

# ARE GRAD HOODIES TOO EXPENSIVE?

By C.B.

(Not an accurate depiction of a GVS grad hoodie)



Hi GVS students and staff! For this article I'm going to talk about grad sweaters so Grade 11's listen up! As some of you know, next year we get to be in Grade 12 (I just remembered how old I am) and at the end of this year us Grade 11's get to order a grad sweater which we will get on our first day of Grade 12. To start off with, the grad sweaters cost 80 dollars. And yes, 80 dollars, that was not a typo.

Nowadays the cost of everything is rising and even though this has been the price for a while it's still a lot of money. 20 dollars more and you reach 100. I know of someone who made their own grad sweater and it only cost 30 dollars.

That is a much more reasonable price. Let's look at how much other schools pay for their grad sweaters:

<u>School</u>	<u>Cost</u>
SRSS	\$65 (plus extra for any extra stitching)
Niverville	\$75 (plus extra for stitching on the arms)
Landmark	\$60-100 (depending on the year)

The price for some of the sweaters change depending on how it is made and the logo size, for example if the hoodie has a stitched large logo, a stitched small logo, or a silk screened/printed logo. Silk screening/printing is MUCH cheaper. That being said, why can't we make our grad sweaters cheaper? I mean, we have the opportunity to change that! So why can't we take the opportunity? Regardless, I look forward to seeing how the sweaters turn out.

# GRADE 8'S: RESPONSIBLE OR NOT?

By Kadynce Penner and Ariel Abrams

**Ariel:** Have you ever wondered what Grade 8's do during lunch? Probably not, but we're here to tell you.

We've been having a lot of problems with switching classes during lunch. At the beginning of the year I was devastated to hear none of my friends were in my class. I could hardly sleep the day before school, but I was given hope by the staff in our school. They said that the Grade 8's from last year switched classes for lunch. Switching classes during lunch made it easier to show up to school day after day. That was one of the only times I could see my friends, because we are separated into different classes.

Of course, switching classes for lunch didn't start the day we came to school. It happened over time, but it was pure bliss when we switched classes for lunch.

I have never really been a trouble maker. However some students were not following rules. I get our school had to do something about it, but taking away the privilege of switching classes for people who never even thought about breaking the rules is completely unfair. That is why Kadynce and I are making this article. To bring light to the unfairness of this decision.

So many other people didn't like the fact that we couldn't switch classes anymore. Like from this anonymous teacher saying "It was nice when you guys could switch classes, but people weren't respecting the rules." More students said that they were disappointed that we couldn't switch classes anymore. They may have no friends in their class, or people they didn't want to be around.

So Kadynce had the idea to have a survey. We went around having people sign their name on a paper. I did see some immature ways of signing it though. This one person ripped the paper, and scribbled on it. So I can see that some people aren't mature enough to handle switching classes during lunch. However, that doesn't mean that the other students shouldn't be able to.

**Kadynce:** I agree with everything you have stated previously, but I have some more statements to add. Even though it's very understandable to punish students for not behaving appropriately, or maturely, I believe that punishing **all** students is an unfair and an unethical way to solve this problem.

Many students have been separated by different classes, even though we do understand we can see each other during recesses. It can be hard to communicate, because we might be focused on things such as sports or other outdoor activities. During lunch, students are sitting down, often in table groups with their friends, and are able to focus on connecting with the people around them rather than focusing on a different activity. An anonymous student had

said “It is easier to talk with people when you are not focused on doing something else during recess.” While another added that during lunch, they feel lonely as they tend to sit alone because their friends are in separate classes.

A related topic of loneliness, students tend to feel lonely during lunch hours without the comfort of being with their friends, and these feelings can tend to build up over time, causing anxiety or in more severe cases, depression. Social connections are very important to a person's life, and can cause some amazing benefits as they continue to grow older. In an article about social connection ([Social connection by CDC, May 15 2024](#)), they stated that staying connected with others creates the feeling of belonging, which is something a lot of people struggle with in modern society. Most students consider their friends/social circles as their “safe place” and being away from them can make them lose that sense of belonging.

Now, staying on the topic of social connections, sometimes there are certain ones we want to avoid. For example, maybe there is someone in your class that makes you feel very uncomfortable, because of some comments they have been saying, or maybe some of their actions are making you feel as if your own classroom is an unsafe space. Wouldn't it be nice to get away from them, even if it was just for an hour? Would it still make a difference? I, and many others, believe that it would. In some cases, students are stuck with people in their classes that make them uncomfortable, or maybe they just don't get along with very much.

**A:** That leads us to the question: **Are we as Grade 8's responsible or not?**

**K:** I believe that there were some kids who were being irresponsible. We also have to remember that most students were being respectful of the rules and were behaving properly. The students who were being uncooperative with these rules should be the **only** ones punished.

**A:** I completely agree. We need to compromise, and talk this through with the people in charge of these decisions. We feel this is a very relevant topic that needs to be taken more seriously.

**K:** Which is why we decided to make this article, to bring more attention to a problem that seems to get overlooked. As it's seen as “not as important”, even though it's very important to us. We believe that us Grade 8's are responsible enough to switch classes at lunch, thank you. (mic drop)

**K and A:** April 8th, 2026, 9:33pm

We got feedback from an anonymous teacher. They stated, and I quote, “I believe there were definitely students who were responsible when switching rooms during the lunch hour. However, there were also quite a few who were breaking the rules we had set and being disrespectful to the monitoring adults. So, while I would be happy for you all if switching classes were reinstated, there was some sound reasoning for why the privilege was revoked initially.”

They made some good points. Seeing as it was late, and the day before this article was due, they came in clutch. We appreciate the input. This also confirms our statements about how although there were some mischievous students, most students were respectful and responsible.

# MRS. NOVAK'S FAREWELL

By Clare MacPowell

Mrs. Novak, the teacher of 6RN has left GVS for a new job opportunity in Kleefeld. She will be missed by staff as well as students. For me she welcomed me into this school, and helped me, as well as many other students. This is why I decided to interview her, and see what she has to say.

## **Why are you leaving Green Valley School?**

"I'm leaving Green Valley School to go to Kleefeld school. I got a learning support position there which starts right after spring break."

## **What job are you going to be switching to?**

"I'm switching to learning support, so that would be more like the job that Mrs. Dennis and Mrs. Schroeder do, and so I'll be doing grades from kindergarten to Grade six."

## **How do you feel about leaving?**

"I'm excited for my new position. I think Kleefeld will be a great school, but I'm also very sad about leaving Green Valley School. I love the school and the students and the staff I get to work with. I really also love my class so there's a lot of sadness mixed in with excitement too, and nerves. But I think it will be good."

## **What are you most excited for at this new job?**

"I think I'm excited for a different type of challenge, there's lots of learning that I'll have to do. I'm excited to get to work with teachers and I think it'll be a great new challenge ."

## **What will you miss the most?**

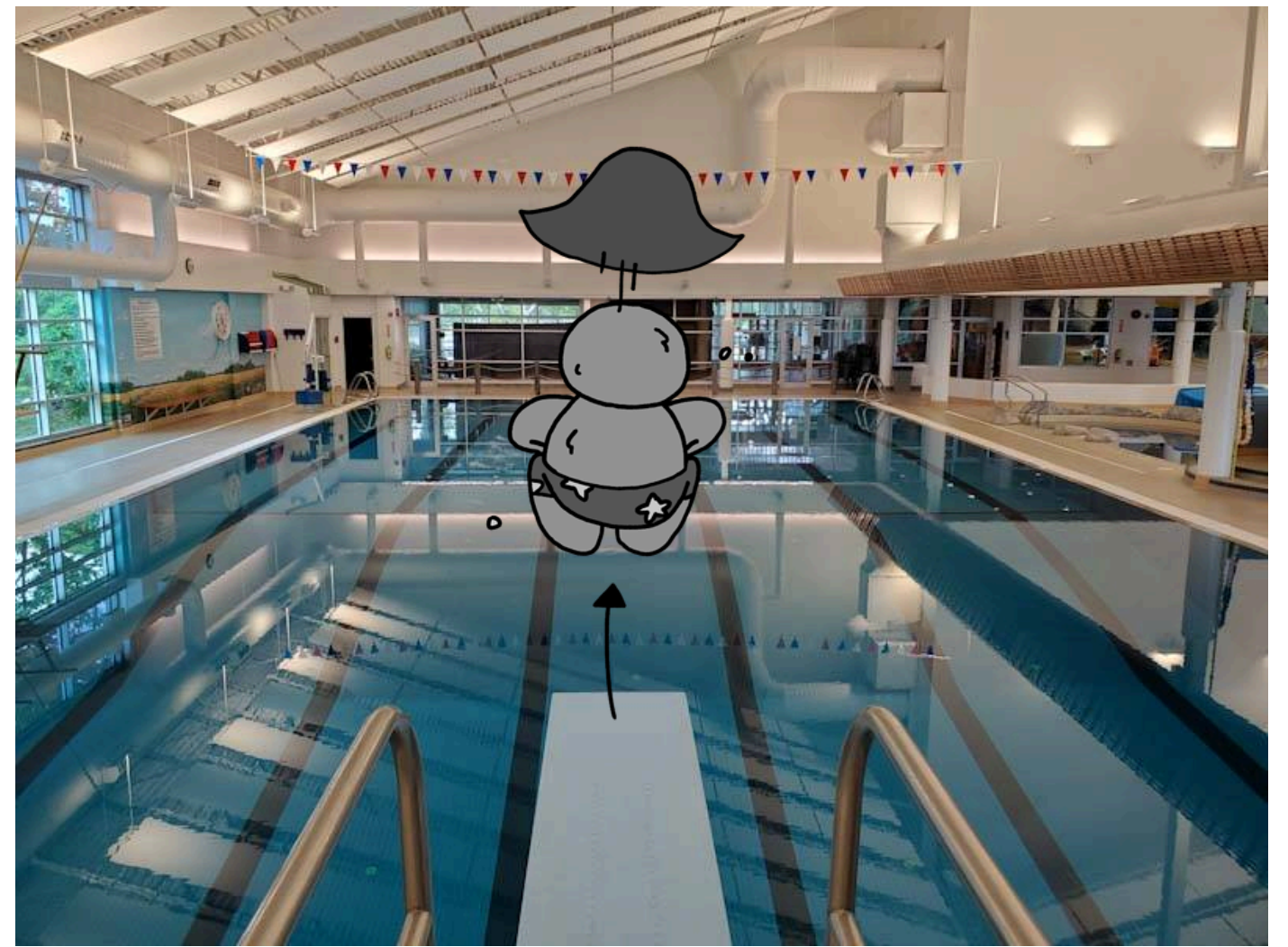
"Probably the people that I get to be with every day. Like I love seeing the kids that I've taught before, I love my students so much, and I love the staff I get to work with, so I think I'll miss that, coming in, and seeing people that I really care about."

Overall Mrs. Novak will be greatly missed by all of the students she has taught. She will be remembered for the joy she brought into the school and classes.

# NEWS FROM STEINBACH POOL

By Finnley Malyk

On March 27, 2026, some kids went to the Steinbach Pool. Some kid got chlorine up their nose. There were kids diving, sliding and chilling. People did laps in the pool in order to get in the deep end, and once done their laps they could dive, slide and swim in the deep end. There were kids playing catch and the boys' changing room was chaotic. Boys were screaming in the changing room and people were trying to kick down the bathroom stall like they were part of a SWAT team.



# NEWS FROM SOUTHEAST EVENT CENTRE

By Noah Sousa



On March 27, 2026, some kids went on a trip to the Southeast Event Center to skate in Steinbach. Let's just say some kids fell. Mr. Penner got yelled at for jumping over the part that separates the players and the seats. One kid ran into the wall more than once. Everyone was having a blast! Then people said that the ice was good. Some people played pass with each other. Someone stole Oliver's hockey stick. So if you have it please give it back. Lastly Mr. Penner hit the wall.

# THE GVS MUSICAL

By Lily Abrams

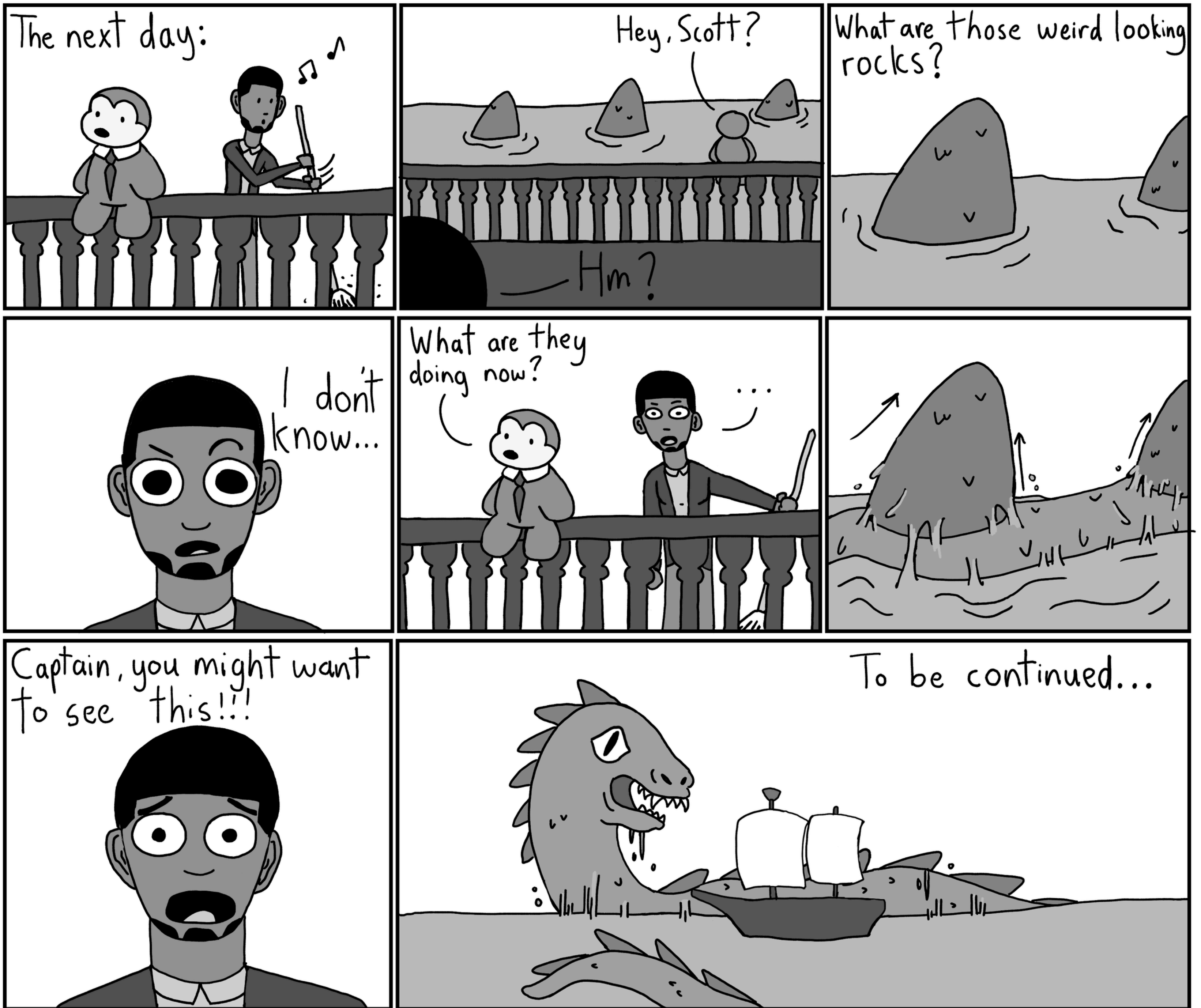
You've probably heard of or seen posters for the upcoming musical that our school's going to be putting on and wondered what it's all about. Well I'm here to tell you why you should come see it. The musical is called Curtains, a murder mystery that leaves you guessing who could have done it. After every song the tension builds with more threats being sent and the stakes getting higher. Will this show make it to Broadway or will it flop? Can they find who did it before the last act? Tickets are currently on sale for \$15 for shows on May 6th, 7th, and 8th. This musical is almost twice as long as last years with more mystery, drama, and songs! But remember, don't reveal who killed who or it just might be curtains for you!

# THE TALE OF MR. MONKEY

By Liam MP

Previously: The Captain and his crew followed a treasure map and found a magic talking monkey stuffed animal. To take advantage of their situation they decided to take him to a major coastal market and sell him for a ton of money. They have been at sea for a couple of months and are getting closer to the market, but as they approach some members of the crew begin to have second thoughts...





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