

An Extraordinary Treasure

A Story of Pirates, Ninjas, and a Golden Egg

A Children's Play in One-Act
Book, Music, and Lyrics by Sam Stokes

Characters

Pirates

Captain Pete – The leader of the pirates.

Ugly Joe – A handsome pirate. Also the quartermaster, and a dishonest one at that.

Stubby Bill – A tall pirate. He is very gruff and a little crazy.

Ruthless Rico – a very suave pirate that is the nemesis of Captain Pete.

Ninjas

Benjiro – leader of the ninja clan.

Kentaro – a younger ninja.

Makoto – a younger ninja.

Clan Elder – the patriarch of the ninja clan. He is a little eccentric.

Any of the parts may also be played by girls, with a substitute name and substitute pronouns as appropriate. Here are some suggested substitute names.

Pirates

Captain Sadie

Ugly Maggie

Stubby Beth

Ruthless Rita

Ninjas

Bachiko

Keiko

Mikiko

Pirates vs. Ninjas

Scene 1

MUSIC CUE – PIRATE THEME

PETE:

Arrrrrrr!!! (*cough cough*) Oh, excuse me. My name is Captain Pete and I'm a pirate that's sailed all of the seven seas. I may look pretty rough to you, but for a pirate my looks are actually above average. You should see some of the scurvy bilge rats I work with! Anyway, I have a tale to tell ye. It's about the time that me and me pirate pals were out a-piratin' as usual, and had an unexpected surprise. We were sailing smooth on a calm day and Ugly Joe and Stubby Bill were arguin' as usual.

JOE:

(*Looking in a mirror and adjusting his hat and hair, etc.*) Say, Bill, why is that everyone calls me Ugly Bill, when I'm the handsomest pirate on the seven seas?

BILL:

(*angry*) Same reason everyone calls me stubby – it's just a bit of comical irony, now don't question it!!

JOE:

Well, *sorry*. I didn't think you'd take it so harsh.

PETE:

Alright, mates, we'd best be getting ready for the storm.

BILL:

Storm? What storm are ye talkin' about, Captain?

JOE:

Yes, Captain, there's not a cloud in sight. The sky is as clear as my complexion.

BILL:

Oh, will you stop going on about your complexion!

PETE:

Aw, will you two just shut up for one moment?

(*They both sulk and turn away from each other.*)

JOE:

(*JOE turns suddenly*) Sour grapes.

BILL:

(BILL responds just as suddenly) Egomaniac!

PETE:

Enough, already, you see, this is the calm before the storm. An old pirate like me can tell. Feel it in me bones, I do.

BILL:

Nonsense.

JOE:

No kidding. I'd bet all of the hair gel I own that there'll be no storm tonight.

SOUND CUE – THUNDER

JOE:

No bet! I didn't shake on it! No bet!

BILL:

(dejected) Arrr, I can tell this is going to be a fun night already.

SOUND CUE – THUNDER

Scene 2

PETE:

That night we were shipwrecked on an island. We took shelter in a nearby cave and waited out the storm. When we woke up the next morning, the sky was clear and we salvaged what we could from the shipwreck.

JOE:

Look, Captain, I've recovered our treasure!

BILL:

Arrr, now let me see that!

JOE:

Wait, hold on a moment! It's my job to distribute the treasure. After all, I am the quartermaster!

BILL:

Aye very well, then, split up the loot, quartermaster!

JOE:

Alright, here's a quarter of the treasure for you (*handing a bag of gold to Bill*), and a quarter for you (*handing a bag of gold to PETE*), and I get what's left. (*keeping two bags of gold.*)

BILL:

Say, something doesn't seem quite right about this.

JOE:

Well, if you don't like it, then don't vote for me to be quartermaster next time.

BILL:

Why, I oughta slit your scrawny . . .

(The ninja, BENJIRO, peaks out from behind a rock)

PETE:

Alright, you two! Enough bellyaching! Now put all of the gold back into the chest, we've got to bury it for now. There's no telling who's on this island here. There could even be British soldiers.

BILL:

Arrrr, British pirates don't frighten me. On my last pirate ship, we were coming up on three British vessels, and were in the jaws of certain death, when I set fire to the ship and sent it sailing into the Brits as me and the crew abandoned ship. Scared those lousy Brits out of their wits!!

(The three of them laugh for a few moments)

JOE:

That's incredible! So what did you after that?

BILL:

. . . well, uh . . . after that I sort of just, uh . . . floated there for a while and eventually, when the British ships came around again they took us all prisoner. . . . Come to think of it, I guess it wasn't really a very well thought out plan.

PETE:

I see.

BILL:

But at least I broke out of prison a few months later so I could wreak havoc on the high seas once more.

JOE:

(sarcastically) And the pirating world rejoices.

BILL:

Why you little . . .

PETE:

Enough! Now there's still the matter of how we should divide the big nugget.

JOE:

Quite a beauty, isn't it?

PETE:

I bet it be pure gold.

BILL:

I say we melt it down and smelt it into three equal bricks. That's fair, isn't it?

(BENJIRO shakes his head frantically)

PETE:

Arrr, you mangy fool. Look at the ornate carvings in this thing. This is or was a prized and valued possession to someone. I'll bet we can fetch a larger sum for it than just its weight in gold.

JOE:

Of course we can. A brute like him wouldn't know fine art if it hit him in the face.

BILL:

Oh yeah? Your face is gonna look like the work of Picasso when I'm through with you!

PETE:

Save it for later, fellas. Let's get this treasure buried before anyone sees.

(The pirates begin to bury the treasure and BENJIRO runs offstage, leaping and turning flips, etc.)

Scene 3

MUSIC CUE – NINJA THEME

(KENTARO and MAKOTO are sparring, as BENJIRO comes in running)

BENJIRO:

Ninjas, listen to me!

(KENTARO looks at BENJIRO, while MAKOTO continues his attack)

MAKOTO:

Heeyah! *(as he kicks KENTARO in his chest, knocking him down)*

KENTARO:

Hey, that wasn't fair!

MAKOTO:

All is fair in battle. You cannot let distractions cloud your mind. You must have your guard up at all times.

BENJIRO:

Ninjas, I have important news!

MAKOTO:

(looking at BENJIRO) What is it? (KENTARO smacks MAKOTO on the back of the head) Hey!!

KENTARO:

Yeah, where was your guard then? *(MAKOTO glares at KENTARO who glares back.)*

BENJIRO:

Please, this is important! *(They stop glaring at each other and listen)* There has been a shipwreck on the other side of the island and three pirates have been stranded.

KENTARO:

So, what does this matter to us? We ninjas only worry about our own.

MAKOTO:

That's right, we're not *Baywatch*.

BENJIRO:

It matters to us, because of treasure that they have buried.

KENTARO:

Pirate treasure? Benjiro, we could all use a nice new kimono from time to time, but I'd rather keep my nose clean than messing around with stolen goods.

BENJIRO:

But you don't understand . . . they have the egg!

KENTARO and MAKOTO:

The egg?!

BENJIRO:

That's right.

MAKOTO:

The golden egg?

(BENJIRO nods)

KENTARO:

That egg has been in our clan for almost 1000 years.

MAKOTO:

And you know what they say happens after a thousand years . . .

BENJIRO:

Right, and it was stolen in the middle of the night only three months ago. Ninjas, we must ensure its safe return at all costs.

(The three ninjas put there hands together one at a time.)

BENJIRO:

Ichi!

MAKOTO:

Ni!

KENTARO:

San!

(The three ninjas run off the scene jumping and hollering)