

Playstage
Junior

www.schoolplaysandpantos.com

SINBAD THE SAILOR



A comedy play with songs

Written by
Stewart Auty

CAST

So So Notgood

Mrs Notgood, his mother

Page

Sinbad the Sailor

Sailor Way

Sailor Return

Jonah

Peg Leg

Tattoo

Jolly Jack

Lookout

Groom

King

Chippy

Chirpy

Servant 1

Servant 2

Servant 3

Various cannibals

King 2

Footman

Miranda

Chaplain

Approximately 28 SPEAKING PARTS. Unlimited non-speaking/singing parts.

MUSIC

Backing tracks can be purchased and downloaded for a modest fee from various sources, as shown below. Or, you could source the original artist's recording from amongst parents/grandparents and just have the children sing along to it, as many schools do. If you cannot source them from amongst the school community, then Amazon sell very cheap downloadable MP3 tracks for hundreds of thousands of songs. These can be purchased, downloaded on to a computer and then burnt on to a CD for performance. Below we give the song title and source of backing tracks. Where it says "Traditional" or "Disney", this means there is no backing track we know of, but it may be in sheet music form in your school or on a children's school music compilation CD.

SUGGESTED SONGS:

Sail On Sailor (Beach Boys)	www.ameritz.co.uk
I'll Sail This Ship Alone (Beautiful South)	www.ameritz.co.uk
Blow the Man Down (The Windjammers)	mp3 amazon
Fire Down Below (Hanging Johnny)	mp3 amazon
Sailing (Rod Stewart)	www.ameritz.co.uk
A Sailor went to Sea (Twinkletrax)	mp3 amazon
Sailors Hornpipe	mp3 amazon
Dem Bones (Standard)	www.ameritz.co.uk
Sun Arise (Rolf Harris)	www.ameritz.co.uk
Back in the Saddle Again (Gene Autry)	www.ameritz.co.uk
It Ain't What you do it's the way that you do it (Bananarama)	www.ameritz.co.uk

SINBAD THE SAILOR

SCENE 1

Outside the home of the Merchant of Baghdad. If curtains are used, then they should be closed and a single bench placed in front of the curtains. If not, then screens should be placed on stage to hide the next scene. (SEE PRODUCTION NOTES)

Whole cast enter to sing opening song.

SONG 1. SAIL ON SAILOR (Beach Boys)

*I sailed an ocean, unsettled ocean
Through restful waters and deep commotion
Often frightened, unenlightened
Sail on, sail on sailor*

*I wrest the waters, fight Neptune's waters
Sail through the sorrows of life's marauders
Unrepenting, often empty
Sail on, sail on sailor*

*Caught like a sewer rat alone but I sail
Bought like a crust of bread, but oh do I wail*

*Seldom stumble, never crumble
Try to tumble, life's a rumble
Feel the stinging I've been given
Never ending, unrelenting
Heartbreak searing, always fearing
Never caring, persevering
Sail on, sail on, sailor*

*I work the seaways, the gale-swept seaways
Past shipwrecked daughters of wicked waters
Uninspired, drenched and tired
Wail on, wail on, sailor*

*Always needing, even bleeding
Never feeding all my feelings
Damn the thunder, must I blunder
There's no wonder all I'm under
Stop the crying and the lying
And the sighing and my dying*

*Sail on, sail on sailor
Sail on, sail on sailor*

*Sail on, sail on sailor
Sail on, sail on sailor
Sail on, sail on sailor
Sail on, sail on sailor
Sail on, sail on sailor*

(Exit all. Enter SO SO.)

SO SO *(To audience)*

Hello there! My name is So So Notgood. I know! Silly name, eh? Anyway, I'm a sailor. Well, not quite, but going to be, soon. It's true! I know it's hard to believe! Mind if I take the weight off my feet and sit on this bench for a few minutes?

(Enter MRS NOTGOOD, SO SO's mother)

MRS NOTGOOD *(shouts, offstage)*

So So! Where are you?

(SO SO cowers)

SO SO

Aargh! It's my mother!

MRS NOTGOOD *(appearing)*

Oh, there you are! How long have you been sitting there?

SO SO

I've only just sat down! I've not been here long! They'll tell you!

MRS NOTGOOD *(scolding)*

I don't know what I'm going to do with you. When there's work to be done, you're nowhere to be found.

SO SO

Work? But I get tired even thinking about work.

MRS NOTGOOD

You're just a lazy, good for nothing layabout.

SO SO

But I'm sitting! How can I be a (*demonstrates by lying back*) layabout?

MRS NOTGOOD

Too clever for your own good, So So Notgood.

SO SO

What a name! With a surname like Notgood, who'd call a baby So So?

MRS NOTGOOD

So what are you doing today, So So?

SO SO

Nothing much.

MRS NOTGOOD

You did nothing much yesterday.

SO SO

Well I haven't finished yet.

MRS NOTGOOD

You're a waster and a scoundrel! What are you?

SO SO (*mumbles*)

A waster and a scoundrel.

MRS NOTGOOD

That's right. Always wasting your time!

SO SO

I'm not wasting my time! I'm talking to these good people here.

MRS NOTGOOD (*to audience*)

Don't believe a word he says! He tells lies, and that's the truth. And he steals.

SO SO

That's not fair. That was a momentary lapse, that's all.

MRS NOTGOOD

They started to call him the Thief of Baghdad.

SO SO

That wasn't fair either.

MRS NOTGOOD

And if you listen to his jokes, you'll think he was the thief of bad gags!

SO SO

Well, I'm not up to no good this morning. I'm just talking to the people here.

MRS NOTGOOD

What have you told them this time?

SO SO (*sheepishly*)

I told them I was a sailor.

MRS NOTGOOD

Oh, so you're a sailor now. Last week, if I remember rightly you were a brain surgeon. The week before that you were an image consultant, whatever that is.

SO SO

It's a very important job, an image consultant. They give advice to anyone who wants to improve their image. Anyway, I've changed my mind. Now, I'm a sailor.

MRS NOTGOOD

A sailor? Don't be so ridiculous! (*to audience*) Do you know, he gets seasick when he has a bath! Which isn't often, mind. Don't come too close!

SO SO

It's the water. It moves, it goes all choppy, and I go all queasy. It's not my fault.

MRS NOTGOOD

It's bathwater for goodness sake! So you can forget any notion of becoming a sailor. Now I'm off, there's work to do. And if you know what's good for you, you'll follow on after me.

(Exit MRS NOTGOOD; Enter PAGE)

PAGE

She's a bit of a monster!

SO SO

You don't need to tell me! That was my mother! My dad George wanted to open a pub. She wasn't best pleased when he wanted to call it the George and Dragon.

PAGE

My master would like to talk with you. He overheard your conversation with your mother.

SO SO

Well, I don't know who your master is but listening in to private conversations – that's not right; it's wrong, very wrong. It's, it's.... invasion of privacy, that's what it is.

PAGE

Whatever. Now, about my master wishing to meet you?

SO SO

So who is this guy?

PAGE

One of the most famous and successful merchants in Bagdad!

SO SO

And I'm supposed to be impressed? After you've been eavesdropping?

PAGE

You were shouting! We didn't have any trouble overhearing you. It's not like we've hacked your phone or anything. Anyway, my master offers his sympathy. Your mother was giving you a hard time.

SO SO

She always does. That's what mothers are for, or so she tells me.

PAGE

My master is such an important man, that he can do what he likes. He pleases himself.

SO SO

Well good for him. I've got to do what I'm told. But pleasing yourself? Sounds good to me!

PAGE

Your mother is a very bossy woman. Come with me. Perhaps meeting my master could change your life.

SO SO

Change my life? Now there's an idea. But I'll be in trouble. Old bossy boots said I had to go.

PAGE

It's up to you. Life changing opportunities only happen once. It's make your mind up time.

SO SO

Lead the way! I'll deal with my mother later. Can big trouble get any bigger?

(Curtains open, or screens are removed to reveal a courtyard with a table laid for a banquet. Two large palm trees are in the background).

Full cast enter to sing next song.

SONG 2. I'LL SAIL THIS SHIP ALONE (Beautiful South)

*If, if you choose that we will always lose
Well then I'll sail this ship alone
And if, if you decide to give him another try
Well then I'll sail this ship alone
Well they said if I wrote the perfect love song
You would take me back
Well I wrote it but I lost it
And now will you take me back anyway
Now if, if you insist that this is for the best
Well then I'll sail this ship alone
And if, if you swear that you no longer care
Well then I'll sail this ship alone
I'll sail this ship alone
Between the pain and the pleasure
I'll sail this ship alone
Amongst the sharks and the treasure
If you would rather go your way then go your way
I'll sail this ship alone
If, if you're afraid that I won't make the grade
Well then I'll sail this ship alone
And if, if you agree to him instead of me
Well then I'll sail this ship alone
Well they said if I wrote the perfect letter
That I would have a chance
Well I wrote it, and you burnt it
And now do I have a chance anyway
If, if you swear that you no longer care
Well then I'll sail this ship alone
I'll sail this ship alone
Between the pain and the pleasure
I'll sail this ship alone
Amongst the sharks and the treasure*

If you would rather go your way then go your way

I'll sail this ship alone

Well they said if I burnt myself alive

That you'd come running back

(Exit extra cast members)

PAGE *(bowing)*

Master! This is the young man you wished to meet.

SINBAD

Come in, young sir, come in! How nice to make your acquaintance.

SO SO

Are you sure it's all right? I mean, this house, well it's like a palace. I feel out of place.

SINBAD

It's not *like* a palace, young man, it *is* a palace!

PAGE

This is So So. You overheard his mother giving him a hard time?

SINBAD

Ah yes. What an overbearing woman, if I might say.

SO SO

You might say, but if I even so much as thought it, I'd be in trouble, deep trouble.

SINBAD

Forget her for the time being. Come sit at the table. Let me introduce myself. You might have heard of me. My name is Sinbad. I'm the Merchant of Baghdad.

SO SO

I've heard of Sinbad the Sailor.

SINBAD

That's me. I was once Sinbad the Sailor, before I settled down and became very rich. So now I'm the Merchant of Baghdad.

SO SO

But you're a legend! You're an adventurer, an explorer, you're famous!

SINBAD

Mmm, but it wasn't always that way. So So. What a funny name you have!

SO SO

They didn't know what to call me when I was born. Sometimes I was good, sometimes not so good. So So is sort of average. You know, not bad, but not good.

SINBAD

Well my name is a combination of two evils. Think about it. Sin is all that is wicked, and bad, well that's just not good. I've tried hard to live down my name, but occasionally taking risks leads to big trouble.

SO SO

That reminds me. I know all about big trouble. I should go.

SINBAD

If you stay, I can tell you about my adventures, how I came close to death, but more importantly, how I made my fortune and became very, very rich.

PAGE

Sinbad didn't sail alone. Let me introduce some of the crew. This here is Sailor Way.

SINBAD

Sailor Way?

ALL (*sing*)

Sail away, sail away, sail away!

PAGE

We do like having a laugh now and again, as you will see.

SO SO

Pleased to meet you Sailor Way.

PAGE

Next we have Return.

SO SO

I know there's a joke there somewhere.

PAGE

Sale or return, get it?

SO SO

Just about. And you are...?

JONAH (*grumpily*)

They all call me Jonah. It's not my real name, but it's what everyone calls me.

PAGE

It's rhyming slang, and it's well deserved.

SO SO

Jonah?

PAGE

...the moaner. He is always complaining, so... Jonah the Moaner.

JONAH

They're always picking on me, it's not fair.

PAGE

And this is Peg Leg...Tattoo...Jolly Jack...and ,oh, there's too many to introduce them all!

SO SO

Well nice to meet you, but I really have to be going.

SINBAD

You will regret it if you go now. Let me tell you my amazing story. There's danger and excitement, more danger and nail biting escapes. It's a fantastic life story. And look where I am now!

PAGE

Tell him the story about the whale!

SAILOR WAY

This is a remarkable story!

SAILOR RETURN

You won't believe what you're hearing!

JONAH

Not again! I've heard this story so many times before.

SAILOR WAY

It's not for you, so stop moaning.

SAILOR RETURN

Tell him, master, tell him the story!

SINBAD

I will if I can get a word in. Calm down, all of you.

PAGE

Sorry. Please go on, and we will try not to interrupt.

SINBAD

But first, a sea shanty, to get us all in the mood. And audience, we don't mind at all if you join in.

(Servants remove the table. A ship's wheel is placed centre stage. Servants become crew members and join the others on stage.)

SONG 3. BLOW THE MAN DOWN (Traditional)

Come all ye young fellows that follows the sea

(crew gesture to audience to encourage participation)

To me, way hey, blow the man down

*Now please pay attention and listen to me
Give me some time to blow the man down*

I'm a deep water sailor just come from Hong Kong

To me, way hey, blow the man down

You give me some whiskey, I'll sing you a song

Give me some time to blow the man down

When a trim Black Ball liner's preparing for sea

To me, way hey, blow the man down

On a trim Black Ball liner I wasted me prime

Give me some time to blow the man down

When a trim Black Ball liner preparing for sea

To me, way hey, blow the man down

You'll split your sides laughing such sights you would see

Give me some time to blow the man down

There's tinkers and tailors, shoemakers and all

To me, way hey, blow the man down

They're all shipped for sailors aboard the Black Ball

Give me some time to blow the man down

When a big Black Ball liner's a-leaving her dock

To me, way hey, blow the man down

The boys and the girls on the pier-head do flock

Give me some time to blow the man down

Now, when the big liner, she's clear of land

To me, way hey, blow the man down

Our bosun he roars out the word of command

Give me some time to blow the man down

Come quickly, lay aft to the break of the poop

To me, way hey, blow the man down

Or Ill help you along with the toe of me boot

Give me some time to blow the man down

Pay attention to orders, now, you one and all

To me, way hey, blow the man down

For see high above there flies the Black Ball

Give me some time to blow the man down

Tis larboard and starboard, on deck you will sprawl

To me, way hey, blow the man down

For kicking Jack Rogers commands the Black Ball

Give me some time to blow the man down.

SINBAD

Well, on my first voyage – did I mention I went on seven? Never mind. On my first voyage we sailed the Indian Ocean, and landed on a desert island....

(SINBAD takes the wheel)

PEG LEG

The winds getting up! We're in for a rough time!

TATTOO

Secure the sails! Batten down the hatches!

JOLLY JACK

There's gonna be a storm, no doubt about it!

(CREW make wind blowing noises.)

SO SO

Did I mention I get seasick! I don't feel so well.

SINBAD

Nonsense! It's all in the mind! The sea was heaving!

(CREW lapse into synchronised swaying)

SO SO

Ohhhh! I'm not well. I tell you, I'm going to be sick!