

CHARACTER LIST

The descriptions below are spoiler-free and able to be listed for players to choose their characters.

The roles labelled 1 through 8 are the core of the cast, and one or more of the major plots in the scenario will not work properly if one of them is missing. However, the scenario is designed for a group of up to fifteen players and it is recommended (for maximum enjoyment and piratical chaos) that you fill as many of the roles as possible beyond the core eight.

A note on gender: “Are you a girl or a boy?” “I’m a pirate!” “Well yes, but what’s in your pants?” “Spanish doubloons!” All characters have been written to be gender-neutral, so players can feel free to pick whichever gender they feel most comfortable with while choosing a character (or leave it ambiguous).

1. **Captain Avery Whitman** has been the captain of the *Black Kraken* for a year, longer than anyone else before them. Their support had been waning slightly amongst the crew of late due to a run of bad luck, but with the capture of the *Urca de Lima*, things are looking up for Captain Whitman. They run the ship with an air of grace and nobility about them—their demeanour is firm and intimidating, and they very seldom raise their voice.
2. **‘Honest’ Ellis Alden** is the ship’s quartermaster and manages the stores. Someone might whisper that Honest Ellis is the real power on the ship, but that someone might get slightly less rum rations and worse quality weapons than the rest of the crew ‘til they learned to keep their mouth shut. They are generous to their friends and fairly mild of manner for a pirate, with a gentle smile and kind eyes. Honest Ellis dreads the spotlight, preferring instead to work quietly behind the scenes.
3. **Leighton Drace**, the ship’s bo’sun, is in charge of the day-to-day running of the deck crew, directing them to trim the sails, batten down hatches, and so forth. Drace is well-liked among the crew, and there’s been some whispered talk about how they’d perhaps make for a better captain than Whitman. It’s widely known, too, that Drace is not the sort of person you want to cross; they’ll hold a grudge against you ‘til the end of time. They are tough and loud, with a coarse tongue and a fondness for drama and grandstanding.
4. **Blair Richmond** is the coxswain, the helmsman who steers the ship, and also happens to be the longest-serving crewmate on the *Black Kraken*. The crew has changed radically over the years, but Blair’s the solid rock that keeps the *Black Kraken* the ship she is. Blair is in tune with the ship—they often speak in loving tones about the ship as though it was an actual, living person. Everyone has known Blair since they started on the *Black Kraken*, and their welcoming manner has led to a general sentiment that they’re someone everyone can basically trust (as far as you *can* trust a pirate, at least).
5. **Reyes Velazquez** was a sailor aboard the *Urca de Lima*—one of the lucky ones that made it out alive. Offered a choice between being set adrift and joining the crew of the *Black Kraken*, Reyes chose to take up a position as a rigger. They have had to endure some light hazing since they joined the crew and, as a result, they’re nervous and slow to trust. Reyes seems to feed on drama, and delights in discovering new things to gossip about. They can often be found sulking in the background, eavesdropping with wide-open eyes and ears, muttering to themselves in Spanish.
6. **‘Handsome’ Remy Warton** isn’t a part of the crew due to any ability as a sailor. Instead, Remy is an expert hunter, who traps sea turtles and manatees, catches sharks and other large fish, and hunts for wild game and gathers medicinal plants and herbs when the crew goes ashore. Remy is a solemnly credulous sort of person, and a firm believer in the power of curses and charms. They’re blunt and honest, not seeing the point in indulging in lies and deception.
7. **Kelly Sampson** is a bit of an all-rounder, serving as a rigger, a powder monkey, or in the crow’s nest as the circumstances demand. A loudmouth who constantly tries to be the centre of attention, Kelly has a tendency to bite off more than they can chew and what seems like a complete inability to back down from any sort of challenge. Whether it’s gambling, drinking contest, arm-wrestling—you name it, Kelly’s in it to win it, usually with a huge grin and a sly wink.
8. **Henri ‘Hellcat’ Holmes** is the ship’s navigator, an expert in reading charts and maps. They plot the course of the ship according to the captain’s directions and coordinate closely with the coxswain. The Hellcat also has an earned reputation for a fiery temper and a savage hand-to-hand brawler. Henri is the most foul-mouthed member of the crew, liberally peppering every single sentence with swearing. They’re fiercely loyal to their allies, and will make a point of confronting people they feel are mistreating their friends. There isn’t a soul aboard the ship that relishes the thought of being on the receiving end of one of the Hellcat’s profanity-laden rants.

9. **Charlie Emery** is a carpenter, and a damn good one at that, responsible for patching up the *Black Kraken* and keeping her shipshape. Charlie loves a good gamble, and their seemingly earnest desire to be friends with everyone on the crew seems to endear and annoy in equal measure. There have been some rumours that Charlie has some especially terrible ghosts haunting their past—even for a pirate—but anytime their past gets brought up they shrug it off with a laugh and redouble their efforts to befriend you, instead. They’ve been with the crew about a year or so.
10. **‘Jolly’ Cam Sutton** joined the crew as a gunner last time the ship weighed anchor in Tortuga, though they’ve had years of experience on other ships both legitimate and pirate. An old hand who always seems to have a story for every occasion—each more outrageous and unbelievable than the last—Cam is a grizzled veteran who always seems to know exactly what needs to be done.
11. **Jean Landen** is the ship’s first mate and acts as Captain Whitman’s right hand. An experienced hand and hardened fighter, Jean acts as a go-between for the captain and the important officers on the ship, responsible for inspecting the quartermaster’s stores, ensuring the coxswain is following the captain’s bearings, and a dozen other tasks. Perpetually in a hurry even when they aren’t busy, Jean can’t help but impatiently pace or fiddle with their hands at all times. They have a habit of talking far too quickly and tend to get easily flustered and frustrated when others mistake or don’t hear them.
12. **Harper ‘the Black Corsair’ Lindley** is the most fearsome fighter in the crew. There isn’t a pirate aboard that doesn’t respect the Black Corsair’s skills, and stories about their deadly ability with blade and pistol are told in every dockside tavern and den of ill repute in Tortuga and plenty of other ports besides. A flamboyant braggadocio, the Black Corsair can back up every word of their boasts with cold steel.
13. **Lupe Barbero** was a cabin boy aboard the *Urca de Lima*. Offered a choice between being set adrift with the rest of the surviving crew or joining the pirates, Lupe chose to enlist with the *Black Kraken*. Lupe has been the target of constant hazing, tricks and jokes since they joined, but weathers it all with relative good humor and a graceful demeanor one wouldn’t normally associate with a cabin brat. They are literate with a surprisingly good head for numbers, so have been put to work assisting Honest Ellis.
14. **Tanner ‘Mad’ Morley**, the ship’s surgeon, is a supremely enthusiastic and dedicated member of the crew—there are more than a few folk aboard that owe their lives to their bone saw and somewhat unorthodox treatments. However, the wild grin Mad Morley wears while working is more usually associated with lunatics, and some of the crew are unnerved by the way their off-puttingly fake-looking false eye seems to follow you around the deck. Mad Morley lacks any sort of social graces and is completely unfazed by any topic, and is always happy to loudly and enthusiastically discuss the most disgusting aspects of their craft (sometimes it seems like they purposefully do it while their crewmates are eating...).
15. **Darcy ‘Fishlips’ Fawcett** is the *Black Kraken*’s cook. They used to be a respected fighter but, after losing a hand and a leg to cannonfire, were pulled off the front lines and posted in the galley. Their signature stew tastes extremely fishy and contains entirely too much salt, but somehow still seems to be hearty enough to keep the crew healthy and well. Fishlips is a crabby old hand who’s often quite critical of the way the ship’s run and loudly resentful of the fact that no one seems to pay that much attention to what they have to say.