

TREASURE ISLAND



A JOLLY PIRATE PLAY WITH MUSIC



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CAST LIST

Jim Hawkins

Billy Bones

Man

Black Dog

Blind Pew

Israel Hands

Squire Trelawny

Doctor Livesey

Long John Silver

Dandy Jack

Deadbeat Tom

Big Harry

George Merry

Pirate 1

Pirate 2

Pirate 3

Pirate 4

(Further pirates are optional)

Captain Smollett

Peter Smith

Tom Woodward

Goat 1

Goat 2

Goat 3

Goat 4

Ben Gunn

25 speaking parts, non-speaking could be added.

TREASURE ISLAND

Scene 1.

The Admiral Benbow Inn.

JIM HAWKINS (sitting at a table and writing)

Squire Trelawney and Doctor Livesey said that I should write down all the particulars concerning our adventures and what led up to our discovering Captain Flint's long-lost treasure on an island in the Caribbean. So here it is – the record of our search for Treasure Island and what led up to it – written by Jim Hawkins, cabin boy and resident of the Admiral Benbow Inn.

It all began when a strange seaman with a long scar on his right cheek came to my father's inn to seek a room.

(Jim stands up and begins to polish drinking glasses. Billy Bones enters. Behind him is a man who is carrying Billy Bones' sea chest.)

BONES

Boy! This seems a likely place for me to berth. Tell me about this place.

JIM

There's not much to tell sir. Trade has been a bit quiet of late. We don't get too many visitors since my father died. He used to go into the port and get customers for the inn, being as how we're a bit far out of town.

BONES

So you don't get many sailors here then, lad?

JIM

No sir.

BONES

That'll suit me fine. I like to keep meself to meself. I'll pay you six gold coins now and when it runs out, you just shout and I'll give you some more. I like to drink plenty of rum and I want bacon and eggs every morning for breakfast. Beyond that, I'll be no trouble.

JIM

Yes sir. I'll go and tell my mother and she will make up a room for you.

BONES (Signalling to the man)

You there. Follow the lad and leave my chest in my room. Then come back here and I'll give you a gold piece for carrying that heavy chest all the way from town.

MAN

Yes sir.

(Jim and the man go out. Bones takes out a telescope and looks out of the window and he talks to himself)

BONES

This should be the perfect spot. Reckon I can see every ship that comes in and out of port from that cliff up there. This place should be a good hideaway, far enough out of the way from prying eyes.

(The man and Jim return)

MAN

Your sea chest is stowed in your room sir.

BONES (Giving him a coin)

Good man. And here another coin to keep your trap shut about ever seeing me here. Do you understand?

MAN

Yes sir. Never seen you in my life sir. Trust me. (He leaves)

BONES

Now boy. You look like a sensible lad what keeps his eyes and ears open and his mouth shut.

JIM

Yes sir.

BONES

As I said afore, I likes to keep meself to meself. I particularly don't want the company of other seamen – understand? If any seamen come into this inn, you come and find me and let me know and if anyone asks for me, you don't know anything, understand?

JIM

Yes sir.

BONES

Above all, I want you to keep a close eye out for a man with a wooden leg. He's a bad un he is. I'll give you a silver sixpence ever month if you'll be my eyes and ears.

JIM

Yes sir.

BONES

Good

(He leaves and Jim returns to his writing)

JIM

And so it went on, for several months. The strange seaman, Captain Bones he liked to be called, went out every day to the top of the cliff and watched the ships coming in to port through his telescope. If any seamen came to the inn he would stay in his room or perhaps watch them through a crack in the door. And always he would warn me to be on the lookout for the man with the wooden leg.

(Jim gets up and gets a broom and begins sweeping the floor. Black Dog enters)

BLACK DOG

Ho there lad! I'm looking for a mate of mine – Billy Bones. He's a good mate of mine is Bill. Perhaps you know him. He has a scar down his right cheek – just so.

JIM

There is a man staying here who looks like that. We call him the Captain.

BONES

Ah well he was a captain, my mate Billy, to be sure he was. Where is he lad?

JIM

Out along the cliffs. But he'll be back soon.

BONES

On the cliffs you say (He looks out of the window). Why there he is – coming home. Stand back boy and we'll give him a surprise. He'll enjoy this, will my mate Bill.

(Billy Bones enters)

BLACK DOG

Hello Bill!

BONES

Black Dog!

BLACK DOG

Don't look so surprised Billy my old mate.

BONES

You're no mate of mine.

BLACK DOG

Ah now – didn't we both sail with Captain Flint? That makes us shipmates Bill, whatever you say.

BONES

Jim. Go in the kitchen lad - me and Black Dog have some talking to do.

(Jim leaves)

BONES

What do you want, you scurvy dog?

BLACK DOG

You know what I want Bill. Me and your other shipmates want what's ours by rights.

BONES

The treasure map.

BLACK DOG

Aye, the treasure map.

BONES

Flint gave that map to me and it'll be a cold day in hell afore I let you and any of your cut-throat gang gets their hands on my treasure map.

BLACK DOG

(whipping out a knife) Then I'll have to take it Bill lad. Won't I? BONES

(Also taking out a knife) You've never bested me yet in a fight Black Dog and you never will.

(They fight. Billy Bones wounds Black Dog who yells and runs off. Bones runs after him to the doorway and shouts after him)

BONES

Tell the rest of your crew that I'll take 'em all on! That's it - run - you coward!

(Then he collapses) Jim! Help me!

(Jim comes running in)

JIM

Captain! Are you wounded?

BONES

No, lad. It's my heart. Get me into a chair and get me some rum.

(Jim helps him into a chair and fetches him a glass)

JIM

Who was that man sir?

BONES

Black Dog? One of the worst kind of pirates that ever sailed the seven seas lad. Him and me served under Captain Flint.

JIM

The Captain Flint?

BONES

The very same.

JIM

Squire Trelawney says that Flint was a murdering thief.

BONES

Who's this Squire then?

JIM

He was my father's friend.

BONES

Is he your friend too Jim?

JIM

Yes sir.

BONES

Good. You may have need of a good friend if Black Dog and his mates come after me. It's my sea chest they're after Jim. That's where I keep Flint's treasure map.

JIM

A treasure map!

BONES

Aye. Afore Flint died he made us all sail to this island in the Caribbean. There he buried all his treasure. A lifetime's worth of thieving Jim and worth a king's ransom. He rowed to the island with six men and only Flint came back. He'd murdered the others so that they couldn't tell where the treasure was buried. He made a map though and years later, when he was dying, he gave the map to me. I was the only one he trusted out of the scurvy crew that sailed with him. But they know I've got it see and they'll come after me now they've found me. We must be ready for them Jim. Help me to my bed so as I can rest awhile and you keep your eyes peeled and call me if there's trouble, you hear?

Yes Captain.

(Jim helps the Captain offstage and comes back to straighten all the chairs that have been knocked over in the fight with Black Dog.

Suddenly he hears a tapping sound. It gets closer and Blind Pew appears in the doorway.)

BLIND PEW

Will any kind friend inform a poor blind man in what part of the country he may now be?

JIM

You are at the Admiral Benbow Inn, Black Hill Cove sir.

BLIND PEW

A young voice. Will you give me your hand my kind young friend and lead me in?

JIM

Yes sir.

(He goes over to Black Pew, who grabs him roughly and speaks menacingly)

BLIND PEW

Now boy! Take me to the Captain. Take me to Billy Bones!

JIM

Sir, upon my word, I dare not! You're hurting me sir!

BLIND PEW

You call out for your Captain or I'll break your arm. Now boy! (He twists his arm and Jim cries out in pain) Call out "Here's a friend for you Bill". Nice and loud.

JIM

Captain! Here's a friend for you!

(Billy Bones appears in the doorway)

BONES

Blind Pew!

BLIND PEW

Now, lead me up to him lad.

(Jim leads Blind Pew up to Billy Bones)

BLIND PEW

Stretch out your hand Bill.

(Billy Bones holds out his hand and Blind Pew fumbles in the air and finds it. Then he presses the Black Spot into his hand and laughs.)

BLIND PEW

Now that's done.

(He turns round and taps his way to the door with his cane and leaves.

Billy Bones falls to his knees, clutching his heart.)

BONES

The Black Spot!

JIM

What is it Captain? What does it mean?

BONES

It's a death sentence Jim. It means the whole crew is coming to get me.

Aagh!

(He clutches his chest in pain and falls to the floor)

JIM

Captain!

BONES

There's not much time Jim. Go to my sea chest. Get the map – it's hidden in the lining. Take whatever money is in there too and run to your Squire with it. Quickly lad! Run like the wind!

(Jim runs off)

BONES (Calling out)

Bring me my gun afore you go lad! I'll not let them take me without a fight. I must get to a chair.

(He struggles to his feet and sits on a chair facing the door)
(Jim runs in with the map, a bag of money and a pistol)

JIM

Here's your gun Captain.

BONES

Good lad. Now run! Run as fast as you can! And get the Squire to come here with all his men.

JIM

Yes sir!

(He runs off)

BONES

Good lad. Billy Bones will go down fighting......Aagh! (He clutches his chest again and falls down dead)

(There is shouting and roaring outside and Israel Hands and Black Dog come running in through the door, armed with knives, cutlasses and gun. Blind Pew comes in after them)

BLACK DOG

(He goes over to the body of Billy Bones)

Billy Bones is dead, Pew.

BLIND PEW

Saves us a job then. Don't just stand there. Find his sea chest!

(The pirates scatter in all directions and start searching. Israel Hands goes off to Billy Bones' room. Blind Pew taps with his cane over to the dead body.)

BLIND PEW

You were a foolish man Billy Bones. You should have shared the treasure with your shipmates.

(Israel Hands comes in carrying the sea chest.)

HANDS

I've found the chest but there's no map, Pew.

BLIND PEW

What!!!

(Black Dog scrabbles in the sea chest, throwing clothes across the room.)

BLACK DOG

I bet that boy has it. Him and Billy Bones were very matey, it seems to me.

BLIND PEW

Yes. That boy. Find that boy! He can't have gone far. Find him!

(The two men rush out of the door. There is a sound of horses' hooves and shouting)

JIM (offstage)

Squire! That's Black Dog! That's the pirate!

SQUIRE (Offstage)

You there! Stand or I'll fire!

(There is the sound of a shot)

BLIND PEW

I've got to get out of here!

(He taps his way to the front door. There is another shot. Blind Pew staggers back and falls dead.)

(The lights go out. In the darkness there are drumbeats and the pirates are heard singing a chorus of "Fifteen men on a dead man's chest")

End of Scene 1.