The Irish Ash

The Day After Ragnarok

Description: a 250 feet long, 3,000 deadweight tonnage, single-deck seagoing cargo vessel. Crew: 20. Armament: stem deck gun; 3 anti-aircraft guns. Top speed: 12 knots.

Officers:

Lou MacLear, captain
Wayne Setanta, first mate
Dagen and Morgaine Ryan, ship's purser and cook
Dr. Brigid Kavanaugh, medical officer
Eriu Kavanaugh, her daughter
Father Patrick Maloney, chaplain

Technically, the *Irish Ash* is also the Irish Shipping Ltd company. Irish Shipping was a state-owned entity set up in World War 2 to keep the country supplied with absolutely necessary materials that absolutely could not be produced in Ireland. This arguably means that the *Irish Ash* is also the Irish *government*, given how any rival claimants who are simultaneously alive and sane no longer exist. Not that it matters, because the ship has not visited Ireland since the Serpentfall. She's also not even trying to fulfill her original mission.

For the last three years, the *Irish Ash* has instead been frankly a smuggler. Nothing horrible, as most reasonable people would define 'horrible,' no drugs, no slaves, and absolutely and certainly **nothing** Serpent-tainted. But if someone is looking for a highly discreet ship that can get an extremely valuable cargo from point A to point B without getting noticed (let alone caught), this ship and its crew would be perfect. The ship's **fees** certainly give that impression, but the *Irish Ash has* the reputation of being a lucky ship. Although 'lucky' might not be the right term. At least one tale has it that any shell that strikes the *Irish Ash* will glance and fail to explode; and it's been demonstrated that Snakebit individuals or Serpent-tainted creatures will find the ship highly uncongenial. When asked about it, the crew largely shrugs, smiles, and orders another drink.

Which is more or less their go-to response to everything: perhaps highly stereotypically, the mostly-Irish crew of the *Irish Ash* are remarkably thorough drinkers, in port. And they do enjoy a good donnybrook as part of the bar-crawling experience. They're essentially good-natured drinkers on the whole, though, despite the tendency to fight (or because of it), and the ship's crew are all raging sentimentalists to a man or woman, and that absolutely

includes the officers. They're always up for adventuring in a good cause.

Of course, it's never a **simple** adventure, when the *Irish Ash* is involved.

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