

TREASURE ISLAND

A Pirate Musical for Children of All Ages

Book, Music and Lyrics by David Warrack
Based on the story by Robert Louis Stevenson

Time: 1600's

Place: Bristol, and the sea beyond

Characters: Billy Bones
Bill
Jim
Mom
James
Tavern Patrons (3)
Pew
Captain Smollett
Doctor Livesey
Black Dog
Anderson
Long John Silver
Flint (the parrot)
Israel Hands
Ben

(Suggested cast – nine with doubles)

SCORE:	1.	Tell Us Another Story	Patrons, Billy, James, Jim
	1A;	Tell us ... (reprise)	
	2.	I Want to Believe	Jim
	3.	We Were Mates	Pew
	4.	The Black Spot	Billy
	5.	I Need Men	Captain
	6.	I Really Like Gold	Long John, Anderson, Black Dog, Hands
	7.	Pieces of Eight	Flint
	8.	Take Me Life	Black Dog, Flint
	9.	Sailing in a Storm	Anderson, Hands, Doctor
	10.	My Treasure Island	Jim, Long John, Company
	11.	Don't You Worry	Jim
	12.	Hey Men, Ho Men	Ben, Long John, Pirates
	12A.	Treasure Isle (reprise)	Jim

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compares

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SCENE ONE: The setting is a tavern in seventeenth Century England. All that is really necessary is a wooden table and four chairs (it's a very small tavern!). Jim Hawkins, a boy of 12, and his father James, are serving the patrons, as Captain Billy Bones holds court. Bones shows the effects of too many rums and too many years at sea.

SONG #1: TELL US ANOTHER STORY

 PATRONS

 TELL US ANOTHER STORY, CAPTAIN BILLY BONES.
 TELL US ANOTHER STORY OF YOUR GREAT ADVENTURES.
TELL US ABOUT THE LOCKER NAMED FOR DAVEY JONES,
AND THE MEN YOU'VE SAILED WITH TO VERY CORNER OF THE WORLD.

 BILLY

 AYE, I'LL TELL YE NOW
 'BOUT THE FASCINATIN' FACES THAT I HAVE LEFT BEHIND.
 SOME ARE LIVIN', SOME ARE DEAD.
 THEM THAT DIED NEVER DIED IN BAD,
 BUT THEY'RE ALL LIVIN' IN MY MIND.

 FIRST PATRON

Billy, ye've been stayin' here so long, do ye remember what a ship looks like?

 BILLY

 With strength denying his obvious age.

Hold yer tongue or lose it, son. You see an old man and laugh. But my arms are still strong, and my knife is still sharp. Forty years of sailin' will do that. Take heed.

 JAMES

 Gently.

He meant no harm, Capt'n Billy. Give us your tale.

 BILLY

As ye wish, James Hawkins. I am yer grateful guest, after all. Though soon, I'll be leavin'.

compares

SECOND PATRON

Ye've been sayin' that fer weeks, Billy. Ye know it wouldn't be the same here without ya.

THIRD PATRON

Beginning the chant, encouraging the children in the audience to join in.

Billy Bones, Billy Bones.

ALL

Billy Bones, Billy Bones ...

Etcetera, until he surrenders.

BILLY

Alright.

He stops them and waits for quiet.

I'll tell ya 'bout Old Flint. I was his first mate, and I've never sailed with a tougher one than that. How tough? Spaniards withered at the mere mention of his name. But he was getting' on. And he knew he couldn't take all the gold he'd ... "earned", shall we say? ... with 'im. So he decided to bury it. If he couldn't have it, no one could. We came upon an island. It seemed to rise up out of the ocean like a ghostly beauty. Old Flint loaded the gold ...

FIRST PATRON

How much was there?

BILLY

A King's Ransom! 700,000 pounds.

Men react vocally (not in harmony!)

We dropped anchor, and he took it ashore with three men. Four hours later, Old Flint returned ... alone.

Vocal reaction.

JIM

What happened to the men?

compares

JAMES

Scolding.

Jim!

BILLY

We never found out. The anchor was drawn in, the sails were raised, and we were gone. From that day on, we always referred to it as Treasure island.

JIM

Did you ever go back?

BILLY

How could we? Old Flint charted the course. You could sail those seas forever and never chance upon it without proper directions.

SECOND PATRON

What about Flint? Did he ever go back?

BILLY

Old Flint was killed less than a month later. By Long John Silver.

JIM

By who?

BILLY

Long John Silver. The man who haunts my dreams. The man who Old Flint cursed with his dying breath. Silver'd heard about the gold Old Flint left on Treasure Island, and he wanted the map.

JIM

There's a map?

BILLY

Aye. But Flint died before he'd say where 'twas.

JAMES

compares

And what of Long John Silver?

BILLY

I've never seen charm and anger like that in one man. He uses the charm to draw you in, then unleashes the anger, and whit!

He sweeps his arm like a sword

It's over.

SONG #1a:

TELL US ... (reprise).

BEWARE OF THE MAN WITH A GROWL IN HIS VOICE,
AND THE GLINT IN HIS EYE AND THE EVER SO BOISTEROUS LAUGH.
HE'LL CUT YOU IN HALF,
AND LEAVE YOU TO ROT,
AND NOT GIVE IT A THOUGHT.
BEWARE OF THE MAN SIMPLY OOZING WITH CHARM,
ALL TOO EAGER TO PLEASE, ALL TOO ABLE TO HARM
WHO HE MUST
WITH ONE PRACTICED THRUST,
WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT,
HE'LL CARVE AND DISSECT
ANYONE YOUNG OR OLD OVER ONE PIECE OF GOLD.

THAT'S LONG JOHN SILVER.
HE'S MADE PROUD MEN CRY AND BEG.
LONG JOHN SILVER.
A MONSTER OF A MAN WITH A WOODEN LEG.

Music continues.

THIRD PATRON

Old Flint was killed by a one-legged man? He must have been getting' on.

They all laugh. Billy rises to go.

BILLY

Laugh if ye will, but remember my words. If you come face to face with this man, whatever you do, don't do anything to make him lose his temper. You'll pay for it with your life. And now, I'm off t' bed.

compares

He starts to stagger off.

FIRST PATRON

Captain Billy, come back!

SECOND PATRON

Tell us some more.

THIRD PATRON.

Billy Bones, Billy Bones.

ALL

Joining in.

Billy Bones, Billy Bones.

Billy exits. Men sing as they settle their accounts with Hames and leave.

TELL US ANOTHER STORY, CAPTAIN BILLY BONES.

TELL US ANOTHER STORY OF YOUR GREAT ADVENTURES.

TELL US ABOUT THE LOCKER NAMED FOR DAVEY JONES,
AND THE MEN YOU'VE SAILED WITH
TO EVERY CORNER OF THE WORLD.

WE WANNA HEAR MORE OF EVERY VOYAGE AND EVERY FIGHT.
WE WANNA HEAR MORE. WE'LL BE BACK TOMORROW NIGHT.

They exit. Jim and his Father clear the tables.

JIM

Father? Have you ever heard tell of this Treasure Island?

JAMES

I see our Captain Billy Bones has touched your imagination.

JIM

It must be on the other side of the world.

JAMES

Perhaps not quite that far away!

compares

JIM

You're right. That would be China! But it has to be at least across the ocean.

JAMES

I suspect, and a big and dangerous ocean it is!

JIM

That's not what you told me before.

JAMES

Indeed?

JIM

You told me all sorts of stories about ... before you met mother.

JAMES

I did, did I? Don't believe everything you hear, son – not even from your own father.

JIM

Oh, but father – I want to believe.

SONG #2:

I WANT TO BELIEVE

I WANT TO BELIEVE IN FAR OFF PLACES I HAVE NEVER BEEN,
SECRET CAVES OR OPEN SPACES WITH DANGERS UNFORESEEN.
I WANT TO BELIEVE IN BRAVE AND DARING
HEROES WHO RISK THEIR LIVES TO FIND THE HOLY GRAIL.

I WANT TO BELIEVE IN MASSIVE MOUNTAINS STRETCHING THROUGH THE MIST,
FORESTS FULL OF MAGIC FOUNTAINS THE MERMAIDS MIGHT HAVE KISSED.
I WANT TO BELIEVE IN STRANGE EXOTIC STORIES,
WHERE ONLY THOSE WITH JOIE DE'VIVRE PREVAIL.

JAMES

Now you're speaking French? Very worldly.

compares

JIM

THERE'S A FABULOUS WORLD OUT THERE, AND I INTEND TO KNOW IT.
THERE'S ADVENTURE ENOUGH TO SPARE FOR A PIRATE OR A POET.
I'LL FLY LIKE A FALCON, I'LL SHRIEK AT THE SUN,
I'LL DIVE IN THE OCEAN WITH SKILL AND STRENGTH BEYOND COMPARISON.

I WANT TO BELIEVE IN BURIED TREASURE, PIRATE KINGS INTERRED,
DESPERATE DREAMS AND DESPERATE MEASURES, DIVINE OR JUST ABSURD.
I WANT TO BELIEVE IN WIZARDS AND IN CHARMS.
I WANT TO HEAR TRUMPETS CALLING MEN TO ARMS.

THERE'S A FABULOUS WORLD OUT THERE, AND I INTEND TO KNOW IT.
THERE'S ADVENTURE ENOUGH TO SPARE FOR A PIRATE OR A POET.
I'LL DREAM WITH THE DREAMERS, I'LL BE NUMBER ONE,
AND JUST LIKE MY FATHER, I'LL LIVE A LIFE BEYOND COMPARISON!

JAMES

You do have an imagination, my boy. Your father's life wasn't quite that exceptional, I fear.

JIM

I choose to disagree.

JAMES

Come on. Choose some dishes, and finish clearing up here while I go outside to douse the lanterns. Billy Bones has once again kept us all up way past our bedtimes with his stories. Remember, I have a long ride ahead of me tomorrow.

JIM

Because of the letter from Aunt Patricia?

JAMES

She needs me.

JIM

When will you be back?

compares

JAMES

It all depends. Hopefully only a day or two, until things settle down a bit. The letter sounded a bit desperate. Uncle Ed will be over to run things here, so you pay him heed.

JIM

Yes, sir.

James exits. Jim continues cleaning up. Noise offstage.

Father? Captain Billy? Who's there?

Pew enters, tapping his cane.

PEW

Will someone tell a blind man where, or in what part of the country he is?

JIM

You are at the Admiral Benbow Inn in Blackhill cave, sir.

PEW

Will you give me your hand, my kind young friend, and show me to a table.

Jim obliges.

JIM

I'm terribly sorry, sir. We just closed for the night. But I can certainly ...

Pew grabs him, roughly.

Hey! What are you doing? Stop that. Let me go! Let me go!

PEW

Stop struggling, you brat. It's not you I'm after. I want Billy Bones.

JIM

Just look around. You can see he's not here.

PEW

I have eyes that see only black and grey. No images.

compares

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JIM

You're blind?

PEW

I want Billy Bones.

JIM

He's not here. He's gone. He left a while ago.

PEW

I've been outside. Only four men left. None of them were Billy Bones.

JIM

But you said you were blind. How do you know.

PEW

Placing Jim in a chair, and not letting go.

I know.

SONG #3:

WE WERE MATES

WE WERE MATES LONG AGO,
AND WHEN YOU HAVE BEEN MATES
I ASSURE YOU, YOU KNOW EACH OTHER.
THOUGH I MAY BE BLIND, I KNOW BILLY BONES
BY THE WAY THAT HE WALKS,
AND THE SMELL OF HIS BREATH,
AND THE SOUND OF HIS LAUGH.

WE WERE MATES AT A TIME WHEN IT SEEMED
THERE WOULD ALWAYS BE TOMORROW
TO MAKE UP FOR TODAY.
WE WERE MATES AT A TIME WHEN WE KNEW
THERE WOULD NEVER BE A FIGHT
FROM WHICH WE WOULDN'T SAIL AWAY.

WE WERE MATES ON A SHIP OTHER KNEW AND FEARED,
A SHIP OTHERS RAN FROM, THE MOMENT WE APPEARED.

compares

WE WERE MATES AT A TIME WHEN WE FELT
THERE WAS NOTHING THAT COULD STOP US.
WE CONQUERED WHAT WE SAW.
WE WERE MATES AT A TIME
WHEN ACROSS ALL THE SEVEN SEAS,
WE CALLED THE SHOTS, WE MADE THE LAW.

WE WERE MATES ON A SHIP WITH A PIRATE FLAG. Aye!
A SHIP FULL OF PLUNDER, AND SO WE LEARNED TO BRAG.

“DON’T YOU MESS WITH US -
OUR DAGGERS ARE SHARP AND OUR SWORDS ARE LONG,
BETTER GIVE US ROOM,
WE’RE AS MEAN AS THE DEVIL AND BY GOD WE’RE STRONG.

WHEN YOU FEEL THAT WAY,
IT’S HARD TO LOSE,
AND WE LOST ONE DAY.

WE WERE MATES AT A TIME WHEN THE SHIPS OF THE KING
ALL GOT TOGETHER AND FINALLY TRACKED US DOWN.
IN A COVE WHERE WE MOORED FOR AN EVENING,
THEY SET UPON THE SHIP WITH A LOT OF CREW IN TOWN.
THOUGH THE BATTLE WAS FIERCE, WE WERE OVERCOME.
THE FEW THAT ESCAPED,
ESCAPED WITH THE FEAR THAT MAKES YOU NUMB.

AND ONE OF THEM THE CAPTIN, DIED SOON AFTER
IN A FIGHT WITH A MAN WITH A WOODEN LEG.
BUT BEFORE HE DIED, HE GAVE HIS FIRST MATE
A MAP SHOWING WHERE HE HAD BURIED THE CRATE
THAT HELD THE TREASURE FROM TEN YEARS’ PLUNDER
SOMEWHERE. IT’S JUST A FEW FEET UNDER,
AND ONLY ONE MAN KNOWS WHERE -
THAT FIRST MATE WHO DIDN’T WANT TO SHARE!

WE WERE MATES, BILLY BONES AND I,
AND I GUESS, NOW YOU KNOW THE REASON WHY
I’VE COME TO PAY A VISIT, AND HIS HAND I WANT TO CLUTCH,
CUZ OLD MATES SHOULD REALLY STAY IN TOUCH!

JIM

You mean Billy Bones has the map?!

PEW

Why don't you ask him, boy?

JIM

I will for sure, when he comes back.

PEW

You lie with confidence! I like that. Alright, we'll play your little game. When Billy Bones returns from his mysterious journey, I want you to give him a message.

JIM

Yes, sir. I will, sir.

PEW

Tell him he has six hours.

JIM

Six hours?

PEW

In six hours, I will return. And I will not return alone.

JIM

That's all?

PEW

Tell him the message is from Pew. P – E – W. He'll know why I've come. He'll know what I want. And he'll know the consequences if I don't get it. Six hours! Tell him.

Pew emits a low, dry, cackle, then turns to shuffle offstage., painfully slowly, singing.

DON'T YOU MESS WITH US.

OUR DAGGERS ARE SHARP, AND OUR SWORDS ARE LONG.

compares

BETTER GIVE US ROOM.
WE'RE MEAN AS THE DEVIL AND BY GOD, WE'RE STRONG.
WE WERE MATES, BILLY BONES AND I ...

Pew disappears. Jim locks the door. He calls up the stairs.

JIM

Capt'n Billy.

He brings the light up slightly, and calls more urgently.

Capt'n Billy, wake up!

Billy emerges, barely awake, definitely not sober.

BILLY

What is it boy? What do you want?

JIM

You're in great danger.

BILLY

What are you talking about? Speak up.

JIM

A man was just here. He gave ma a message for you.

BILLY

What was this man's name.

JIM

Pew.

BILLY

As if struck by lightning.

Pew??!! Here?

compares

JIM

He said you have six hours, and then he will return, and he won't return alone. He said you'll know what he's after.

BILLY

The door. Did you check outside the door?

JIM

Sir?

BILLY

Is there a mark on the door to the Inn? Quickly. Go look.

He sits down in shock.

Pew! My God! They've found me.

He gets up and starts pacing. Jim returns. He sits again, to prepare himself.

Well, boy?

JIM

I don't understand, sir. There's a round black circle on the door. What does it mean?

BILLY

Full of fear.

It means I have no place left to hide.

SONG #4:

THE BLACK SPOT

THE BLACK SPOT, UP UPON THE DOOR,
THE BLACK SPOT SERVES AS A SUMMONS.
I KNOW THEY'RE COMING FOR ME, NOWHERE TO RUN.
I KNOW THEY'RE COMING FOR ME, CUZ THEY'VE LEFT
THE BLACK SPOT. WHEN DID IT APPEAR?
THE BLACK SPOT. WHO PUT IT UP THERE?
I KNOW MY DAYS ARE NUMBERED. WHERE CAN I TURN
WHERE THEY WILL NOT BE WAITING?
WAITING FOR THE KILL, BUT NOT UNTIL

compares

THEY'VE FOUND WHAT THEY'RE LOOKING FOR.
THEY'LL HAVE TO LET ME LIVE
IF I FALL INTO THEIR TRAP,
SO I MUST HIDE IT UNDER THE GROUND,
UNDER THE FLOOR.
FOR ONCE THEY FIND THE MAP ...

Laboured breathing.

I'M GOOD AS DEAD.

He clutches his chest, finding it hard to breathe.

I MUST HIDE IT.

He slumps to the floor.

DON'T TELL THEM.

Barely audible.

JIM.

JIM

Capt'n Billy.

Billy dies.

Billy Bones? Can you hear me? Can you speak? Can you breathe?

Mom returns

MOM

Jim? Jim, are you alright? I thought I heard ...

JIM

Mom! It's Billy Bones.

MOM

Rushing to Billy, kneeling down, and lifting his head.

What happened?

compares

JIM

In a torrent.

An old blind man came by looking for Billy, saying he was a friend of his. The man gave me a note to give to Billy, and told me to tell him back with other men in six hours. When I gave the note to Billy, he asked me to check the outside of our door. There's a black circle there. When I told him, he got more and more upset, until he finally dropped to the floor.

MOM

After a moment.

Jim. Billy is dead. I may be a simple country woman, but I'm pretty sure it won't be Billy's friends that are coming back. We can't stay here. It's too dangerous. We must leave.

She gets up. She has a moment of pragmatism.

Billy owes us three months room and board. Before we leave, I'll check that old sea chest he keeps under his bed. You search him and see if you can find a key.

She goes upstairs.

JIM

Searching Billy's pockets. He finds the key.

PLEASE FORGIVE ME SIR, BUT IT WOULD APPEAR
THIS WILL DO YOU NO GOOD ANYMORE.
DOES IT OPEN UP THAT BOX YOU'VE NEVER LET ME SEE?

Mom returns, dragging Billy Bones' sea chest.

MOM

Jim, hurry. Open it up.

JIM

YES, IT SEEMS TO FIT. YES, IT OPENS IT.

He looks inside.

Gold! And a map! A map.

He looks up at his Mom.

compares

Capt'n Billy said, "Once they find the map, I'm as good as dead." This must be ... the map to Treasure Island.

They are momentarily frozen. Mom looks at the money in her hand.

MOM

Come on, son. We dare not stay another minute longer. If we can find a way to make it to Doctor Livesey's house, we might be safe there.

JIM

Of course. He'll know what to do with this map.

He looks at Billy, while his Mom throws some things in a bag.

Don't worry Billy. They'll never catch us. We know every hiding place along the way. And Billy, I will go back to your Treasure Island. Somehow, I will. I promise.

I'LL FIND IT. YOU'VE GIVEN ME THE WAY.
I'LL FIND IT, HOWEVER FAR I HAVE TO TRAVEL.
I KNOW IT'S WAITING FOR ME, ACROSS THE SEA.
I KNOW IT'S WAITING FOR ME –
MY TREASURE ISLAND, MY ADVENTURE.

Jim and his Mom hurry to the door, check outside, and disappear into the night. Blackout. End of scene.

SCENE TWO:

A vignette, in an office setting. The lights rise on Captain Smollett at a desk. There is a knock on the door.

CAPTAIN

Enter.

Jim enters with Dr. Livesey.

DOCTOR

Captain Smollett, this is the young man I wanted you to meet – Jim Hawlins.

Jim and Smollett shake hands.

JIM

Sir.

compares

HAWKINS

Hawkins. I understand you have quite a story to tell.

DOCTOR

I know Jim well. I brought him into this world. He'd be telling the truth.

CAPTAIN

Have you brought the map?

Jim looks at the Doctor, who nods. Jim gives the map to Smollett.

JIM

Captain Billy Bones ...

A slight embellishment.

gave it to me. Just before he died.

CAPTAIN.

Taking a moment. Shaking his head.

But I can't find a ship and a crew and the money for a trip like this. It's preposterous.

DOCTOR

I have organized the resources. I will back the venture.

CAPTAIN

Smiling hugely, immediately reversing himself.

Then I think it's a great idea!

They all laugh, just in case the audience doesn't!

DOCTOR

I believe the story has merit. At least it's worth a try. An adventure!

CAPTAIN

Your stellar reputation for caution just flew out the window!

compares

DOCTOR

Godspeed.

CAPTAIN

Very well.

DOCTOR

Splendid.

JIM

Thank you.

CAPTAIN

Returning the map to Jim.

But you must hide this map carefully, and keep it a secret, even from me. Also, we'll need at least four men we can totally trust, and put them in cabins closest to us, with the powder and guns stored nearby.

DOCTOR

I will make that my responsibility. And as for the crew ...

CAPTAIN

I'll put the word out. I have to come up with a cover story as to why we are sailing.

DOCTOR

Understood.

CAPTAIN

But we'll have our choice of good, experienced sailors.

DOCTOR

We'll count on your expertise in that area.

CAPTAIN

Good! Because you may not like what you see. I won't be hiring them for their looks!

compares

They all stand.

Let's get started.

They leave the room as lights fade to black.

SCENE THREE:

The setting is nondescript. It could be any gathering place. Black Dog, Jon Anderson, Long John Silver, and Israel Hands, distribute themselves amongst the audience. When the lights rise, Captain Smollett is found standing centre stage addressing everyone.. Off to one side are Jim and Dr. Livesey.

CAPTAIN

Could I have your attention please. Thank you all for coming today. We do appreciate your interest. As you know, we are looking for a crew for the HISPANIOLA. She sails one week from today. It will be a long journey, so anyone who wishes to apply should keep that in mind. I should also inform you that all but four of the crew have already been hired, so our job is almost done. Now let me introduce Dr. Livesey, who has found the financing for this trip. And his young ward, Jim Hawkins, whose father has graciously allowed him to join us. If they look too mean for you, leave now. They'll be sailing with us!

BLACK DOG

What's the purpose of the trip?

CAPTAIN

With a look to Jim and the Doctor.

We've been asked to chart a set of islands that aren't yet on any of the maps.

ANDERSON

Anything particular you're looking for in your remaining crew members?

CAPTAIN

Yes, I'm sorry. I should have mentioned that first.

He consults his notes.

Ah, here we are.

He looks up.

Sailors.

compares

BLACK DOG

That's asking a lot.

CAPTAIN

Indeed it is.

SONG #5:

I NEED MEN

I NEED MEN WHO ARE FIT.
I NEED MEN WHO'VE BEEN THERE.
I NEED MEN WHO WON'T WILT.
I NEED MEN WHO WON'T SCARE.
I NEED MEN WHO CAN CLIMB
UP THE RIGGING WITH SPEED.
I NEED MEN WHO WON'T FALL,
I NEED MEN WHO WON'T BLEED.
I NEED MEN WHO CAN SIT
IN THE CROW'S NEST ALL NIGHT,
IN THE WILDEST OF WEATHER,
AND SIGHT ANY SIGHT.
I NEED MEN WHO WON'T SLIDE
OFF THE DECK WITH A WAVE.
I NEED MEN WHO ARE QUICK.
I NEED MEN WHO ARE BRAVE.

I NEED SAILORS, SAILORS ONLY AT HOME ON A BOAT.
SAILORS, SAILORS, IF I'M T' KEEP 'ER AFLOAT.

I NEED MEN WHO CAN THINK.
I NEED MEN WHO REACT.
I NEED MEN WHO DON'T SINK
SECONDS AFTER WE'VE TACKED.
I NEED MEN WHO HAVE HOPE.
I NEED MEN WHO ARE STRONG.
I NEED MEN GOOD WITH ROPE.
I NEED MEN WHO BELONG.
I NEED MEN WHO CAN WIN.
I NEED MEN WHO CAN LAST.
I NEED MEN WHO'VE BEEN SEEN

AT THE TOP OF A MAST.
 I NEED MEN FULL OF FIRE.
 I NEED MEN FULL OF GRIT.
 CUZ WHOEVER I HIRE
 HAS NO CHANCE TO QUIT.

I NEED SAILORS, SAILORS ONLY AT HOME ON THE SEA..
 SAILORS, SAILORS, MEN JUST A LITTLE LIKE ME.

I NEED MEN WHO HAVE GRINNED.
 I NEED MEN WITH SOME HEART,
 WHO CAN FOLLOW THE WIND,
 WHO CAN FOLLOW A CHART.
 I NEED MEN WHO CAN STEER,
 MEN WHO KNOW WHERE WE'RE AT.
 I NEED MEN WITH NO FEAR.
 I NEED MEN WITH NO FAT.
 I NEED MEN WHO CAN FOLLOW
 A FEW BASIC RULES.
 I NEED MEN WHO AREN'T TROUBLE,
 AND MEN WHO AREN'T FOOLS.
 I NEED MEN FULL OF COURAGE,
 AND MEN FULL OF FUN.
 I NEED MEN WHO CAN FIGHT
 WITH A SWORD OR A GUN.

I NEED SAILORS, SAILORS ONLY AT HOME FAR FROM SHORE.
 SAILORS, SAILORS. THEY KEEP COMING BACK FOR MORE!

THEY'RE NEVER CONTENT ON THE LAND,
 SOMETHING LANDLUBBERS DON'T UNDERSTAND,
 CUZ THEY'RE SAILORS,
 THE MEN THAT I NEED.

Does that answer your question, sir?

BLACK DOG

Completely.

compares

CAPTAIN

Then let's get on with it. You've heard what I need. Who thinks they qualify?

This is extended by an ab lib section, where members of the audience are encouraged to come onstage, joined by Black Dog, Anderson, and Israel Hands. The Captain notices a man dressed in a cook's garb.

You, sir. Have you ever been to sea?

LONG JOHN

Me? Well, yes, matey, I have.

CAPTAIN

We'll be needing a cook.

LONG JOHN

That you will. Alright, count me in.

He joins the group, and once onstage, we see his peg leg.

CAPTAIN

O.K., you know I can't take you all. I want each of you to tell me what your skills are, and why you want to go.

Audience members may need coaching when their turn comes.
Following are the answers of the cast members.

ANDERSON

Jon Anderson, sir. I've sailed for many a year, and I have experience as a boatswain. Plus, I already have the whistle.

He demonstrates. It should hurt.

PIRATES

Oo! Oh! Ah!

BLACK DOG

My name is Darkpup, Clarence Darkpup. But ever since I was a kid, I've been called "Black Dog". Get it, sir? Darkpup! Black Dog!

compares

CAPTAIN

Message received.

BLACK DOG

I've done it all. Know my way on the deck, below and above. And if pirates wander by, they'll regret it. Hen I fight, I don't lose.

CAPTAIN

Good! Next?

HANDS

Israel Hands, sir. If you have a coxswain, fire him and hire me.

CAPTAIN

Are you that good?

HANDS

The best.

CAPTAIN

Why do you want to go?

HANDS

I'm insane. I love the sea.

CAPTAIN

Good answer. And finally, our cook.

LONG JOHN

Aye, sir. My friends call me Barbeque.

CAPTAIN

Well, Barbeque, are you the best man for the job?

LONG JOHN

I can cook up a storm.

compares

He hesitates, then adjusts.

I can even cook IN a storm

CAPTAIN

Why do you want to go.

LONG JOHN

Truthfully, sir, I've heard rumours that some of those islands you wish to map have treasure chests buried by pirates. Imagine if, while you were charting, we went in and found some trinkets! Wouldn't that be lovely?

CAPTAIN

I wouldn't want to get your hopes up. If one of those islands does have a treasure, it's bound to be buried. You'd never find it.

LONG JOHN

Oh, but Captain, what a delicious dream to sustain us!

SONG #6:

I REALLY LIKE GOLD

I'VE A PASSION FOR A VARIETY OF THINGS,
AND WHEN I SEE A THING I LIKE, I MAKE IT MINE.

By buying it, of course!

BUT OF ALL THE THINGS IN LIFE I'VE EVER SEEN,
ONE STANDS ABOVE THE REST.
AYE, 'TIS THE VERY BEST.
IT CAN HYPNOTIZE YOU AS YOU WATCH IT SHINE.

You see,

I'VE ALWAYS LIKED HATS WITH A BIT OF A FLAIR.
I'VE ALWAYS LIKED SHIRTS, IN FACT I'VE A SPARE,
BUT ARGGG, I REALLY LIKE GOLD.
I'VE ALWAYS LIKED SWORDS, I'VE ALWAYS LIKED KNIVES,
ESSENTIAL FOR CUTTING WHEN COMPANY ARRIVES,
BUT ARGGG, I REALLY LIKE GOLD.

compares

I LIKE THE WAY IT LOOKS, I LIKE THE WAY IT FEELS,
I LIKE THE WAY IT HELPS TO PAY FOR OH SO MANY MEALS.
I LIKE IT WHEN IT'S DUST, I LIKE IT WHEN IT RINGS,
IT DOESN'T MATTER – BRICKS OR BARS OR NUGGETS,
MY HEART SINGS!

I'VE ALWAYS LIKED WATER, TO SAIL ON OR DRINK.
I'VE ALWAYS LIKED SHIPS THAT AREN'T EASY TO SINK,
BUT ARGGG, I REALLY LIKE GOLD.

ANDERSON, BLACK DOG, HANDS

WE'VE ALWAYS LIKED HIM, HE'S ALWAYS LIKED US.
TOGETHER WE KICK UP A BIT OF A FUSS,
AND ARGGG, WE REALLY LIKE GOLD.
WE'VE ALWAYS LIKED SUNSETS, WE'VE ALWAYS LIKED DAWNS,
WE'VE ALWAYS LIKED SILVER, WE'VE ALWAYS LIKED BRONZE,
BUT ARGGG, WE REALLY LIKE GOLD.

WE WEAR IT ON OUR ANKLES, WE WEAR IT ON OUR TOES,
WE WEAR IT IN OUR EARS, WE WEAR IT THROUGH OUR NOSE.
WE WEAR IT ON OUR FINGERS, WE WEAR IT ON OUR WRIST.

BLACK DOG

IN FACT, I THINK IT IS THE ONLY THING I'VE EVER KISSED!

LONG JOHN

I'VE ALWAYS LIKED BLACK. I'VE ALWAYS LIKED BLUE.
I'VE ALWAYS LIKED BLOOD RED, A FASCINATING HUE,
BUT MY FAVOURITE COLOUR? I REALLY LIKE GOLD.
I'M QUIET, RESERVED, EVEN UNDER THE GUN.
I'VE NO BAD HABITS TO SPEAK OF, EXCEPT MAYBE ONE -
ARGGG, I REALLY LIKE GOLD.

ANDERSON, BLACK DOG, HANDS

HE REALLY LIKES GOLD.

LONG JOHN

I REALLY LIKE GOLD.

ANDERSON, BLACK DOG, HANDS

WE REALLY LIKE GOLD.

ALL FOUR

WE REALLY LIKE GOLD.

LONG JOHN

I could even go so far as to say, "It's love."

CAPTAIN

I gather you four have worked together before.

BLACK DOG

Well, we've been trying to work up an act for the tavern circuit.

CAPTAIN

On a ship. I meant, on a ship!

BLACK DOG

Somewhat cowed.

On a ship.

LONG JOHN

The answer, sir, is yes.

CAPTAIN

Good. A crew needs to work as a team. You four are hired.

Audience members are apologized to, thanked, and returned to their seats.

You will report oat 06000, exactly one week from today. Thank you.

The four men exit, sharing confidences and laughing. Long John breaks away from the others and returns alone.

compares

LONG JOHN

Oh Captain, one thing. I have this parrot. Goes with me everywhere. You wouldn't have any objection, would you sir?

CAPTAIN

No, Cook. Of course not.

LONG JOHN

Thank ye, sire.

CAPTAIN

Oh, Cook. What's the Parrot's name?

LONG JOHN

I call him Flint. Captain Flint.

CAPTAIN

Indeed.

Long John exits. Captain goes to the Doctor and Jim.

Well, it appears we have our crew.

DOCTOR

Well done, Captain Smollett. Good job.

JIM

That's strange.

DOCTOR

What is, Jim?

JIM

He said his parrot's name was Flint.

CAPTAIN

Well?

compares

JIM

It was Captain Flint who gave the map to his first mate, Billy Bones. And Captain Flint was killed by Long John Silver, the man with the wooden leg.

DOCTOR

A coincidence, I admit, but ...

JIM

I wonder if under that long apron ...

CAPTAIN

Enough of this. We have our crew, and only a week to prepare. Let's begin.

DOCTOR

He does have a point, Captain. We know very little about these men.

CAPTAIN

Doctor, take my word. Every crew is a motley collection of dreamers, thieves, misfits, liars, malcontents, adventurers, and – undoubtedly, in some cases, they've been in a battle along the way, and killed other men to survive.

DOCTOR

Sounds charming.

CAPTAIN

But it's my job to keep them in line and working for the common good, whatever they are. And I'm very good at my job.

DOCTOR

I know that. I checked around. Your reputation is stellar. I made doubly sure, given that young Jim is coming along. His father ...

CAPTAIN

I spoke to his father. I gather Jim convinced him this was the best place for him to learn.

compares

DOCTOR

I'd like to have heard that conversation! The boy does have a tongue when he decides to use it.

They start off.

Jim, are you coming? I promised your father I wouldn't let you out of my sight.

JIM

Staring off the other direction, where Long John exited.

BEWARE OF THE MAN
WITH A GROWL IN HIS VOICE,
AND A GLINT IN HIS EYE,
AND AN EVER SO BOISTEROUS LAUGH.

DOCTOR

From offstage.

Jim!!

JIM

Coming

He runs off. Blackout. End of scene.

SCENE THREE

We are onboard the Hispaniola. Jon Anderson is at the wheel. There is a British flag in the background, blowing in a strong wind. There is also this really ridiculous parrot.

FLINT (THE PARROT)

SONG #7:

PIECES OF EIGHT

BRWAK, BRAWK, PIECES OF EIGHT.
BRWAK, BRWAK, BURIED TREASURE.
BRWAK, BRWAK, AHOY, ME MATE.
WE'RE SAILING OVER THE SEA.
BRWAK, BRWAK, STARBOARD OR PORT,
BRWAK, BRWAK, RUM'S A PLEASURE.
BRWAK, BRWAK, GIMMEE A SNORT.
THEY'VE CUT ME OFF AT THE KNEE.

compares

ANDERSON

Will somebody shut that bird up?

FLINT

Brwak, will somebody shut that bird up?

ANDERSON

Black Dog!

FLINT

Brwak, Black Dog.

ANDERSON

Oh, shut up.

FLINT

Shut up, yourself!

Black Dog enters.

BLACK DOG

Anderson! What be the problem, matey?

ANDERSON

Where's Silver? I thought he was told to keep that bird below.

FLINT

Brwak, below, brwak, below.

BLACK DOG

Approaching Flint, and taking out his knife.

I'm getting awfully tired of Silver's stew. How about some Parrot Soup?

FLINT

Brwak, parrot soup? Brwak, Avast!!

compares

Black Dog grabs Flint, who should dutifully lose a couple of feathers.

BLACK DOG

O.K., Captain Flint. Let's hear you sing for your supper. Mercy!

FLINT

Brwak, Mercy!

BLACK DOG

Uncle.

FLINT

Brwak, Uncle.

SONG #8:

TAKE ME LIFE

BLACK DOG

I'M A MOUTHY BIRD.

FLINT

BRWAK, I'M A MOUTH BIRD.

BLACK DOG

I'M A FEATHERED SINNER.

FLINT

BRWAK, I'M A FEATHERED SINNER.

BLACK DOG

TO ME, IT JUST OCCURRED.

FLINT

BRWAK, TO ME, IT JUST OCCURRED.

BLACK DOG

THAT I'D LOVE TO BE YOUR DINNER.

FLINT

BRWAK, THAT I'D LOVE TO BE YOUR DINNER.

BLACK DOG

I PROMISE I'LL BE TENDER.

FLINT

BRWAK, I PROMISE I'LL BE TENDER.

BLACK DOG

YOU'LL HARDLY NEED YOUR KNIFE.

FLINT

BRWAK, YOU'LL HARDLY NEED YOUR KNIFE.

BLACK DOG

SO GO AHEAD, AND END 'ER.

FLINT

BRWAK, SO GO AHEAD AND END 'ER.

BLACK DOG

SACRIFICE ME, TAKE ME LIFE.

FLINT

BRWAK, SACRIFICE ME TAKE ME LIFE.

BLACK DOG

To Jon Anderson.

Isn't it wonderful to have such an agreeable sort for our supper menu?

Back to Flint.

Say good-bye.

compares

FLINT

Brwak, say good-bye.

Long John has snuck up behind Black Dog and put a dagger to his neck.

LONG JOHN

Say good-bye.

BLACK DOG

Ah, John, don't ...

LONG JOHN

Say Good-bye.

BLACK DOG

In a whisper.

Good-bye.

LONG JOHN

Like a parrot.

BLACK DOG

Brwak, Good-bye. Hey, Long John, we was just playing around. You know we'd never harm Captain Flint.

LONG JOHN

Do I now? Well, of course. I just remembered. You want to stay alive.

He removes the knife. A second later, they all lurch to the right.
Anderson corrects the wheel. Flint does a mad version of the chorus of
his song.

BLACK DOG

Happy to change the subject, rubbing his neck.

She's a rough one today.

compares

LONG JOHN

Aye! Don'tcha love it?!

SONG #9:

SAILING IN A STORM

ANDERSON

THE SHIP IS SOUND, THE CREW HAVE
LOTS OF MUSCLES THEY CAN FLEX,
SO THERE'S NO NEED TO PANIC
AT A LITTLE ANGRY SEA.
ALTHOUGH THE WAVES ARE CLIMBING
UP THE SIDE AND ON THE DECKS.
WE'LL SEE IT THROUGH UNTIL THE END,
WHENEVER THAT MAY BE.

FEEL THE WIND BITE THE SKIN.
TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND HOLD YOUR HAT.
IT'S A FEELING TO WHICH NO OTHER IS AKIN -
SAILING IN A STORM.
THERE'S NOTHING COMPARES TO THAT!

Hands enters.

HANDS

THE STORM IS JUST BEGINNING.
I'M CONVINCED I KNOW THE SIGNS.
THERE WAS A RED SKY IN THE MORNING,
SO I KNEW IT WOULD ARRIVE.
IT'S THE KIND OF STORM TO TEST THE MEN,
THE SAILS AND ALL THOSE TWINES,
THE KIND OF STORM THAT MAKES YOU PROUD
TO BATTLE AND SURVIVE.

HANDS, ANDERSON, LONG JOHN
BLACK DOG, FLINT

FEEL THE WIND BITE THE SKIN.
TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND HOLD YOUR HAT.
IT'S A FEELING TO WHICH NO OTHER IS AKIN -
SAILING IN A STORM.

compares

THERE'S NOTHING COMPARES TO THAT!
SAILING IN A STORM. SAILING IN A STORM.
SAILING IN A STORM.

They dance a maniacal dance. Man overboard, Mr. Arrow. Fight to save him. He is lost. Smollett arrives. Men shake their heads. They salute. Smollett leaves. Dance ends, and storm subsides a bit, Dr. Livesey enters, somewhat the worse for wear and obviously seasick, totally unaware of what has occurred..

DOCTOR

OH, OH, I WAS REALLY FEELING WOOZY DOWN BELOW.
DEAR, OH DEAR, I DON'T KNOW IF IT IS ANY BETTER HERE.
I COULDN'T EAT MY FOOD. I COULDN'T DRINK MY DRINK.
WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CHANCES ARE
THAT WE ARE GOING TO SINK?
MY, OH MY, I WAS HOPING I WOULD SEE A BLUER SKY.
ALAS, ALACK, EVERYWHERE I LOOK THE SKY IS ALMOST BLACK.
I HAVE TROUBLE STANDING UP. LYING DOWN IS NO REWARD.
I'D GO AND SEE A DOCTOR, BUT I'M THE ONLY ONE ABOARD!

To Hands.

That really is unfair, don't you think?

HANDS

Scornfully. Looks at Long John, who shakes his head. Yelling over the wind.

Terrible.

BLACK DOG

A curse.

ANDERSON

A sin.

LONG JOHN

You've never looked worse.

FLINT

Brawk, you've never looked worse.

compares

DOCTOR

WHO DOES A DOCTOR GO TO
 WHEN A DOCTOR GETS SICK?
 WHO'S GOING TO TAKE HIS TEMPERATURE
 OR HEAR HIS TICKER TICK?
 WHO WILL HOLD HIS HAND?
 WHO WILL CHECK HIS EYES?
 WHO WILL SIT BESIDE HIM
 WITH A MANNER OH, SO WISE?

WHO DOES A DOCTOR GO TO
 WHEN A DOCTOR GETS ILL?
 WHO'S GOING TO SEE IF HE IS BREATHING,
 OR IF HIS PULSE IS NIL?
 EVERYBODY CALLS THE DOCTOR
 WHEN THE LIGHTS ARE GROWING DIM,
 BUT WHO DOES A DOCTOR GO TO
 WHEN THE ONLY DOC IS HIM?

WHO DOES A DOCTOR GO TO
 WHEN A DOCTOR'S MOROSE?
 WHO'S GOING TO PICK HIM UP?
 WHO'S GOING TO DIAGNOSE?
 WHO WILL CHECK HIS THROAT?
 WHO WILL SAY HE LOOKS TIRED?
 WHO WILL GIVE THE ORDERS
 WHEN SOME ORDERS ARE REQUIRED?

WHO DOES A DOCTOR GO TO
 WHEN A DOCTOR'S NOT FIT?
 WHO'S GOING TO TELL HIM WHAT TO START
 AND TELL HIM WHAT TO QUIT?
 EVERYBODY CALLS THE DOCTOR
 WHEN THEY'RE FEELING NOT TOO SOUND.
 BUT WHO DOES A DOCTOR GO TO
 WHEN HE'S THE ONLY DOC AROUND?

LONG JOHN

Not quite ourselves, Matey?

compares

DOCTOR

Not quite.

LONG JOHN

Best stay below. Ye may not feel any better, but at least you won't get swept overboard like our friend Mr. Arrow!

DOCTOR

What?

LONG JOHN

Over the side.

DOCTOR

Speechless. Shakes head. Stumbles away. Sailors back to work.

SAILORS

SAILING IN A STORM. SAILING IN A STORM. SAILING IN A STORM!

Lights fade. Sounds of storm gradually subside, replaced by a calm sea.
Lights rise on Hands at the wheel. Captain Smollett enters.

SMOLLETT

Any sign of the island, yet, Hands?

HANDS

No sir.

SMOLLETT

Keep me posted.

HANDS

Yes, sir.

Captain starts to exit.

Sir?

compares

SMOLLETT

Yes?

HANDS

We spotted a ship earlier on today.

SMOLLETT

Were you close enough to see the flag?

HANDS

No, sir, but we were all talking. What if that ship had been a pirate vessel? You have all our weapons locked up.

SMOLLETT

And there they'll stay, unless they are needed. We'll have time to get the, should that need arise.

HANDS

Unconvinced.

Yes, sir.

SMOLLETT

Anything else?

HANDS

No, sir.

SMOLLETT

I'll be in my cabin with Dr. Livesey.

Smollett exits. Long John emerges with Flint.

LONG JOHN

Any luck?

HANDS

The weapons remain under lock and key.

compares

LONG JOHN

Curses.

FLINT

Brwak, curses.

HANDS

Why don't we just storm the Captain's quarters?

LONG JOHN

Too dangerous.

FLINT

Brwak. Too dangerous.

Jim sneaks on, hides, listens.

LONG JOHN

We don't yet know how many of the men are on our side.

HANDS

I count as many as nineteen. There are only six for sure, plus the kid, who would remain loyal to Smollett now that Arrow is gone.

LONG JOHN

I admit, our odds look good. But let's bide our time, matey, bide our time.

FLINT

Brwak. Bide our time.

LONG JOHN

The gold is ours if we just wait a little longer.

HANDS

Do you think they suspect anything?

compares

LONG JOHN

Not a chance.

FLINT

Brwak. Not a chance.

LONG JOHN

They still think we buy this story about charting a set of islands.

HANDS

Fools!

FLINT

Brwak, fools.

Long John pets Flint to keep him from attracting attention.

LONG JOHN

We'll let them think that until we're close enough to the gold that we can smell Ol' Capt'n Billy Bones' perfume. What was that stuff he used, anyway?

HANDS

Ugly. That's what it was. Real ugly.

FLINT

Brwak, ugly.

LONG JOHN, HANDS

Shaddup.

Flint rustles his feathers.

LONG JOHN

Arggg. I've waited for this a long time. And we're getting close. I can feel it in my bones, them that are left, that is.

compares

HANDS

Feel it?! You can smell it. Old Capt', Billy Bones' perfume, ridin' on the wind.

Both laugh. Jim sneaks away. Runs as scene shifts to Captain's Cabin.
Jim knocks.

SMOLLETT

Enter.

Jim goes in, to find the Captain and the Doctor.

JIM

Captain Smollett, D. Livesey!

SMOLLETT

What is it, son?

DOCTOR

Calm down, Jim. You look like you've seen a ghost.

JIM

They're planning on taking the gold from you.

SMOLLETT

Who?

JIM

The Cook. The one they call Barbeque is really Long John Silver. He's the pirate that killed old Captain Flint, and named his parrot after him.

DOCTOR

Jim, are you sure?

JIM

I was hiding and I heard him talking to Israel hands. He also said they have as many as nineteen of the crew who will follow them.

compares

SMOLLETT

They may be right. But now that we have been forewarned, we can plan our strategy. Good work, Jim. We'd be in serious trouble without your help.

DOCTOR

Any ideas, Captain?

SMOLLETT

I have a pretty good idea who we can trust. Once we reach the island, we'll use the good men to take as many provisions into shore as we can, plus any weapons we can smuggle past their eyes. I'm afraid our only hope of survival is to give them the ship initially, and then figure out a way to win it back.

DOCTOR

Well, at least we know they won't leave us. Not until they've found the treasure.

SMOLLETT

Just keep your eyes and ears open, both of you. We'll have to act quickly, and make sure they don't suspect that we know anything.

JIM

Yes, sir.

SMOLLETT

This is going to have to be timed perfectly. When we unload the provisions and guns from the ship, make sure they're guarded by men loyal to us. We'll have to find a protected base, and move from there.

DOCTOR

They'll be watching our every move.

SMOLLETT

They will see what we want them to see. As long as they don't know we're onto them, it might be possible to pull it off.

DOCTOR

I only hope that ...

compares

BLACK DOG

From off-stage.

Land ho!!!

Other voices pick up the cry.

JIM

Land!!!

The office turns into the deck as they sing.

COMPANY

SONG #10:

MY TREASURE ISLAND

THERE IT IS, JUST A SPOT ON THE HORIZON.
COULD THIS BE THE ISLAND, AT LAST?
WE HAVE NEVER FELT SUCH EXCITEMENT.
HAS IT TAKEN TOO LONG,
OR HAPPENED TOO FAST?

Company all talking simultaneously. Orders thrown around.

JIM

THIS IS MY TREASURE ISLAND.
THIS IS MY DREAM COMING TRUE.
TELL ME WHY, TREASURE ISLAND,
YOU FASCINATE ME THE WAY THAT YOU DO.

THIS IS MY TREASURE ISLAND.
THIS IS WHERE I WANT TO BE.
TO SOMEONE ELSE, YOU'RE JUST AN ISLAND,
BUT YOU'RE MY FANTASY.

LONG JOHN

THIS IS MY TREASURE ISLAND.

BLACK DOG

THINK OF ALL THAT TREASURE.

DOCTOR

THIS IS MY MOMENT TO SHINE.

HANDS

THINK OF ALL THAT PLEASURE.

SMOLLETT

TELL ME WHY, TREASURE ISLAND,

ANDERSON

JUST A FEW FEET UNDER.

SMOLLETT

YOU'RE SO PERFECTLY LOVELY, SO FINE.

JIM

THE TIME HAS COME TO GO ASHORE.

FLINT

BRWAK, ASHORE, BRWAK, ASHORE.

LONG JOHN

THIS IS MY TREASURE ISLAND.

DOCTOR

IT'S INTOXICATING.

JIM

THIS IS WHERE I WANT TO BE.

HANDS

ALL THAT GOLD JUST WAITING.

SMOLLETT

TO SOMEONE ELSE, YOU'RE JUST AN ISLAND,

ALL

BUT YOU'RE MY FANTASY.

Blackout. End of Scene.

SCENE FOUR

The scene opens on the Island, indicated by whatever foliage is in the budget! The two sides are engaged in a gun battle, with Long John, Anderson, Black Dog, and Hands in a lower position under the Skull and Crossbones Flag, while Jim, the Doctor, and Captain Smollett are in a more elevated position under the British flag. After an active exchange, the guns fall silent on both sides.

DOCTOR

Can you see anything?

SMOLLETT

Nothing. How's the ammunition holding out, Jim.

JIM

It's fine for the moment, sir, but it won't last forever. I could try to sneak back to the ship to get more.

SMOLLETT

Not a chance. They'd spot you the moment you hit the water.

JIM

Even at night?

DOCTOR

Definitely not. It's too dangerous.

SMOLLETT

Look! It's Silver. With a white flag.

Long John emerges from his group.

LONG JOHN

Captain? Captain Smollett? Can you hear me?

compares

SMOLLETT

I hear you, you scoundrel.

LONG JOHN

Captain, let's be sensible. This is really not getting us anywhere. We don't want to harm you. We like you, really we do!

SMOLLETT

Well, you have a strange way of showing it.

LONG JOHN

Now me and the boys was talking. If you hand us over the map, we'll not be botherin' you anymore.

SMOLLETT

I see. And do you suggest that we swim back to England?

LONG JOHN

Well, now, we could negotiate your safe passage. To a more occupied locale, shall we say?

SMOLLETT

Silver, you're a murderer, a thief, and a liar to boot.

LONG JOHN

To his pirates.

I think the peace talks are breaking down.

Back to the Captain.

I'd have to call this our last offer, Captain. You think it over. We'll give you a little peace and quiet to discuss it.

He returns to the pirates.

Break out the rum, boys. We're going to take a breather.

Large vocal reaction as lights fade on pirates.

compares

SMOLLETT

Alright, Jim. Hand over the map.

DOCTOR

Captain, you're not serious? Give them the map and it's over.

SMOLLETT

We may have to face facts. Now that Hunter's been killed, we're down to five of us. We can't hold up here forever.

DOCTOR

What if we escaped into the woods?

SMOLLETT

They'd find us eventually. The Island isn't large enough to hide for long. And they still have control of the ship.

DOCTOR

I wish I knew exactly how many they left onboard. If we gave them the map as a diversion, we might be able to gain the ship back while they're searching for the treasure.

SMOLLETT

Possible. That might be our only hope. But getting out to the ship?

JIM

Captain, let me try. I'm not much help here, but if I could find a way out there, at least we'd know what we're up against.

DOCTOR

I can't allow it. I promised you Father ...

SMOLLETT

Wait a minute. I think the boy has a point. He's no safer here, waiting for them to overpower us.

DOCTOR

I suppose that's true. But they'll be guarding the boats. How will you reach the ship?

compares

JIM

I'll figure something out.

DOCTOR

You're a brave lad. And a clever one. Alright then. It's worth a try. Good luck, Jim.

JIM

Thank you, sir.

SMOLLETT

They seem to be busy having a party. Away you go. And for God's sake, be careful.

JIM

I will.

Lights fade as Jim leaves while Captain Smollett and Doctor Livesey resume their watch, guns ready. The lights rise on Jim in the woods.

SONG #11

DON'T YOU WORRY

BOY, THE WOODS ARE THICK.
WHAT DIRECTION AM I GOING?
WHAT PATH SHOULD I PICK?
IT'S AWFUL NOT KNOWING.
NO ONE TO TELL ME WHERE TO GO.
FAR AWAY FROM EVERYONE I KNOW.
I HAVE TO ADMIT, I'M FRIGHTENED.
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?
I WISH I KNEW.

THERE'S NO ONE HERE TO POINT THE WAY,
NO ONE TO LOOK AT ME AND SAY,
"DON'T YOU WORRY,
THINGS ARE GOING TO WORK OUT FINE."
THERE'S NO ONE HERE TO CALM THE FRIGHT,
NO ONE TO TUCK ME IN AT NIGHT, SAYING,
"DON'T YOU WORRY.",
AND GIVING ME A HOPEFUL SIGN.

I USED TO DREAM ABOUT ADVENTURES
IN SOME FAR, EXOTIC LAND.
NOW ALL I DREAM ABOUT IS GOING HOME.
THIS HASN'T QUITE WORKED OUT
THE WAY I PLANNED.

THERE'S NO ONE HERE TO POINT THE WAY,
NOBODY SAYING, "IT'S O.K.,
DON'T YOU WORRY, I'LL LOOK AFTER YOU."
AND WHEN THERE'S NO ONE HERE
TO SAY, "DON'T WORRY.". I DO.

At the end of the song, Jim is absorbed in his thoughts, and doesn't notice the strange apparition flitting through the trees, watching him. The flittering apparition is Ben, who finally approaches Jim, trying to figure out how best to get his attention without scaring him too much. He finally decides.

BEN

Ever so gently.

Boo.

JIM

Argggghhhhyyi ii.

Or something impressive, in that manner of speech.

BEN

Be frightened not. Ben I.

JIM

You speak English?

BEN

Yes.

JIM

Where did you come from? I thought this Island was deserted.

compares

BEN

Deserted is it. Me only.

JIM

How did you get here?

BEN

Alone left, long ago. You home take me?

JIM

Gosh, I'd love to, but I'm afraid I'm having some trouble figuring out how to get there myself!

BEN

Big ship.

JIM

Well, yes, but I can't get on it.

Ben puts his head to the side, as if to say, "Why?".

Pirates.

Ben suddenly runs all over the stage and ends up hiding behind a tree. Jim smiles, in spite of himself and his situation.

My reaction exactly. I gather you know about them.

BEN

Bad. Swords. Knives.

JIM

You've got that right.

BEN

Go home. You. How?

compares

JIM

I wish I knew. I have to find a way to get out to the ship to see how many men they left there, but some pirates are guarding the boats.

Ben jumps up and down with excitement and laughs.

Did I say something funny?

BEN

Me. Boat!

JIM

You're a boat?

Ben runs around, gathering branches and twigs. Mimes tying together.

BEN

Boat. Build.

JIM

You want us to build a boat? That could take quite some time!

BEN

No. No.

JIM

O.K. Try again. Sounds like?

BEN

Ben. Boat build. Finished.

JIM

You already have a boat?

Ben does his jumping around thing.

Does it float?

Ben laughs and claps.

compares

BEN

Ben, on Island, best builder.

Two beats.

Besn, on Island, only builder.

They share a laugh.

JIM

Ben, could I borrow it? Would you let me use it to get out to the ship?

BEN

No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no.

JIM

Dejected.

Well, I understand. It is your boat, and I can't expect you to just give it to anybody who asks.

BEN

No, no, no. Misunderstand, you. O.K. boat. But go I you with!

JIM

It'll be dangerous. There will be pirates aboard.

BEN

Pirates!

And of course, he runs around the stage and hides again.

JIM

Ben, don't worry. They'll never see us. It's soon going to be dark. Then we go. And once we get there, you stay in the boat, and I'll go on the ship. O.K.?

BEN

Stupid you. But yes. O.K.

compares

JIM

O.K?

BEN

O.K. You and me. Go we off. Pirates, worry, better!

JIM

It's a deal, partner.

BEN

Partner? Yes, partner!

They shake hands. Ben laughs. Lights fade. Rise on Pirates in garrison, which Doctor, Smollett, and men have left. Long John is pacing.

LONG JOHN

Argg.

FLINT

Brwak, argg.

BLACK DOG

Silver, will you and your cursed parrot stop "argg"ing? It's not getting us anywhere!

HANDS

Black Dog's right. Let's make some decisions.

ANDERSON

I say kill 'em all!

LONG JOHN

We have to find them first. I knew it was too easy when we attacked. There wasn't nearly enough fire being returned. Probably only left one man here, and even he was gone when we broke in. Argg. We'll never find them now, not out in those woods. They could hide from us forever! Argg.

HANDS

We know the situation, Silver. What's the solution?

compares

55

LONG JOHN

Give me a moment. Give me a moment.

FLINT

Brwak, give me a moment.

BLACK DOG

That bird is getting on me nerves.

ANDERSON

If we ever find the treasure, I vote that we bury Captain Flint in its place!

Men laugh as they exit.

SCENE FIVE: Night falls on the garrison. Jim enters cautiously in the darkness

JIM

Captain Smollett? Dr. livesey? It's me, Jim.

Long John grabs him, Black Dog turns on the lights.

LONG JOHN

Gotcha!

FLINT

Brwak, gotcha. Pieces of 8. Pieces of 8.

JIM

Let me go!

LONG JOHN

Nothing I'd rather do, kid.

To Hands.

Well, Mr. Hands. It looks like we're goin' to get us a map! Cuz now we have us a little something to exchange for it!

He hauls a fighting Jim to the door.

compares

Smollett. Livesey. I know you're out there, or one of your spies is. We have the boy. We have Jim. You want him? He's yours. But we'll be wantin' a little something in return. We'll be wantin' a map THE map!!

Reaction from pirates. Lots of "Ayes".

You hear me? Captain? Doctor? The map! Now!!!

Lowers his voice. Tinged with ice.

Now. Or else.

Three beats.

DOCTOR

From offstage.

We hear you Silver. I'm coming in. Unarmed.

Doctor enters.

LONG JOHN

My, Doctor. That was quick. I'm so impressed.

DOCTOR

The boy.

LONG JOHN

The map.

DOCTOR

Let him go first.

LONG JOHN

The map first.

DOCTOR

Sir, I am a man of honour. You are not. I will keep my word. You will not. The boy goes first.

Four beats.

compares

LONG JOHN

To Hands.

Let him go.

ANDERSON

But Captain.

HANDS

Don't be ridiculous.

BLACK DOG

This is our only chance.

LONG JOHN

Never taking his eye off the Doctor.

Let him go. After all, the Doctor is a man of his word.

Hands, who has been holding Jim, pushes him away, roughly.

DOCTOR

Jim, get out.

Jim leaves.

The map will be at this end of the path from the woods.

LONG JOHN

When?

DOCTOR

Watch.

The Doctor backs out. The Pirates crowd around the door after he exits.
Sudden reaction.

LONG JOHN

Well, shiver me timbers. He had it on him all the time! Anderson, go get it.

compares

Anderson does.

At last. There's no stoppin' us now. Matey's, we're rich!!!!

They celebrate. Anderson returns. They open the map, spread it out, and gather around. All react with excitement.

It's here. It's here! Right beneath us. There. In the corner. I don't believe it!!!

Men go just offstage.

Dig, boys. That's it. Dig!! Gold, gold, gold, gold. I really like gold. I really like gold. I really like ...

Men drag on the chest.

There she be. After all these years. At last. Mateys, open her up.

They smash the lock, and left up the top.

Slowly. Let's enjoy this moment.

They pull out a blanket. The another. Then another.

Where's the gold?

A couple of blankets more.

BLACK DOG

Empty.

LONG JOHN

Empty??!! Nooo!!! After them, boys, after them! They won't get away with this! After them. And show no mercy!

Pirates all rush out. Hear yeelin, sounds of battle offstage, recedes into distance. Ben, Jim, Dr. Livesey and Smollett enter from other side as cabin disappears. They are seen in the woods. Pirates near.

SMOLLETT

They're closing in. You run ahead. I'll try to delay them.

BEN

No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no.

compares

JIM

What is it, Ben?

BEN

Them scare!

DOCTOR

How do we do that?

BEN

Going into the audience.

Woods, these mine. Friends all. Make sounds scary. Help me. Scary sounds. Everyone!

Hopefully they do. If not, blackout, end of show. If they do, Ben does his jumping thing.

SMOLLETT

It's worth a try. Come on.

They all go into the audience. Pirates appear.

There they are. Shhh.

SONG #12:

HEY MEN, HO MEN

BEN

HEY MEN, HO MEN, SAILORS, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
CAPTAIN FLINT AT YOUR SERVICE,
CAN I BE OF SOME ASSISTANCE?

ANDERSON

IT'S COMING FROM OVER HERE.

BLACK DOG

NO, IT'S COMING FROM OVER THERE!

LONG JOHN

IT'S JUST THE WIND, DON'T YOU PAY IT ANY HEED.

compares

BEN

HEY MEN, HO MEN, NOW YOU'RE DRAWING NEAR ME.
CAPTAIN FLINT. DON'T BE NERVOUS.
I'VE BEEN WATCHING FROM A DISTANCE.

HANDS

THAT ISN'T THE WIND I HEAR.

ANDERSON

AYE, IT'S THE SOUND OF A GHOST, I SWEAR.

LONG JOHN

YOU'RE ALL AFRAID WHEN THERE ISN'T ANY NEED,
LETTING YOUR IMAGINATION RUN AMOK.

KEEP YOUR MIND ON WHAT WE'RE AFTER.
ONCE WE FIND IT, SONG AND LAUGHTER
WILL BE THE ONLY SOUNDS THAT YOU HEAR!

BEN

High, chilling laugh.

LONG JOHN

WHICH ONE OF YOU DID THAT?
WHERE'S IT COMING FROM, I SAY?!

BLACK DOG

Frightened.

IT'S CAPTAIN FLINT!

LONG JOHN

IMPOSSIBLE.

ANDERSON

CAPTAIN FLINT?

LONG JOHN

HE'S DEAD!

HANDS

IT'S A GHOST!

LONG JOHN

COME OUT, I SAY!

BEN

HEY, MEN, HO, MEN, SAILORS, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
HEY, MEN, HO, MEN, THERE IS NEED TO FEAR ME!
CAPTAIN FLINT! THINK YOU'LL EVER FIND ME?
CAPTAIN FLINT! JUST AS MEAN AND WILD AS EVER.
HEY MEN, HO MEN, THOUGH YOU'LL NEVER HEAR ME.
HEY MEN, HO MEN, I AM RIGHT BEHIND YE.
CAPTAIN FLINT, ALL I ASK IS WHAT I NEVER DUE ME.
CAPTAIN FLINT, I HAVE GOT IT COMING TO ME.

PIRATES

IT'S CAPTAIN FLINT COME TO HAUNT US
AND TO TAKE AWAY OUR LIVES. RUN!!
WHAT MIGHT HE BE PLANNING? HE NEVER DID
SHOW MERCY WITH A SWORD OR A GUN.
IT'S CAPTAIN FLINT COME TO RUN US THROUGH
OR BURY US ALIVE! NO!
WHERE MIGHT HE BE HIDING? WHEN WILL HE CHOOSE
TO TAKE US FROM OUR MISERY AND WOE?

BLACK DOG

WANT MY SHARE OF THE GOLD.
HAS HE GONE? SHHH.
I THINK WE'VE LOST HIM. SHHH.
QUICK, OVER HERE. SHHH.
LET'S FIND SMOLLETT AND THE OTHERS. SHHH.

LONG JOHN

CAPTAIN FLINT, IT COULD NOT BE YOU.
I WATCHED YOU DIE,
AND I BURIED YOU DEEP AS I COULD.
CAPTAIN FLINT, YOU CANNOT RETURN.
THIS GOLD IS MINE!
I HAVE WAITED TOO LONG
TO SHARE IT WITH ANYONE,
EVEN ANYONE GOOD.

THIS IS MY TREASURE ISLAND.
THIS IS MY MOMENT TO WIN.
GET AWAY FROM MY ISLAND
SO THE REST OF MY LIFE CAN BEGIN.
CAPTAIN FLINT, I AM NOT AFRAID,
EVEN OF YOUR GHOST.
DON'T YOU TANGLE WITH LONG JOHN SILVER,
OR YOU'LL DIE AGAIN,
AND TO DIE A SECOND TIME HURTS THE MOST!

Hey lads, where are you? Wait for me. Hold on!

He sets to run offstage, but is met by Smollett with sword at Black Dog and Anderson. Doctor follows, armed with a musket and dragging Flint.

SMOLLETT

Weapons down, Silver. We have all your crew.

LONG JOHN

Don't think I'll fall for that!

SMOLLETT

One by one, while you were in the woods. They are all tied up back at the garrison.

LONG JOHN

You're lying.

FLINT

Brwak, no he's not, no he's not.

compares

LONG JOHN

Unhand that bird.

SMOLLETT

Your weapons!

Long John complies, slowly.

This round to you, Captain.

Doctor gives Flint to Long John, and holds pirates at bay with his gun.

LONG JOHN

Almost pleadingly.

But the gold?

SMOLLETT

Ben moved it all to his cave.

LONG JOHN

Ben?

Ben and Jim arrive.

SMOLLETT

Ben. He's been marooned here for years. He found the gold, and bit by bit, movd it away to his home.

LONG JOHN

Argg. He'll pay for that.

SMOLLETT

Silver, give it up. We have all of you.

Hands arrives behind Jim, grabs him, and brings his sword around. As he does, Jim bites his hand. Hands' hand! Doesn't get better than that. Smollett and Hands have a sword fight. Smollett wins.

As I was saying, we have all of you.

compares

LONG JOHN

And what now, Captain?

SMOLLETT

Jim and ben went out to the ship and managed to bring it into the cove, with a little help from your men.

LONG JOHN

But how ...?

SMOLLETT

They were “asked” to.

Beat.

By Captain Flint.

Ben laughs, does a circle, and bows.

LONG JOHN

A favour, Captain. The gold. Could we at least see some of the gold/

Captain nods to Jim and Ben, who exit.

SMOLLETT

Of course you can see it. After all, you’ll be helping us transport it back home.

LONG JOHN

Sir?

SMOLLETT

We sail as soon as all the gold is loaded. Back to England. And we need your crew.

LONG JOHN

But sir, you wouldn’t tell anyone what happened her, would you? I mean, it was really nothin’ more than a family spat, shall we say. Right, sir?

SMOLLETT

We’ll let the courts decide that, Silver.

compares

LONG JOHN

Argg.

Ben and Jim arrive with some gold.

JIM

We just brought a bag, sir. The rest is pretty well on board.

Pirates all sigh. Long John gets down on his knees and smells the gold.

LONG JOHN

It is lovely, is it not? Almost orth all the trouble. Thank you, Captain. I appreciated that moment.

SMOLLETT

And now, to the ship

DOCTOR

Gentlemen?

They march off, leaving Long John, Smollett, Flint and Jim.

LONG JOHN

Captain, if we should run into some rough seas, and if I should happen to save your life, would it be reported in my favour?

SMOLLETT

We'll see, Silver, we'll see.

FLINT

Brwak, we'll see, brwak.

Ben and Jim are left.

JIM

Thanks Ben. We couldn't have done it without you.

BEN

Home go?

compares

JIM

Home go.

Ben laughs, jumps up and down, claps, and runs off. Jim looks around.

SONG #12a:

MY TREASURE ISLE (reprise)

THIS IS MY TREASURE ISLAND.
THIS IS WHERE I WANT TO BE.
I'LL SAY GOOD-BYE, TREASURE ISLAND,
BUT YOU'LL ALWAYS BE MY FANTASY

Lights fade to black. End of play.

compares

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compares

compares