



## The Ring's The Thing

**Y**ou see? I told you this 'Danger Ring' was a good investment!" Tink exclaimed as he hovered over the false floor.

"Yes, that's good! You just killed Macklebo by letting him fall to the spikes down there!" Traigen shouted back as he was slowly losing his grip on the tilted flooring.

"I warned him! I warned all of you there was imminent danger ahead!" Tink again exclaimed, more for pride than for self defense.

Then Farquan de Louis yelled out, "Float your arse over here and help me, dolt!"

"Oh, sorry." Tink replied as he pushed himself from the wall and sailed over to Farquan. He caught him under his armpit and immediately Farquan felt as if he was boyant in water. They both started to sink to the floor below. As they decended, Farquan looked to see Macklebo's body impailed on the spikes, one through the forearm, two through the torso and one through his left thigh.

"Nice." Farquan simply stated, aiming his sarcastic remark at Tink.

"It's not my fault. I warned everyone." Whined Tink.

"Just like you warned everyone of the imminent danger of the rat down the hall and the imminent danger of the trapped door whent we first entered?! Tripplespoon saw the trap right away and I could have guessed that much! That ring should be called 'The State the Obvious Ring!'" Farquan ranted.

"But I was right about the floor here!" Tink fought back in defense.

"Yes, but by then we were all so tired of you warning us about 'imminent danger', that we ignored your heeds for fear that it be another rat around the corner." Farquan added, "That ring is distracting us. We all know great danger is around every corner, that what adventuring is all about!"

As Farquan touched the ground, he grabbed Tink's boot and pushed him back up to where Traigen was hanging half off the tilted floor by what grip he could find with his fingertips.

Tripplespoon's agility seemed to be keeping him safe for the moment, though Farquan moved so he was under him just in case he slipped and fell.

Tripplespoon called out to Farquan. "I think that once there's no weight on the floor it will go back to its trapped state, so, I'll have to open this door I'm on, with Tink's help. Once through we'll get a rope down to you."

Tink delivered Traigen to the pit floor and was pushed back up to Tripplespoon. It took him a few minutes but Tripplespoon was able to open the door and secure a rope to a support timber in another room down the hall. In the meantime, Traigen picked his way through the floor spikes and the other unfortunates to Macklebo's body. He retrieved all important items and put them in a pouch.

"We'll put his body in a room and bury him outside once we're through in this dungeon." Traigen spoke aloud.

Farquan, who was bent over another long dead victim of this terrible floor trap. "Traigen, come here. I think I've found something of interest." he called back to Traigen.