

The Briny Buccaneer

Cast

Stella Von Mercy
The Captain

Penelope
First Mate

Fish Sticks
Comedy Duo

Crabtab
Comedy Duo

Madam Hook
Aspiring Captain

Lady Cutlas
Hook's second

Bang
Hook's henchman

Barnacles
Minder of the ship's parrot (Peep)

Sally Seashell
The ship's cook

Peggy Leggy
Loyal crew-mate

Shelly
Ship's navigator

One-Eye
Canon expert

Natasha
The ship's cleaner

Nugget
Short-tempered crew-mate

Shell
Former stowaway

Ally
Timid crew-mate

Daisy
Princess

Lucy
Fortune Teller

Eggy
Silent, but deadly

Uma
A magical pirate

Slasher
A fearsome pirate

Scene One

*The Briny Buccaneer is at port.
Peggy leads Daisy onto the deck, showing her around.*

Peggy So this is the Briny Buccaneer! Isn't she a beauty?

Daisy It's wonderful! Oh, this is very exciting!

Peggy What makes you think you'd make a fine addition to our crew?

Daisy Oh, I'm afraid I really don't know. I'm a princess you see-

Peggy *(Laughs)* Oh, you're a princess, are you? Well, you may be a princess where you come from but there ain't no princesses aboard a pirate ship, matey.

Daisy But you see, that's why I want to be part of your crew! The princesses in my storybooks have great adventures! Dragons and knights! In real life, being a princess is so boring!

Peggy Well, I don't know about dragons, but you'll certainly be working nights on this ship.

Barnacles enters, with Peep.

Peep *(Squawks)* Fresh meat!

Peggy Quiet, Peep! Don't you recognise royalty when you lay eyes upon it?

Barnacles Royalty? On our ship? Are we getting a royal seal of approval?

Peggy This is Barnacles. We call him that because that'll all he keeps between his ears.

Daisy It's a pleasure to meet you, Barnacles. I'm sure you'll really quite intelligent really.

Barnacles *(A pause)* No.

Daisy Oh!

Peggy He really is as dense as a canon ball.

Daisy And who's this charming creature?

Daisy goes to pet Peep.

Peep *(Squawks)* Touch me and I'll peck your fingers off.

Daisy Oh my!

Peggy That's Peep. Watch what you say around him. He likes to repeat things he hears. Some of the things the bird says would make you blush.

Daisy Oh, how rude of me! I haven't introduced myself. I'm Daisy.

Barnacles Nice to meet you, majesty.

Barnacles exits.

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Peggy I'm Peggy. Peggy Leggy.

Daisy Peggy leggy? That's a funny name. Is it because you have a peg leg?

Peggy I don't have a peg leg. They call me Peggy Leggy because I once got my leg tangled in my hammock and they were going to chop it off. Luckily they realised they could just as easily cut the hammock instead.

Daisy That is lucky!

Peggy Come on, I'll introduce you to the rest of the crew.

LIGHTS DOWN

Scene Two

The whole crew takes to the stage.

Natasha is polishing a small section of the deck, while Fish Sticks and Crabtab clumsily scrub a wide area.

Shelly is reading a book. Stella is staring triumphantly out to sea, Penelope, Shelly, and One-Eye by her side, also staring out to sea.

Hook stares furiously at the captain, surrounded by her gang, Cutlas, Bang, and Nugget. Shell and Ally look out over the deck nervously.

- Peggy** Ah, the whole crew is here! There's the captain! Her name is Stella Von Mercy.
- Stella** A fine day to set sail, don't you agree?
- Shelly** I don't know, captain. I think there could be a storm coming.
- Stella** Nonsense! There's not a cloud in the sky.
- Peggy** That's Shelly. She's the ship's navigator. If she says there's going to be a storm, I believe her. I wouldn't disagree with the captain though. Only a few people can disagree with the captain without being thrown overboard.
- One-Eye** You're losing your touch, Shelly. It's a beautiful day.
- Peggy** That's One-eye. They call her that because-
- Daisy** Because she only has one eye?
- Peggy** Well- yes. One-eye is the one who throws you overboard if you annoy the captain. She's had a lot of practice.
- Penelope** *(To Hook)* What are you looking at, Hook?
- Peggy** That's Penelope. She may not look it, but she's mean. She's really mean. It looks like Madam Hook and her gang are going to be thrown overboard... again.
- Hook** Just admiring the view, that's all. Isn't that right, Mr Bang?
- Bang** Yeah. We were glaring at the captain, isn't that right, boss?
- Nugget** You idiot! We were looking at the sea.
- Bang** Oh yeah, that's right. We were looking at the sea.
- Cutlas** Bang, Nugget.
- Nugget** Yes, Lady Cutlas?
- Bang** What?
- Cutlas** Why don't you do something useful, like polishing the canon balls?
- Bang** Oh, alright then.

Bang exits.

Nugget We don't polish the canon balls.

Cutlas Well, you do now. Go.

Nugget Fine!

Nugget exits.

One-Eye You'd better not make a mess of my canon balls!

One-eye storms off-stage after them.

Peggy Over there, that's Shell- not to be confused with Shelly. And with Shell is Ally. Ally was an accidental stowaway.

Daisy How did she accidentally stow away?

Peggy She got lost.

Daisy Oh, that's unfortunate.

Peggy We never did get around to taking her home. Shell joined the crew many years ago. She always dreamed of being a pirate, which is odd.

Daisy Why is that odd?

Peggy She's terrified of pirates.

Daisy Oh! That is a little odd.

Shell Are you still feeling sea sick, Ally?

Ally A little. Well, a lot really.

Shell Shall we go below deck? The captain will be furious if you throw up on the deck. She'll throw you overboard for sure! That is if Natasha doesn't do it first!

Shell and Ally exit.

Daisy Who is Natasha? Is she scary too?

Peggy Only if you make a mess. She hates mess. She's always cleaning something.

Natasha Fishsticks! Crabtab! Will you idiots clean properly? You're leaving streaks!

Fishsticks What are you talking about? It's streaky clean?

Natasha You mean 'squeaky clean'?

Crabtab No, you said we were leaving streaks. It's streaky clean.

Natasha You fools! It isn't clean at all!

Fishsticks Looks clean to me. What do you think, Crabtab?

Crabtab Yeah! I'd eat my dinner off of it.

Natasha You'd eat your dinner off of anything.

Fishsticks You would.

Crabtab Yeah. I would. In my defence, that's because Sally's cooking is so good.

Sally I'm glad you think so. If you get fishing at some point today, we're all in for a treat! If you don't catch anything, I'm afraid it'll be just ship's biscuits for all of us.

Natasha Well, even your biscuits are a treat- just as long as you pick out all the weevils first.
Fishsticks Why would you do that? They add flavour!

Stella suddenly points out to sea.

Stella Right, crew! It's time to set sail! Set a course for the X.

Daisy The X? Where's that?

Peggy We don't really know, but the captain's map is marked with an X, and we know what that means.

LIGHTS DOWN

Scene Three

At sea. Lucy is sitting in the middle of the stage with her eyes closed. Daisy starts to walk past. Lucy does not open her eyes.

Lucy Stop.

Daisy Pardon?

Lucy Your name is Daisy.

Daisy Yes- and you are?

Lucy I am Lucy... and I see your future.

Daisy You can see the future?

Lucy I can- and I must tell you something.

Daisy Oh- but, I don't want spoilers! This is the most exciting adventure of my life, I want it to be a surprise.

Lucy Your first adventure, I can see that.

Daisy Yes!

Lucy And it may be your last.

Daisy Well, I must say- wait, what?!

Lucy You should never have stepped aboard this ship.

BLACKOUT

Scene Four

Hook is staring out to sea. Cutlas approaches her.

Hook Did you see the fortune teller?

Cutlas Yes, and-

Hook What did she say?

Cutlas It's good news, I think. Good, but-

Hook Spit it out, Lady Cutlas!

Cutlas I'm trying! Lucy, the fortune teller, says that the ship is cursed.

Hook Is that the good news?

Cutlas It could be just the chance we've been looking for! She says there's a storm coming.

Hook And you think we could take over the ship?

Cutlas Exactly!

Hook Good! Bring them in.

Cutlas You don't mean-

Hook Yes! It's time!

Eggy, Slasher, and Una enter.

Cutlas They're terrifying.

Hook They are the best pirates that ever sailed these seven seas, and you will show them some respect.

Cutlas Of course, I'm sorry, Madam Hook.

Hook Well, my fearsome crew- introduce yourselves.

Eggy Eggy.

Hook A pirate of very few words, but deadly to the last.

Slasher Slasher, pleasure to meet you.

Cutlas Why do they call you slasher?

Slasher Isn't it obvious?

Cutlas I was worried you'd say that.

Uma I am Uma. I have powers that you couldn't possibly imagine.

Cutlas Like magic tricks?

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Uma No. Not like magic tricks.

Hook I hope our captain is ready for us. This ship will be ours as soon as the storm hits!

LIGHTS DOWN

Scene Five

Shelly sulks onto stage. Lucy approaches her and puts a hand on her shoulder.

- Lucy** You're upset.
- Shelly** You don't need to be able to read minds to see that!
- Lucy** You're annoyed at the captain.
- Shelly** How did you know that?
- Lucy** That is bad news. The captain has some troubled times ahead.
- Shelly** We all do! There's a-
- Lucy** Storm coming. Yes, you're right.
- Shelly** I knew I was right.
- Lucy** It's a terrible storm. We're all in great danger.
- Shelly** What do we do?
- Lucy** We have bigger problems.
- Shelly** What could be bigger than that?

Madam Hook, Lady Cutlas, Mr Bang, One Eye, Eggy, Uma, and Slasher enter pointing swords.

- Hook** I'm glad you asked.
- Shelly** What are you doing?
- Hook** I'm surprised the fortune teller didn't warn you.
- Lucy** I was about to.
- Shelly** CAPTAIN!
- One Eye** Big mistake, Shelly!

*One Eye steps forward and points her sword at Shelly.
At that moment, the rest of the crew takes to the stage, all with swords.*

- Cutlas** Everyone, put your weapons down. There's no need for violence.
- Stella** You first!
- Hook** Now, now, Captain.
- Peep** Swords down, captain!
- Barnacles** No, you stupid bird, we're on the captain's side.
- Peep** Speak for yourself!

Penny Let's all talk about this.

Hook No talking. Everyone put your swords down. Everyone except the captain.

Cutlas But-

Hook Now, Lady Cutlas!

Everyone hesitantly puts their swords down.

Hook swings at the captain, who blocks. They engage in a sword fight, the rest of the crew sat in a circle around the action. They fight until they hear a clap of thunder.

Nugget It's a storm, boss.

Hook Nugget, you're a genius.

Nugget Thanks boss!

Hook Not really, you fool!

One Eye Now, boss?

Hook Now!

Hook's crew all take up their swords and round up Stella's crew.

Stella That was sneaky!

Hook I hope you can swim, Captain!

BLACKOUT & SFX OF SPLASH

Scene Six

Indigo (*Looks out to sea*) Hmm... something on the horizon!

*Indigo scurries behind a rock.
The Captain and crew wash ashore.*

Captain Marooned!

Crabtab Yes please!

Fishsticks I'd like a macaroon, please!

Shelly Marooned! Not macaroon!

Captain What does it matter? We've been castaway! Stuck on this island!

Fishsticks I love coconuts!

Captain What?

Fishstick Well, there are plenty of coconuts around so I won't starve!

The Captain slumps onto the floor.

Sally Come on everyone. Let's give the Captain a moment. We'll find something to eat.

Penelope And maybe somewhere to set up camp.

The crew exits, leaving the captain and Indigo on stage.

Indigo Who are you?

Captain Who's there?!

Indigo (*Emerges with a spear*) Who are you? Why are you on my island?

Captain Your island?

Indigo My island! My home! I am king here!

Captain Don't you mean Queen? Don't you need to be a man to be a king?

Indigo That's what the old King thought.

Scene Seven

*Hook takes her place as Captain, proudly looking out to sea.
Her crew surrounds her.*

- Hook** Goodbye, Captain Stella Von Mercy!
- Bang** And hello Captain Madam Hook!
- Cutlas** This storm is getting serious Captain.
- Hook** I'm not scared of a silly storm! I am the fearless captain of the Briny Buccaneer!
- One-Eye** You might not be scared, but the ship is making some funny noises.
- Eggy** Yeah! "Creak! Creak!"
- Slasher** Are you lot really frightened of a bit of wind and rain?
- Uma** Cowards!
- Cutlas** Fearless or not, I'd rather not end up thrown overboard.
- Hook** Lady Cutlas. You have always been my most loyal, trusted companion.
- Cutlas** I have.
- Hook** But I can't have cowards in this crew. We are brave. We are strong. We are the most dangerous thing in these waters! Not thunder, not lightning, not wind or rain! Do you understand?
- Uma** You heard the captain!
- Slasher** Toughen up, Cutlas, or you'll be walking the plank.
- Eggy** Yeah! I love it when we make them walk the plank!

Hook exits, followed by Slasher, Uma, and Eggy.

- One-Eye** I don't like this.
- Bang** I always said I'd follow Madam Hook to the ends of the Earth, but I don't like this either.
- Cutlas** I didn't know she'd be so reckless. I thought he could make a good captain. I thought she'd make us the feared and respected crew we deserve to be. It turns out, she's just- she's just-
- One-Eye** A pain in the neck!
- Cutlas** Well... yes.
- Bang** Also, she's keeping the princess tied up below deck.
- Cutlas** She's what?!

Bang And I don't know about you, but I've read enough fairy tale books to know a prince is probably on his way to rescue him right now and I just don't think I can deal with that right now!

One-Eye Fairy tales aren't real.

Bang But still- I don't want to take that chance.

Cutlas Wait... do you see that?

One-Eye What?

Cutlas Out there. On the horizon.

Bang What is that?

Cutlas Oh no...

Scene Eight

Back on the island. The crew is there. The captain is not.

Lucy Danger!

Ally What?

Lucy Danger!

Ally Yes, I heard you. What danger?

Lucy On sea and on land!

Ally That doesn't help!

Natasha What's going on?

Lucy Those with dry feet and those with wet, danger approaches.

Natasha Oh she's talking in riddles again.

Lucy Slippery, scary. Hidden away, out of sight. One captain gone and another a fool.

Penny What does she mean? Where's the captain?

Lucy Gone. Stolen. Afraid.

Nugget For goodness sake! Stop talking in riddles!

Lucy The captain has been taken, and those still aboard the Briny Buccaneer have a worse fate before them.

Shelly This is bad. This is very bad!

Sally We have no time to lose! We must find the captain!

Scene Nine

The captain is below deck with Daisy.

- Hook** It's alright, princess. You're one of us now.
- Daisy** Then why am I tied up?
- Hook** I didn't know if I could trust you.
- Daisy** What do you mean?
- Hook** You want to be part of my crew, don't you?
- Daisy** I have always wanted to be a pirate.
- Hook** And you could be one of the best pirates.
- Daisy** I preferred the old captain though.
- Hook** What?
- Daisy** She was nice.
- Hook** Nice isn't what pirates do!
- Daisy** I'd like to be a nice pirate.
- Hook** Then I can see we need to straighten you out. I'll untie you when you learn how to be a good pirate.

Bang and Cutlas enter.

- Bang** Captain! Massive octopus!
- Hook** What?
- Cutlas** There is a giant squid getting closer and closer! It has teeth bigger than me!
- Bang** And it looks hungry!
- Hook** What are you two idiots talking about?
- Cutlas** There is a sea monster! Captain do something!
- Hook** Why don't you do something?
- Cutlas** I already sent One-Eye to prepare the canons, but you are the captain!
- Hook** No one ever prepared me for monsters!
- Cutlas** Then what are we going to do?

The sound of roars, splashing, and canon fire.

Scene Ten

Indigo So you are a pirate.

Captain Well, I was. I was once a great captain. Now I'm just-

Indigo A friend?

Captain What?

Indigo A friend. My friend.

Captain Yes. Yes, I think I'd like that.

Indigo Good. I'm glad.

Captain Thank you, Queen Indigo.

Indigo King Indigo.

Captain Are you sure you wouldn't rather be Queen Indigo?

Indigo I took over from the old king. That makes me the new king.

Captain I suppose I can't argue with that.

Fish-Sticks and Crabtab enter.

Fish-Sticks Captain! Don't worry!

Crabtab We'll save you!

Fish-Sticks Get away from our Captain, you horrible brute.

Captain Stop!

Indigo No! Not your captain. My friend.

Crabtab You're friends with this kidnapper?

Indigo Not kidnapper! King Indigo.

Fish-Sticks Don't you mean queen?

Indigo No, I do not mean queen! What is it with you pirates and queens?

Crabtab I'm so confused!

Indigo Wait! Listen!

Fish-Sticks I can't hear anything.

Indigo My pet has found your ship!

Captain My ship?

Crab-tab Your pet?

Scene eleven

One-Eye Cutlas- the monster caught my canon balls.

Cutlas Oh no! It's too strong! We're doomed!

One-Eye No, it's alright! It's friendly!

Cutlas What?

One-Eye It's playing with the canon balls!

Cutlas It's- it's friendly?

One-Eye Yes! Just- as long as you don't offer to play catch with it.

Hook enters with the rest of her crew.

Hook Have you slain the beast?

Cutlas Not exactly.

Hook You fools! Get rid of it!

One-Eye It's friendly!

Hook I don't care! I don't want it near my ship!

Cutlas That's enough, Madam Hook!

Hook You dare speak to me like that? You will call me captain!

One-Eye You're not my captain.

Hook Slasher! Una! Eggy!

The three of them enter.

One-Eye I always meant to ask. Why do they call you Eggy?

Eggy Because I'm silent, but deadly.

Cutlas That's disgusting!

Slasher Silence, traitor!

Cutlas Oh come on, you're still taking her side?

Una She is the captain and you will show her some respect!

Slasher Now I think it's tie you walk the plank!

Cutlas What if I say it's your turn to walk the plank?

Una You have no idea what I'm capable of! I am magic!

One-Eye Oh! Show us a trick!

Una I don't do magic tricks!

Slasher Don't make her angry!

Una They made me angry!

Slasher Oh no! Now we're in trouble!

The storm picks up, thunder and lightning. Sound of the mast cracking.

Cutlas What is she doing?

Slasher When she loses her temper, she loses control of her powers! She's going to sink us!

Cutlas What?

Hook Do something!

One-Eye You're the captain! You do something!

Cutlas I'll do something!

One-Eye What are you going to do?

Cutlas We're going to pay a visit to a certain island to visit some friends!

The sound of Cutlas steering the ship off into the island with a crash.

Scene Twelve

Sally The ship! The Briny Buccaneer!

Captain My ship! They crashed my ship!

Indigo Trouble?

Sally Oh there's definitely going to be trouble.

Hook and her crew enter. Hook is furious.

Hook Nugget! What are you doing here? You were on my side!

Nugget You told me to make them walk the plank.

Hook So how did you end up going with them?

Nugget I slipped.

Hook You're a fool! I'm surrounded by fools!

Hook draws her sword.

Indigo Put down your pointy stick, silly person.

Hook What did you call me?

Cutlas Put down your sword, Hook.

Hook Don't talk to me, traitor!

Slasher Actually, Captain... maybe you're the traitor.

Hook What?

Slasher We had a captain, and you made her walk the plank. Not very loyal of you.

Una Slasher! Don't talk to the captain like that!

Slasher Well, it's true! Then she said she wouldn't have cowards in her crew, but when that monster attacked-

Indigo Not monster! My pet!

Slasher She was the biggest scaredy cat onboard!

Uma You're right...

Hook You're all turning against me?

Nugget I'm not.

Hook Then do something! Stop them!

Nugget Stand up to all of them? No way!

- Hook** Nugget! You're such a chicken!
- Crabtab** Chicken nugget!
- Fish-sticks** Now I'm hungry!
- Cutlas** It's time we had our old captain back. Stella, do you accept our apology?
- Captain** (sigh) I'm not going to be captain anymore...
- Hook** Ha! You see? Even the old captain thinks I should be captain!
- Captain** No! Not you. We need a better captain! Someone like Lady Cutlas!
- Cutlas** Me?
- Peggy** Excuse me. Has anyone seen the princess?
- Hook** I tied her up below deck.
- Peggy** You did what? She's royalty!

Daisy emerges from the ship.

- Daisy** That was amazing! This is the best day of my life! I'm not a princess anymore! I am a proper pirate! Argh!
- Sally** She's fine.
- Captain** So... captain Cutlas. What would you have your crew do?
- Cutlas** I... uh...
- Lucy** Go on. You are captain now. I always knew you would be.
- Cutlas** Well... there's a pretty big hole in the ship. First thing's first. Let's gather enough drift wood to patch up the Briny Buccaneer. Then we'll be back to sea.
- Captain** You'll make a great captain.
- Cutlas** Stella. Would you be my first mate?
- Captain** I'm honoured, but I'm going to stay here on the island. I've made a new friend.
- Indigo** You can stay if you want. I'm going on the big boat! Bored of this island!
- Captain** Oh! In that case, I'd be delighted!
- Indigo** Just give me a minute to dig up my treasure!
- Captain** Treasure? Oh! This is the island on my map!
- Sally** X marks the spot!
- Peggy** We found it!

All cheer. Music swells. The end.

