and soon, with the rocking of the boat and the heat of the sun, they fell asleep.

It was much later when they woke, and

they woke because the boat was rocking much harder.

Raven Boy sat up.

The day had changed. The sun had hidden itself behind huge banks of clouds. There was a cold wind, and as Elf Girl sat up, rubbing her eyes, the first drops of rain splashed onto the planks of the boat.

A large wave lifted it up into the air, and then dropped it down again. The rain began to fall properly, and lightning flashed across the horizon.

'Oh, Elf Girl,' said Raven Boy. 'I think there's going to be a storm!'

'You think?' cried Elf Girl, and as she did, another massive wave rocked the boat from side to side, and the next one dumped a bathtub-full of water onto them.

Rat squeaked and hid deep inside Raven Boy's pocket, and then another wave swamped them, as the wind hit the boat and the rain lashed down and down.

'Oh!' wailed Elf Girl. 'Raven Boy! We'll be drowned.'



Raven Boy swallowed hard.

'Help me! Turn the nose of the boat into the waves!'

But it was no good, and in a few seconds, the waves tossed the boat right up, turned it over, and sent them sprawling into the cold, wild water.

Reading Vipers

Vocabulary

Infer

Predict

Explain

Retrieve

Summarise



V What does the 'grudgingly' mean?

I How is Elf Girl feeling on page 90?
Find one or two quotes to support your idea.

P What do you think will happen next?

E Explain why Raven Boy didn't want to use Molo's shell.

R What woke them up after they had fallen asleep?

S Summarise this chapter in 3 points.

VOCABULARY LABORATORY

Explain meaning / Definition:

Use in a sentence (add picture too):

Modifications:

Modify to past tense, present, plural singular, add prefix or suffix etc.

How many forms can you think of?

simple

Word Class:

Word Class:

Synonyms

Antonyms

simply

@VocabularyNinja

'Words unlock the doors to a world of understanding...'



The word I
want you to
investigate is

simple