

Pirates! The Musical

SCENE 1

Stowaway: *(talking directly to the audience)* Pirates! Pirates are very bad people. Make no mistake. They rob innocent peasants. They ransack villages. They use terrible language. They sing bawdy songs hardly ever in tune. Yes, indeed, pirates are very bad people. *(pauses)* I **really** want to be one!

SONG 1: Pirates All Are We

SCENE 2

Stowaway: *(unaccompanied singing and dancing like the pirates were)* Pirates all are we! Pirates all are we!

Bluebeard: Avast!

Stowaway: *(Continues)* Pirates all are we!

Bluebeard: *(getting more irritated)* Avast!

Stowaway: Pirates aaaaaallllll are...

Bluebeard: *(with rage)* Avast! Avast! Avast! That means “stop it!”

(The Stowaway notices that nobody else is singing and all of the pirates are looking at him with disbelief. He stops, a bit embarrassed.)

Bluebeard: When I say “Avast,” you stop! Stop! Stop! Don’t you speak “pirate?”

Stowaway: No sir. Not yet. But I plan to, for I, too want to be a pirate just like you!

(All the pirates laugh)

Redbeard: You? A pirate? *(There is a pause—then all the pirates laugh.)*

Redbeard: You can’t be a pirate! You’re too small!

Whitebeard: *(very old)* Arrr! You’re too young!

Greenbeard: Arrr! You’re too clean!

Stowaway: But being a pirate is all I’ve ever wanted to be. It’s what I’ve dreamed about ever since I was a child. *(He attempts to show them what a quick learner he is.)* Watch! Watch this. *(He lifts his very small toy cutlass.)* Avast! Avast! Avast, I say!

(All of the pirates laugh.)

Yellowbeard: Have you ever robbed an honest man?

Stowaway: Why, no?

Greenbeard: Have you ever ransacked a village?

Stowaway: No.

Brownbeard: Have you ever been six months at sea without a bath or shave or a shower?

Stowaway: No. But once, I went a week without brushing my teeth!

ALL PIRATES: *(after a pause)* Ew! That's disgusting!

Bluebeard: Listen up, me bucko. We're on our way to the big pirate gathering in the big pirate sea and you ain't going with us, and that's me final word.

Stowaway: But...but....

Bluebeard: Arr! Be off with you now before we....

Redbeard: Season you up and feed you to the fish!

ALL PIRATES: *(react, rubbing hands together excitedly)* Ooooooooooooo!

Yellowbeard: Belay that talk! It's time we sail. Throw him from the ship!

Greenbeard: Aye! Throw him from the ship!

ALL PIRATES: Arrrrrrr! Throw him from the ship!

(Some of the pirates grab the Stowaway and escort him from the stage. He is heard pleading with them on the way.)

Stowaway: Wait! Give me a chance! I know I can do it! *(etc.)*

(The rest of the pirates begin moving around....busying themselves with preparing to set sail.)

Purplebeard: Move smartly, men! Weigh anchor now and away we sail!

Yellowbeard: All hands on deck!

Redbeard: Hoist the Jolly Roger! *(They raise the flag.)*

Greenbeard: Up up and away!

Brownbeard: That's not pirate talk!

Greenbeard: *(apologetically)* Oh, you're right. So sorry. Aye, aye and away!

Brownbeard: That's better.

ALL: Aye, Aye and away!

(During the following instrumental music, the Stowaway sneaks back on stage in full view of the audience but not seen by the busy pirates. He hides in a pile of ropes, behind a stack of crates or in a large chest.)

(Music Stops)

Bluebeard: Fee! Fie! Foe! Fay! I smell the blood of a Stowaway!

(All of the pirates start sniffing)

ALL PIRATES: Arrrrrrr!

Yellowbeard: *(quickly and idiotically)* I don't know! I don't smell anything at all! Well, maybe some of you, but I'm sort of used to that.

ALL PIRATES: *(menacingly to Yellowbeard)* Arrrrr!

Yellowbeard: On second thought, maybe it's my allergies. Something does seem a little strange around here.

Purplebeard: Shiver me timbers! There's a stowaway on board!

Whitebeard: Aye! We have to find him!

Greenbeard: Aye! A stowaway!

Brownbeard: Find him, ye seadogs! Find him!

ALL PIRATES: Arrrrrr!

Song 2: Stowaway

SCENE 3

Brownbeard: Arrrr! We caught you now, ye scurvy dog! Now ye be shark bait for sure!

Redbeard: Aye! Make 'im walk the plank!

Purplebeard: Toss 'im overboard!

Greenbeard: Arr! Feed 'im to the fish, the bubble-blowing blaggard!

ALL PIRATES: *(offended)* Hey! Watch your language.

Greenbeard: Oh, sorry. Got carried away, I guess.

Yellowbeard: Belay, me addled hearties! We can't be makin' this decision all by ourselves.

Blackbeard: Aye! You're right, Yellowbeard. This is a decision for you-know-who?

ALL PIRATES: Whom.

Blackbeard: You know who.

ALL PIRATES: Whom.

Blackbeard: You know who.

ALL PIRATES: What?

Bluebeard: Where?

Blackbeard: This is a decision for the King of the High "Cs," that's whom!

ALL PIRATES: *(with awe and understanding)* Ahhhh!

Stowaway: The King of the High "Cs?" Who's that?

ALL PIRATES: What?!

Whitebeard: You don't know who the King of the High "Cs" is?

Stowaway: Um, 'fraid not.

Whitebeard: Feed 'm to the sharks.

Brownbeard: The King of the High "Cs" is the craftiest crooner of the Caribbean Coast.

Greenbeard: Aye! The swellest singer of the Swashbucklin' Sea!

Redbeard: Arr! The tastiest tenor from Tobago to Tahiti!

Stowaway: The King of the High "Cs" is a singer?

ALL PIRATES: Precisely!

Purplebeard: Ye see, me squiffy, at the big pirate gathering in the big pirate sea, there is always a singing contest.

Stowaway: *(shocked)* A singing contest!?

Whitebeard: Aye! A singing contest! And all the pirate ships put forward their best singers in hopes of winning the grand prize.

Stowaway: What's that?

Whitebeard: Yo ho ho! It's a bottle of...

Yellowbeard: *(cutting him off)* Sarsaparilla!

Stowaway: Blimey!

Blackbeard: Blimey....spoken like a true pirate!

Stowaway: *(hopefully)* Really?

ALL PIRATES: Not! *(They all laugh)*

Stowaway: Can I meet him? Can I really meet the King of the High "Cs"?

Bluebeard: Meet him you will, ye scallywag! He'll be the one deciding your fate. And let me warn you, he doesn't take kindly to stowaways.

Brownbeard: Aye! Especially if ye can't carry a tune!

Greenbeard: Here he comes now. It's the King of the High "Cs" and the Chorus of No Beards!

SONG 3: King of the High "Cs"

SCENE 4:

King: *(very pleased with himself and with a conceited attitude)* Thank you! Thank you all. I am good, am I not?

No Beards: Aye! Your majesty, the very best!

King: Of course, I am!

Bluebeard: Aye, your majesty! But, we have a bit of a problem here.

King: What is it, Bluebeard?

Bluebeard: Well, sir, it seems we have a stowaway aboard.

King: A stowaway? Shiver me timbers, this is not a problem. Send his bones to Davy Jones!

Blackbeard: Aye sir! But he says he wants to be a pirate, sir.

King: Oh really?

Whitebeard: Blimey, sir. He says he wants to be just like you!

King: Well, sink me! Who wouldn't?

Yellowbeard: We tried to explain that he couldn't. We tried to tell him that the world could only stand one of you but....

King: *(cutting him off)* Avast! Where is this so-called "Stowaway?"

Purplebeard: Here he is, sir. Righ here

(Two pirates lead the Stowaway forward, holding his arms.)

King: *(incredulously)* This? This is the one who wants to be a pirates just like me?

Stowaway: Aye! More than anything, Your Highness! More than anything!

King: Ahoy! Ye got to be kidding! Make him walk the plank!

Stowaway: But sir! I swear I could be a smashing pirate, if only you'd give me the chance!

King: Oh really? Let me hear you say "Aye!"

Stowaway: Aye, aye, Sir!

King: Let me hear you say "Blimey!"

Stowaway: Blimey! Blimey! Blimey, Sir!

King: Let me hear you say *(growling)* "Arrrrrr!"

Stowaway: *(with gusto)* Arrrrrr!

King: Not bad.

SONG 4: You Wanna Be a Pirate

SCENE 5

Stowaway: *(trying to say an "Arrr!" but sounding pretty non-threatening)* Arrrrrg! Arrrrrg!

King: No "G!" No "G!"

Stowaway: Arrrrrr! Arrrrrr!

King: More AH! Less RRR!

Stowaway: Ahhhhhrrrrr! *(His "Arr" dwindles pathetically)*

King: *(He's had enough of this.)* Avast! I've heard enough! Mark him with a black spot and throw him in the brig with the rest of the prisoners!

Stowaway: But! But!

Redbeard: To the brig!

ALL PIRATES: To the brig!

(slow instrumental music. They place a black mark on his forehead or give him a badge that says "Black Spot" and take the Stowaway to the brig where he tossed in amongst a group of prisoners, all dirty and dressed in rags.)

SCENE 6

Prisoner 1: *(In a sneering voice)* My, my! What have we here? Blimey! Looks like a stowaway.

Prisoner 2: Aye, Jack! Looks good enough to eat!

Stowaway: Leave me alone.

Prisoner 3: *(teasingly)* Leave me alone!

(prisoners all laugh)

Prisoner 4: What are you in for mate?

(They see the black spot)

Prisoner 5: (*horrified*) Ahhh! The black spot!

ALL PRISONERS: (*in hushed awe*) The black spot!

Stowaway: What? What does it mean—the black spot?

Prisoner 6: It means you're marked—marked for death.

Stowaway: No!

Prisoner 1: Yes!

Stowaway: No!

Prisoner 2: Yes!

Stowaway: Yes!

Prisoner 3: No!

ALL PRISONERS: What?

Prisoner 4: The black spot means when the sun comes up and choir rehearsal is over, there's no doubt about it....

Prisoner 5: (*slowly*) Ye walk the plank.

Stowaway: But how can this be? All I wanted was to be a pirate.....a pirate just like them!

Pirate 6: Ye should have stayed home with ye mother, mate. Ye ain't no buccaneer!

Prisoner 1: Now your hours are numbered for sure, me hearty. And it won't be long 'til you'll be lyin' in Davy Jones's Locker.

Stowaway: Davy Jones' Locker?

Prisoner 2: And remember.....

ALL PRISONERS: (*quietly and scarily*) Dead men tell no tales.

Stowaway: Here I am at sea---where I always wanted to be. And yet, I've never felt so lost and alone in my whole life.

SONG 5: Lost at Sea

SCENE 7

(*The pirates are on deck rehearsing for the pirate-singing contest.*)

King: Now remember, mates! It's all about breath support! Breathe from your scurried diaphragms!

Bluebeard: Aye! And don't forget round tones, me hearties! Round tones!

Blackbeard: Arr! We can't lose this year. Not as long as we've got the King of the High "Cs" on our side!

ALL PIRATES: (*ad libs*) That's right! (*etc.*)

King: (*singing an arpeggio, spraying his throat, etc.*) Ah ah ah ah ah ah ! (*Then singing a glissando from low to high C.*) Ahh-----hh!

ALL PIRATES: (*truly impressed*)

King: Thank you. Thank you very much. Hit it!

Song 6: Singin' a Pirate Song

SCENE 8

Yellowbeard: If ya don't mind me sayin' so, Redbeard, I think you were singing a little flat!

Redbeard: Arrr! Who you callin' flat, ye good for nothin' scallywayg!

(All the pirates start arguing, telling each other they were out of tune, their diction was deplorable, "you sing too loud!" "You're choreography was sloppy!" etc.)

King: *(as before, sings arpeggio)* Ah ah ah ah ah ah ah! *(Then is glissando from low to high C)* Ahh-hhhh! *(But when he gets to the high note, his voice makes a terrible sound.)*

Brownbeard: Blimey! What's the matter king? Don't be messin' round with us!

Bluebeard: Aye, King! Don't be jokin'. Tomorrow is the big day. You can't be losing your voice now. You're our ticket to first prize.

King: *(holding is throat, barely able to croak out a sound)* Laryngitis!

Blackbeard: What?

King: *(Still a hoarse whisper)* Laryngitis!

No Beards: What?

King: *(in a loud clear voice)* I've got laryngitis, ye blaggards! How many times do I have to...*(then hoarse again)*tell you?

ALL: Laryngitis? *(in awed shock)* Blimey!

Purplebeard: What are we going to do?

Redbeard: Aye! What are we gonna do?

Greenbeard: Arr! There goes first prize.

Brownbeard: Yo ho ho, there goes our bottle of...

ALL PIRATES: Sarsaparilla!

(Then from the brig, they all hear a very sweet voice singing.)

Stowaway: *(singing in the distance)* Lost at sea, lost at sea. Tell me where I'm meant to be.

Bluebeard: What was that?

Stowaway: *(Still singing)* Hear my plea, set me free, 'Cause I'm lost, I'm lost at sea.

Whitebeard: Why, that's the most beautiful voice I've ever heard.

Purplebeard: Aye! And it's coming from the brig.

Redbeard: The brig? Find out who it is! This might be the break we need.

(Brownbeard and Bluebeard come in holding the Stowaway by his arms.)

Bluebeard: Aha and Ahoy! It's the Stowaway! Tell me, Stowaway, was it ou that we heard singing so melodiously? *(he sings)* Lost at sea! Lost at sea!

Stowaway: *(forlornly)* Aye, sir! It was I! I guess I wasn't very piratey—but I meant no disrespect!

Blackbeard: Disrespect? That's the best singing we've ever heard on this ship!

(The King stomps his foot and clears his throat.)

Yellowbeard: Aye, mate! Like Blackbeard said, that's the best singing we've ever heard on this ship!

(The King crosses his arms in disgust.)

Whitebeard: Aye! Now you **must** go with us to the pirate-singing contest. With your help, I know we can win.

Stowaway: Do you really think so? Do you really think I can help you win?

Purplebeard: Well, there's only one way to find out. Gentlemen.....

WARMUP *(All pirates sing a scale: "Do re mi fa so la ti....." They wait until Stowaway finally sings a beautiful "high do.")*

ALL: Perfect!

King: *(hoarsely)* Perfect.

Stowaway: *(excitedly)* Wow! Does that mean I get to be a full-blown pirate just like all of you?

Redbeard: Well now, I don't know about that.

Stowaway: *(crossing his arms stubbornly)* No pirate! No sing!

Greenbeard: Aye, mateys! Join me in a pirate huddle.

(All of the pirates get in a huddle. There is much gesticulating and talking. Finally, the all say....)

Pirates: One! Two! Three! Break!

Greenbeard: After much discussion, we have decided to ask you a few pertinent questions.

ALL PIRATES: Pertinent?

Greenbeard: That's advanced pirate talk, ye scurvy dogs, for "important!"

Stowaway: Ask away!

Brownbeard: Do ye promise to never be lily-livered or ever say "wow" again?

Stowaway: Wow! I mena, Aye! I sure do!

Bluebeard: Do ye swear by your mother's honor that you'll honor the pirate flag?

Stowaway: *(saluting)* Aye, aye, Captain, 'till me dying days!

Blackbeard: Do ye swear to be the heartiest, swashbuckling buccaneer ever to sail the sea?

Stowaway: Aye! Aye! Aye!

Whitebeard: Then by the powers vested in me, I proudly pronounce you a full-on, blow-me-down, shiver-me-timbers pirate of the briny sea!

Yellowbeard: Hip! Hip!

ALL PIRATES: Hooray!

Yellowbeard: Hip! Hip!

ALL PIRATES: Hooray!

Yellowbeard: Hip! Hip!

ALL PIRATES: Hooray!

SONG 7: Reprise—Pirates All Are We

