

Peter and The Starcatcher

Robert Cohen

Mix Script

1

AQ 5 - 08 PROLOGUE: A BARE STAGE

2 **BOY**
When I was a boy, I wished I could fly.

4 **PRENTIS**
Me too.

10 **SCOTT**
So did I!

1 **BOY**
Out of the window and over the trees-

8 **SMEE**
-high cloud and lighter than air

2 **MOLLY**
-then loop the loop and up to the stars! I dreamed about flying all the time.
What? Girl's dream.

1 **BOY**
Up to the stars – I like that.

2 **MOLLY**
Me too.

9 **ASTER**
Eventually, of course, we dream other dreams.

4 **PRENTISS**
We change.

3 **TED**
We grow up.

9 **ASTER**
It always happens. Nothing is forever.

2

BOY

That's the rule

1

MOLLY

Everything ends.

7

STACHE

And so, our story begins.

8

SMEE

Supposing all these planks and ropes are now the British Empire

9

ASTER

And we are lords-

10

SCOTT

-and captains-

1

MOLLY

-mothers-

4

PRENTISS

-orphans-

6

ALF

-sailors-

7

STACHE

-pirates-

13

FIGHTING PRAWN

-tropical kings.

10

SCOTT

And use your thoughts to hoist the sails and deck the ships awaiting us this early gray and misty dawn in 1885.

AQ 10 - 11

9

ASTER

-crucial yar in the reign of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria-

ALL

GOD SAVE HER

AQ 15 - 14

11

SLANK

-who, by her grace, had only just knighted a new peer of the realm-

9 **ASTER**
-Lord Leonard Aster, dedicated minister to the Queen and devoted father-

1 **MOLLY**
-To Molly Aster, whose mother flew up to heaven when Molly was six years old.

3

5 **MRS. BUMBRAKE**
In the years that followed, a nanny was employed to care for Molly, and prove her with the essentials of young womanhood-

9 **ASTER**
-while, taking her with him on each royal mission, Lord Aster gave Molly a life few girls normally know-

1 **MOLLY**
-a life that made her insatiably curious, insufferably bright, and pretty much friendless at school.

4 **PRENTISS**
Friendless! Ha!

3 **TED**
Friendless? You mean like-

2 **BOY**
Leave me alone!

12 **GREMPKIN**
Orphans! Most useless creatures on earth. Look at 'em-

11 **SLANK**
-cast out by mothers who can't feed 'em or love 'em.

2 **BOY**
No mothers at St. Norbert's, only schoolmasters

12 **GREMPKIN**
Much as I hate to lose you, mule-
and you, and you, - I won't stand in the way of opportunity. Here's to yer trip on a ship!

3 **TED**
What ship? What trip?

4 **PRENTISS**
Sorry, I'm lost.

3 **TED**
Me too.

1 **MOLLY**
Boys!

3, 4 **PRENTISS & TED**
we're lost

1 **MOLLY**
BOYS!!!

7 **STACHE**
And so it was, on the brink of a new adventure-

1, 3, 4 **PRENTISS, TED, BOY**
-that three filthy orphans-

9 **ASTER**
-And lord Leonard Aster-

1 **MOLLY**
-his friendless Molly-

5 **MRS. BUMBRAKE**
-and her nanny, Mrs. Bumbrake-

AQ 20 - 17 #1 – SAILORS AND SEAMEN

ALL
JOURNEYED AT DAWN TO THE DOCKS OF PORTSMOUTH!

6 **ALF** **AQ 25 - 20**
-where two trunks are delivered to two ships, sharing the very same dock!

8 **SMEE**
Two trunks, deliberating similar to each other in their... trunkness.

9 **ASTER**
One of them, containing a precious cargo belonging to the queen-

7 **STACHE**
-To be accompanied by Leonard Aster, aboard one of the ships, a spanking new frigate-

10

SCOTT

-commanded by Leonard's old school chum, the legendary Robert Falcon Scott. Captain of... the wasp! Fastest ship afloat. Bound for the remote kingdom of Rundoon!

11

SLANK

And the other trunk, full o' sand, courtesy o' me, Bill Slank, captain of this other ship-

7

STACHE

The *Neverland* – a slower ship –

8

SMEE

-and long in the poop-

6

ALF

-a merchant ship, taking a longer route to Rundoon, just to be safe.

11

SLANK

And while nobody's lookin'

I'll just mark the queen's trunk, the one s'posed to go on the *wasp*

Then, at the last sec-

10

SCOTT

ALL ASHORE WHO'S GOING ASHORE!

11

SLANK

-I'll switch 'em

Get this trunk on board the neverland, y'garbage!

6

12

GREMPKIN

And I'll sell these boys into slavery.

Cheer up, lads – you're off to Rundoon, to be helpers to the King!

11

SLANK

Food for snakes, more like.

Crate o' boys comin' board!

10

SCOTT

MAKE YER COURSE! SAY YER G'BYTES!

4

PRENTISS

G'bye to who?

3

TED

There's nobody who cares

2
6
1 1
BOY

Which is why I hate, I hate, I hate grown ups!

ALF

STOW YER CARGO! START YER PLAY! ADIEU! ADIEU!

AQ 30 - 23 ACT 1 SCENE 1: THE NEVERLAND – ON DECK

SLANK

Stow that trunk in my cabin, y'all salt junkies!

SAILORS

THERE'S WIND IN THE FORETOP
THERE'S BOYS IN THE HOD-
TO ME WAY, TO ME WAY HI-HO!

SLANK

Swabbers to the manacle!

SAILORS

OH, THE FORETOP'LL SWELL,
THE BOYS'LL BE SOLD,
OR IT'S DOWN, OR IT'S DOWN WE GO.

SLANK

Shroud the hemp and jigger the futtocks!

SAILORS

OR IT'S DOWN, OR IT'S DOWN WE GO!

NARRATOR ALF

With everything safely aboard, final preparations are made on the deck of the *Neverland*

SEAMEN

CALL ALL HANDS TO MAN THE CAPSTAN,
RUN THE CABLE DOWN THE CHROME.
HEAVE AWAY AND SAY G'BYE, BOYS,
FAR FROM ENGLAND, FAR FROM HOME.

4
A
NARRATOR SEAMAN PRENTISS

A squadron of British Navy Seamen in bright smart uniforms boards the *neverland*

NARRATOR SEAMAN GREGGORS

-led by one Lieutenant Greggors, ready to accompany Lord Leonard Aster to her

AQ 35 - 26

9

ASTER

Captain Slank!

11

SLANK

Here, yer lordship.

9

ASTER

I'm taking the Queen's reasuer to Rundoon aboard the *Wasp*, but I leave a more precious cargo here on the *Neverland*. Guard her well.

Mrs. Bumbrake, bring her to me!

MOLLY, MY MOLLY.

1

MOLLY

Please let me come with you. I don't like it on this ship.

9

ASTER

You're safer here on the *Neverland*. By the time you arrive in Rundoon, I'll have completed my mission, and we'll be together again.

1

MOLLY

Oh dear.

9

NARRATOR SLANK

Just then, the crate of boys bursts open!

2

NARRATOR BOY

One of the boys almost falls out!

1

NARRATOR MOLLY

Hanging upside down just over Molly's head!

2

NARRATOR BOY

He stares at her.

1

NARRATOR MOLLY

She stares at him.

2

NARRATOR BOY

He has an air about him.

1

NARRATOR MOLLY

The look of a boy who doesn't miss much, or say much about it.

11

SLANK

Back in the box, y'monkeys!

NARRATOR MOLLY

Something about the boy makes Molly feel like she just grew up a little.

10

ASTER

Daughter

A word.

There isn't any treasure in the Queen's trunk, and what is in it has to be destroyed, by order of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria.

AQ 40 - 29

MOLLY

God save her.

ALL

GOD SAVE HER

MOLLY

How are you going to destroy it?

ASTER

Can you keep it a secret?

MOLLY

I can.

ALL

WE CAN.

AQ 45 - 32

ASTER

Cwah cheep wirp reet reet burp.

MOLLY

Click bleep cwaaaaah?

ASTER

I think you mean-

NARRATOR STACHE

They're speaking in Dodo, a language known only to, well-

NARRATOR SCOTT

-dodos- and a handful of very special humans.

NARRATOR ASTER

Dodo: a fat, clumsy bird; hence the latin name, *didus ineptus*

11

9

ASTER

... and don't ever take this off or let anyone else touch it. You know what's in this amulet, Molly. And you know how to use it if you're ever in trouble.

Molly

But what if something happens to you? You need me on the *wasp*

ASTER

Too dangerous – I won't have it.

MOLLY

I want to be part of the mission!

ASTER

If you can't be British, you can go straight home and back to school, young lady, Mrs. Bumbrake-

MOLLY

NO! Don't send me home, please. I'll be good, I promise

MRS. BUMBRAKE

Shut the faucet, Molly – blueberin' like a whale when the world's your oyster! Be a woman!

12

MOLLY

Yes, Nana

ASTER

Soon as I'm done in Rundoom, we'll take a few weeks in the antipodes – scares up some rare bird eggs, hmmm? I might even teach you to speak porpoise.

MOLLY

Yes, daddy.

ASTER

There's my little Starcatcher

MOLLY

Just an apprentice. If I were a starcatcher, I'd be on the wasp with you!

NARRATOR SLANK

Slank hears that word, "starcatcher" –

NARRATOR GREGGOR

-But a cannon is fired from the deck of the wasp!

AQ 50 - 35 #2 – ASTER LED OFF

ASTER

Patience, daughter. Keep a keen eye, Mrs. Bumbrake!

MRS. BUMBRAKE

Don't you worry, my lord! We'll be British to the bone!

ASTER

We'll meet again in Rundoon. God's speed!

SLANK

Off ye go, Yer lordship. TTFN.

Comfy, are we? That's nice. Now-

Alf, where are ye, ye good for nothing bucket o' scum!

13

ALF

Here.

SLANK

Lock these two in their cabin for safe keeping. I'm takin' no chances

MRS. BUMBRAKE

With pleasure. The cabin could smell no worse than you.

Don't trouble yourself, I'm sure. Come along, my girl.

ALF

It's alright, ma'am. Alf'll see you safely stowed.

MRS. BUMBRAKE

Thank you, kind sir.

ALF

No , thank you, kind lady. Yer eyes're green as the sea... and yer hair's almost as wavy

MRS. BUMBRAKE

Take me blow, sir.

SLANK

Lock the silly cow in the junior suite!

What're you sniggerin' at,y'picaroons?!?

14

#3 – PROFITABLE TRADE

SLANK

Put that trunk in my cabin! On to Rundoon, y'fungus! There's profitable trade to be made.

AQ 55 - 38 ACT 1 SCENE 2: MOLLY'S CABIN

MRS. BUMBRAKE

Point is – we must button our beaks and be brave or my name's not Betty Bumbrake. Now, you might well be afraid you'll never clap eyes on your father again, and it cuts to the core, but never show that sorry Slank the slightest sniff of fear. There are men who can smell it on you, Molly, and they make you pay...

MOLLY

That's a stupid example if you're going to cry halfway through. Be a woman!

ALF

Situated, miss?

MRS. BUMBRAKE

Missus Bumbrake. Missus.

ALF

Sorry to hear that. I was wed once – dreadful business.

MRS. BUMBRAKE

Mister Bumbrake fell off the twig years ago. Left me widowed at fort – er, thirty.

MOLLY

Is that food? I'm awfully hungry

ALF

This aint't fer ladies. It's fer the pigs down the other end.

MOLLY

Pigs? Really? May I help you feed them?

MRS. BUMBRAKE

My molly loves all god's little creatures, you know.

ALF

Not these creatures, she don't But don't despair – cook's laying on some yummy meat in the galley. I'll escort you when it's up.

MRS. BUMBRAKE

Nothing too rich, pray. We girls must watch our waistlines.

ALF

Been thinking 'bout getting in shape, me-self

MOLLY

Round is a shape.

ALF

Sorry?

MRS. BUMBRAKE

So true. You're quite the specimen

ALF

No, I have flabby thighs. But fortunately my stomach covers' em. Best be off. TTFN

MRS. BUMBRAKE

There's a whiff of hero about him, mark my words.

MOLLY

Left the cabin door ajar. I could follow him and feed the piggies!

MRS. BUMBRAKE

Molly, come back here. Don't make me come after you!

17

AQ 60 - 41 **ACT 1 SCENE 3: BOWELS OF THE SHIP**

MACK

C'mon up for some poker, Alf?

ALF

Slank put me on pig duty, the rat bastard. Goin' down to the bilge to feed the swine.
God save her

Molly

AQ 70 - 44 **ACT 1 SCENE 4: BILGE DUNGEON**

18

ALF

If it ain't the three little piggies! Got yer sea legs?

PRENTISS & TED

Oh thank you! Get us out of here! Hungry! Please! Help!

ALF

Oi!!

PRENTIS

Excuse me, sir. Quick question for the Captian-

ALF

What are you piggy, spokesman?

PRENTISS

I'm the leader.

TED

No you're not.

PRENTISS

Yes I am. I'm the oldest.

ALF

I'm the oldest and I say pipe down.

TED

But I'm hungry!

ALF

It's yer lucky day then, ain't it?

TED

Finally!

ALF

You'll wanna swallow that down quick. Bone uppity.

PRENTISS

Any good?

19

TED

IT'S ALIVE!

PRENTIS

It's worms!

TED

He fed me worms!

TED

Please, sir – is there a vegetarian alternative?

ALF

In my day, pigs weren't quite so particular.

PRENTISS

Don't hot it all. Gimme!

TED

You said you wouldn't eat it!

BOY

YOU! WAIT!

PRENTISS

What're you doing!

TED

You'll get us a beating!

ALF

Belay that "you"! I'm called Mister on this vessel – mark of respect for a lifetime of a seafaring.

20

PRENTISS

Never mind him. He's got a real problem with authority

ALF

Ha! So do I.

I know worms is rough vittels, boys, but they'll grease the pipes 'til we set yer down in Rundoon.

BOY

A question, Mister?

ALF

One.

BOY

Do we have to stay down here in the dark?

ALF

"til Slank hands ye over to King Zarboff.

BOY

Is the King nice to his helpers?

ALF

That's two.

TED

I got a sick feeling about this.

AQ 75 - 50

PRENTISS

I'll think of something.

MOLLY

No you won't.

In my experience, boys are sadly slow thinkers.

TED

What is it?!

PRENTISS

What are you?

MOLLY

I'm a girl

PRENTISS

No way.

MOLLY

Who's the leader here?

PRENTISS

No way.

MOLLY

Who's the leader here?

PRENTISS

Who wants to know?

MOLLY

Molly Aster. Doctor Pretorius back home says I have an extraordinarily high level of brain power.

PRENTISS

If you're so smart, how come you're stuck on this dirt-bucket?

MOLLY

Im not stuck. I'm going to mett my father in Rundoon. He has important things to do.

PRENTISS

We have important things to do.

TED

No we don't

PRENTISS

I'm the leader, and I say we got some things.

22

BOY

He's not the leader

MOLLY

You.

BOY

You.

MOLLY

How old are you?

BOY

How old are you?

MOLLY

I'm thirteen.

BOY

I'm thirteen.

MOLLY

Wait – I just remembered today's my birthday. I'm fifteen.

BOY

If you were thirteen and today's your birthday, you'd be fourteen.

MOLLY

I only celebrate odd numbered birthdays

PRENTISS

Wait a minute, wait a minute, doesn't matter how old you are! I'm still the leader. The leader has to be a boy.

MOLLY

Hey – up our end of the ship we get served proper food. I can lead you there –
-which would make me the leader.

TED

Proper food? Really?

MOLLY

Just tell me your names.

BOY

Why should we?

MOLLY

Only that... if you have names, they serve you meat.

TED

TED! I'm TED!

PRENTISS

But I call him Tubby, 'cuz he's food obsessed.

TED

I am not food ob-

PRENTISS

D'you write poems about pie?

TED

To pass the time-

PRENTISS

Hide beans in your blanket?

TED

It's a blood sugar thing.

PRENTISS

Faint at the merest whisper of

-get this-

-sticky pudding-

TED

Sticky pudding, it's so good...

PRENTISS

Like I said, food obsessed. I'm Prentiss. I'm in charge here.

MOLLY

Ever notice, Ted – the more you claim leadership, the more it eludes you?

TED

Oh, snap!

MOLLY

And what are you, boy?

BOY

Leave me alone.

MOLLY

Sorry.

TED

Go on. Tell her your name, why don't you?

MOLLY

What's so funny?

BOY

Thanks, Ted.

TED

He doesn't have a name.

PRENTISS

Been orphan'd too long to remember.

TED

Gremppkin calls him-

25

TED & PRENTISS

-mule!

BOY

Go on! You and your stupid names go follow some stupid girl.

PRENTISS

Like we need your permission, friendless.

MOLLY

Doesn't cost any more to be nice, charmless.

TED

What about the food?

PRENTISS

You can be like temporary leader – but only ‘til we eat.

MOLLY

Fair warning, boy – I shall expose you utterly.

NARRATOR GREMPKIN **AQ 80 - 53**

As no one had ever shown the slightest interest in him before, the boy’s eyes began to sparkle and lure of competition wiped some of the misery from his face.

MOLLY

Right. Follow me.

TED

Right. Follow mother.

26

AQ 85 - 56 **#5 – GREMPKIN FLASHBACK**

NARRATOR BOY

The boy may have wished to be alone, but he didn’t really mean it. The sparkle in his eyes fades, and strange sound in the dark make him remember the orphanage, make him think about-

GREMPKIN

A mule afraid of his own shadow. Be a man!

BOY

Thank you, Mr. Grempinkin.

MR. GREMPKIN

Uncover yourself, disgrace to the mother that left you!

NARRATOR BUMBRAKE

OH, FOR THE WINGS,
FOR THE WINGS OF A DOVE
FAR AWAY, FAR AWAY WOULD I ROVE
OH, FOR THE WINGS,
FOR THE WHINGS OF A DOVE...
FAR AWAY, FAR AWAY,
FAR AWAY, FAR AWAY WOULD I ROVE!

GREMPKIN **AQ 90 - 59**

You watch or you’re next!

NARRATOR ASTER

At the mention of mother, the boy heard a wisp of a song he could barely remember-

NARRATOR ALF

-and saw a shadow of a home he hoped he might have.

NARRATOR STAHE

Father and son-

NARRATOR MOLLY

-mother and child-

NARRATOR SMEE

And even with so little ground for hope-

NARRATOR BOY

-still, he believed –

NARRATOR PRENTISS

-despite his distress and sorrow-

NARRATOR TED

-that one day such a home would be his.

BOY

Home.

GREMPKIN

Orphan rule number one!

BOY

Life is meant to be horrible

GREMPKIN

Rule number two!

BOY

There are no orphans in heaven.

GREMPKIN

Rule number three!

BOY

Missus Gremkin ugly!

BOY

Anyone who laughs is dead!

BOY

Mother. Mother.

MOLLY

C'mon, you! Last chance! We asters do not leave boys behind.

29

AQ 95 - 62 ACT 1 SCENE 5: THE WASP – CAPTAINS CABIN

NARRATOR GREGGORS

We shift our attention now to the other ship, barreling due south at a brisk twelve knots. That fine British Frigate-

ALL

-THE WASP!-

NARRATOR ASTER

-where Molly's father, lord Aster, has been ushered roughly below deck.

GREGGORS **AQ 100 - 65**

Captain Scott's cabin, Your Lordship. Do go in.

ASTER

Where's the captain, Lutieutenant?

GREGGORS

I'm so lieutenant. I told a lie.

ASTER

Unthinkable – British never lie.

GREGGORS

Well, pirates do. Don't we, boys!

ASTER

I demand to see Captain Scott!

30

SMEE

Why didn't you say so? Presto scotto!

ASTER

What? Robbie!

How dare you, sir! Release this man!

SMEE

I'll take the key to that treasure trunk o' yours.

ASTER

You'll have to kill me first.

SMEE

We were going to kill you second, but I'm flexible.

STACHE

a-choo!

PIRATE ALF

He's coming aft!

SANCHEZ

In a nasty mood!

PIRATE BOY

A foul and nasty mood!

ASTER

There've been no pirates in these parts for a hundred years!

31

SMEE

We've been keeping a very low profile

ASTER

And you're the captain, I suppose?

SMEE

I, sir?

ASTER

Aye, sir. You, sir.

SMEE

No, sir. Not smee, sir.

ASTER

The devil, you say.
and how could one identify him in a crowd.

#7 – ENTER STACHE

SMEE

By his legendary cookie-duster, that's how!

ASTER

Whiskers?

SMEE

By his celebrated mouth-brow, that's how!

ASTER

Well, does he have a name?

32

SMEE

The pirate captain they call... BLACK STACHE!

Pirates shriek

STACHE

Hallo.

Pirates shriek

Now, you're likely wondering: can the fellow before you be entirely evil? Can no compassion un-crease this furrowed brow?

SMEE

Brow.

STACHE

Brow. Well, fret not, mon frere – I'm a romantic! There's a poet in these pirate veins,
But what to do? Which style to use? Lambic? Haiku?
Mind the cuticle, smee!

Eruka

Hoopah! Got it!
A pirate with scads of panache
Wants the key to the trunk with the cash.
Now, here's some advice
Tho' I seem to be nice –
I'LL CUT YOU!!! Slit you up one side 'n' down the other so ye can watch yer own stomach
flop around on the deck.
I say, Smee – you did explain to my lord that I'm a bloodthirsty outlaw?

33

SMEE

Aye, Cap'n. But he still wouldn't give up the key!

STACHE

We haven't got all night, Smee. People have paid for nannies and parking. Stand aside. I'll have to do it myself, or I'm not – I'm not –
WHAT AM I?

AQ 105 - 68

PIRATES

BLACK STACHE!

now, cough up that key, My Lord.

ASTER **AQ 110 - 71**

Not a chance, you spam faced tool bag

STACHE

Why, is that my lord's coat you're holding?

SMEE

Looks to be about your size, Cap'n

STACHE

What the wesll dressed "tool bag" is wearing season.

34

SMEE

So comme il faut, Cap'n. So very comme il faut.

ASTER

Never

STACHE

Playing games is for children, Lord Aster, and I hate, I hate, I hate children!
Bring it in, Gomez!

SANCHEZ

It's Sanchez, Sir.

STACHE

Just... bring it in. thanks ever so.

The Wasp is my ship now, and everything aboard her belnds to me, including the treasure
Victoria thinks nobody knows about. Silly old Queen.

ASTER

God save her.

35

STACHE

Queen.

ASTER

God save her

STACHE

Victoria

ASTER

God Save her

STACHE

Banana

ASTER

God save-

STACHE

Oopsy!

Here's two things. When I open this swag, I'll be the single most significant pirate in the world, the solar system, or other places yet to be discovered in the universe.

ASTER

That's only one thing –

SMEE

The *neverland*, sir

STACHE

huh?

SMEE

The *neverland*, sir

STACHE

Same letters! *Navel Nerd* – *Neverland*. I was close.

36

STACHE

I know you love your molly above rubies. What say you to a quick detour, we pluck her off the *Neverland*, and you can watch her die! Unless you're feeling a weensy bit more amenable?

Love yer locket! But what's in yer pocket? Oh, allow me!
done 'n' dusted, kippers 'n' custard. Here's the key, boys!

AQ 115 - 74 ACT 1 SCENE 6: THE NEVERLAND – PASSAGEWAY

MOLLY

My father. He's in trouble.

PRENTISS

Your neck-thing is glowing.

TED

And ringing

MOLLY

Don't ask me about that.

PRENTISS

I can ask whatever I want. I'm the leader

BOY

Lay off, Prentiss
C'mon, you have to tell.

MOLLY

Alright listen.
My father is going to Rundoon on a secret mission for the Queen.

BOY

What's a mission?

MRS. BUMBRAKE

Molly! Where are you, girl?

MOLLY

Sssssh! Down this gangway and keep it quiet!

38

BOY

There's the ringing again-

PRENTISS

Her neck-thing-

MOLLY

No, it's coming from someplace else.

BOY

Holy-!

MOLLY

Slanks-!

TED

Cat-!

PRENTISS

Flying!

39

MOLLY

Glowing – ringing – flying – it can only mean one thing!

ASTER

Starstuff!

MOLLY

Starstuff! The Queen's trunk is in Slank's cabin!

Okay, nothing to see here, moving along.

TED

But that cat was-

MOLLY

No, it wasn't

PRENTISS

Yes, it was! Tubby's right! Your neck thing was ringing and Sank's cat was totally fly-

MOLLY

Hey- y'know what'd be fun? Howsabout a bedtime story!

TED

What's that?

MOLLY

Oh, ha ha, very amus-

Omigosh-you poor things. You've never had a bedtime story?

PRENTISS

This might sound kinda defensive-

40

TED

Hard to have a bedtime when you don't have a bed.

MOLLY

Sorry. Sorry, I didn't mean to-

BOY

Tell you what. You say "sorry" so easy, like the rough patch's smoothed over, no hard feelings and everything's fixed. Well, no. There's dark... a mass of darkness in the world, and if you get trapped in that cave like us, it beats you down. "sorry" can't fix it. Better to day nothing than sorry.

When it's night, and I'm scared to sleep, I look through the cracks, y'know? Between the wood nailed over the window – and I see all those little stars that I can't reach, and I think that in a hundred years, or two or three hundred maybe, boys'll be free and life'll be so beautiful that nobody'll ever day sorry again – 'cuz nobody'll have to. I think about that a lot.

PRENTISS

Well, that's more than he said in the last thirteen years.

BOY

So, bedtime stories? Not a big priority, okay?

MOLLY

No, it's not okay. I'm giving you one. Sleeping beauty is a good one. You'll like it. There's a kissing it. True loves kiss

TED

Yeah!

I don't know what that is.

MOLLY

Then I'll tell you. C'mon – back to your cabin and I'll be Mother.

#9 – PERPEND

MOLLY

Now – the story of sleeping beauty. "once upon a time" – that's how they always start – "once upon a time, a beautiful baby was born..."

41

AQ 120 - 77 ACT 1 SCENE 7: THE WASP – CAPTAIN'S CABIN

STACHE

"... and that beautiful baby had a big, bushy Hill route as he grew up in the both lived awfully ever after. The end"

Now, open –

And perpend!

What is that?

SMEE

It's sand sir.

ASTER

Sand? But that's impossible.

STACHE

I hope to be hip deep in diamonds, but they're a poor substitute for what I really crave: a bona fide hero to help me feel whole. For without a hero, what am I? Half a villain; A pirate; ruthless, but toothless. And then I saw you, and I thought, maybe? Can it be? Is he the one I've waited for? Would he, for example, give up something precious for the daughter he loves? But alas, he gives sand.

NOW, WHERE' MY TREASURE?!?

42

SMEE

What if they swapped the trunks, sir?

STACHE

Swapped, y'say?

SMEE

Stupid idea, Smee. Stupid, stupid!

STACHE

Swapped, yes. Switched – right there on the dyke.

SMEE

Deck.

STACHE

Deck. In which case –

SMEE

The trunk with the treasure's aboard the Neverland.

#10 – PAY PEANUTS, GET MONKEYS

STACHE

Hard about!

You're behind this swappery, Aster, or I'm the queen of England!

ASTER

God save her.

43

STACHE

Oh, shut up! I said "hard about," Gomez!

SANCHEZ

It's Sanchez, sir.

STACHE

GIVE ME IT Y'SHROOM!

The chase is on! The die is cast! The games afoot!

I want that treasure, boys! Catch me on Neverland"

Molly

#11 – DODO IN DISTRESS

AQ 125 - 80

44

MOLLY

Talk to me, daddy!

NARRATOR ASTER

With the wasp racing at flank speed for the neverland, Leonard Aster clears his mind and tried to reach olly.

MOLLY

Daddy, are you there? Hello, Hello?

ASTER

Can you hear me now?

Can you hear me now?

MOLLY

Daddy, the Queen's trunk is here, on board the Neverland!

45

ASTER

Not in English! Too dangerous.

MOLLY

Oh dear, please don't speak in –

ASTER

Brump burppel weee!

MOLLY

Parrots have taken over your ship? Well, what genius brought parrots?

ASTER

PIRATES! We've been taken over by pirates!

MOLLY

Pirates! Oh, that hard "I" sound is so tricky –

ASTER

MOLLY! The Wasp is bearing down on the Neverland! Soon as we catch you, steer clear of Black Stache and bring the Trunk to me!

MOLLY

I will!

ASTER

Don't let me down, Daughter! This is your mission now!

MOLLY

Yes, sir. Thank you, sir! *Cwa-cwah! Cwa-cwah! Vreeep!*

BOY

AQ 130 - 83

What are you doing?

46

ACT 1 SCENE 9: THE NEVERLAND – ON DECK

MOLLY

Sorry, what? Um – get below, boy. If slank sees you on deck, he'll rear up like the –

BOY

You were talking to your neck thing.

MOLLY

No, I wasn't

BOY

Then how come you rneck thing glows and rings all by itself?

MOLLY

It's for swimming. I'm a good swimmer. It's a swimming medal.

BOY

Right. Swimming. Sure. And what's starstuff?

MOLLY

Decision. I'm going to trust you.

BOY

Why? I'm just a boy

MOLLY

I know. Pity. You Like to look at the stars? Well, there they are-

BOY

I like when they shoot across the sky! Zoomshoom!

MOLLY

Sometimes pieces of them fall to earth - little bits that look like sand. Can you keep a secret?

Those little bits are starstuff. The trunk in Slanks cabin is full of it.

There's some in here too, in case I'm ever in trouble.

BOY

Starstuff?? Lemme see!!

MOLLY

NO!!

It changes people if they touch it.

BOY

How?

MOLLY

Different ways – depending on what they want to be.

BOY

So, if somebody gets their hands on this starstuff and –

MOLLY

-and they're evil and greedy or they're hungry for world domination like Caesar or Napoleon.

BOY

Who's that?

MOLLY

Uch, didn't you learn anything at that orphanage?

BOY

Was kinda busy trying not to die

MOLLY

Oh

MOLLY

So, if starstuff's so dangerous, why're you after it?

MOLLY

I'm a starcatcher. We have special powers that we use in secret – to keep starstuff away from tyrants who try to rule the world.

BOY

Okay, so prove it.

MOLLY

What?

BOY

Go on, amaze me with your special powers.

49

MOLLY

It's not a magic show. I'm not like some magician guy.

BOY

Well I mean if you can't actually do anything...

MOLLY

Fine whatever.

To have faith is to have wings.

BOY

Whoa.

MOLLY

Satisfied?

BOY

So the cat was flying. C'mon, I wanna fly, too! Like you and the cat!

MOLLY

Get serious, will you?! The Starstuff has to be destroyed.

BOY

You want me to destroy it??

MOLLY

Don't be ridiculous. My father is going to throw it into the world's hottest active volcano. Problem is, King Zarboff would kill for even a thimble of starstuff!

BOY

Hey, I can help. See, if I'm gonna be the king's new helper. So, when we get to Rundoon, I'll just ask him-

MOLLY

You're not going to be his helper. You're going to be snake food!

50

BOY

So Gremplin lied.

Grown ups always lie! It's all they ever do!

MOLLY

You want help? Then help me get that trunk to my father!

BOY

Hey, you know what? Forget it! Why should I help anybody?? WHAT'S ANYBODY EVER DONE FOR ME??

SLANK

You!

AQ 135 - 86

#13 – PETER OVERBOARD

BOY

Snake food? Really?

SLANK

I told you to stay in yer crate, orphan sludge.

BOY

When exactly were you gonna tell us we were-

SLANK

That's it. Bill Slank is drawin the line! I may not have been born with a silver spoon up me bum, but that don't mean I won't stir my tea with one!

BOY

That's gross

MOLLY

Get blow, boy!

51

SLANK

He ain't goin' below, he's goin' over!

BOY

Let go! Lemme go!

NARRATOR ALF

Strong gusts blowing, wind's hit 34 knots!

BOY

I HATE GROWN UPS!

SLANK

Bottom's up boy!

BOY

Not overboard! Please! I can't

SLANK

Can't what?"

BOY

SWIM!

MOLLY

Here I am, boy! All will be well!

52

ACT 1 SCENE 10: THE NEVERLAND AND THE WASP

AQ 140 - 89 **#14 – HURRICANO – PART 1**

NARRATOR SCOTT

Wind's approaching 40 knots, whitecaps heavy, crests overhanging!

SAILOR SMEE

Ship off the forward bow!

SAILOR SCOTT

The wasp? After us? Better tell slank!

MOLLY

Backstroke is my event, and I do like to finish first. I win more medals at school than anyone, except for Daphne Cooper – but Daphne Cooper's a swot

Deep breaths. There we go.

BOY

Spits and coughs

You saved my life.

MOLLY

Of course

BOY

Why?

MOLLY

Because I'm the leader.

BOY

But you don't even like me.

MOLLY

The leader can't go about saving only the people she likes.

BOY

The leader has to be a boy

53

MOLLY

Only if the boy knows there's more important things in this world than saving his own neck.

BOY

Like what?

MOLLY

Like saving someone else's.

SLANK

They figgered out I swapped the Trunks!

BOY

Slank!

MOLLY

We need the Wasp to catch up to us quick!

SLANK

It's the wasp alright!

MACK

We'll never outrun a frigate, captain.

SLANK

We can bleedin' well try!

Y'want yer trunk, Leonard Aster? You'll have to catch me first!

Follow the wind, weevil! Hard to starboard!

MACK

Starboard? That ain't the one with the big P, is it?

54

NARRATOR BOY

The boy spins the ship's wheel for everything he's worth!

SLANK

He's changed our course!

BOY, SLANK, MACK

STRAIGHT FOR THE WASP!

NARRATOR STACHE & MOLLY

Wind 47 knots

NARRATORS

GALE WARNING!

NARRATORS PRENTISS, TED

The Ship's wheel careen across the Deck and spins out to sea-

NARRATOR SCOTT, SMEE

-turning the Neverland hard against the grain-

NARRATOR SMEE

-and jolting two people in a tiny cabin below!

ALF, MRS. BUMBRAKE**ALL**

I'VE WAITED FOR LOVE, I'VE WAITED FOR BLISS, I'VE WAITED FOR THIS	OOH THIS!
---	-----------

MRS. BUMBRAKE

No! no more nattering. I'm still a Nana and I must find Molly.
Spit me over, what was that?!

55

ALF

We're changing course is all – straight for the Isle of love-

MRS. BUMBRAKE

But where's molly?
She's been lost ever so long.
HEY! Cut the conoodling! I gotta grab the gir. Get it?!
But do come with.

NARRATORS PRENTISS, TED, MOLLY

The neverland crashes into the waves!

NARRATOR STACHE, SMEE

Bucking and barreling straight for the Wasp!

SMEE

The neverland, cap'n! she's headin' right for us!

STACHE

This is too easy! I think I'm even feeling a weensy bit guilty.

And... I'm over it.

Up the gunter! Prepare to board!

56

Neverland, HO! Victory is OURS! Well, MINE!

NARRATORS

WIND 63 KNOTS: VISIBILITY GONE! WHOLE WAVES! BACK SKIES!

SLANK

Pucker up, lads! We'll kiss her any minute now!

SAILOR SCOTT

But she's one of ours! We'll be ramming a British Ship!!

MACK

The damn'd orphan boy – he's ruined us!

SLANK

Orphans ruin everything! Hold on to yer ditty bag, boys! Here comes the Wasp!

57

SMEE

Now, boss?

STACHE

Now! Run up the Jolly Roger!

SLANK

It's pirates!

Come back, ye cowards!!

STACHE

Hallo, Neverland. I believe this trunk belongs to you. And you have something of ours.

#15 – HURRICANO – PART II

SLANK

Save yer trunk, Bill. Get the trun to Zarboff and you'll be too posh to push!

NARRATOR PRENTISS

Wind 67 knots!

NARRATORS

THAT'S 200 MILES PER HOUR! LARGE WAVES OVER 50 FEET!

MOLLY **AQ 145 - 92**

You! Boy! You turned us around so the Wasp could catch us!

BOY

Petty cheeky, huh?

58

MOLLY

Pretty cheeky,

PRENTISS

Yeah, awesome – and now there's pirates everywhere! Good move, ace

MOLLY

He did something big, Prentiss.

BOY

I could do more.

PRENTISS

Well, I'm still the leader.

MOLLY

Then help me get the trunk out of Slank's cabin and onto the Wasp!

PRENTISS

Sorry, not our issue

MOLLY

Never mind, I'll do it myself. Mrs. Bumbrake! Mrs. Bumbrake!

TED

You're different, you know that?

Don't you think he's different

PRENTISS

We should definitely wait here. We'll be safer.

BOY

There's more important things in this world than saving your own neck.

PRENTISS, TED

Like what?

BOY

Like helping Molly.

NARRATOR SCOTT

Up on deck, two captains square off for the greatest of grand prizes!

FX 3 BOXING ANNOUNCER PRENTISS

Ladies and gentlemen, thanks for coming out on the stormy night for featured bout! In this corner direct from Slough by way of Despond, with the intimacy issues in the clogging knickers, it's no mother son and no man's pal: BILL "THE RAT BASTARD " SLANK! And in this corner, sporting his famous flavor saver since the tender age of 10, the most fierce and pirate on the pike, all hands on deck for THE BLACK STACHE! This is a one round knockout match. Kicking and spitting in gouging is preferred. Hitting below the belt is not required, though the fans tend to like it.

ALL

WE LOVE IT!!

BOXING ANNOUNCER PRENTISS

No she cans and come out rhyming!

SLANK

Take a hike, y'mingy crumb! The trunk is mine, so kiss me bum!

STACHE

I'll kiss ya, Bill, with me French Roaster, rolley-coaster, upper-cutter flipper-flopper!

SLANK

Which I dodge like so, behind-your-backsies, which needs a wazy, by the by!

STACHE

Or me God's anointed, double jointed, triple pointed belly whopper!

SLANK

Or meet on yer kneesy, easy peasy, Java nsesy battle cry!

STACHE

Me dogs dinner!

SLANK

Me shark-shanker!

STACHE

Me whinkle pinner!

SLANK

Me walk the planker!

STACHE

Shall I compare thee to a summers day?

There he lies – jumped up cabin boy who doesn't know his place.

Gimme the Queen's trunk or say yer g'byes, y' bathtub captain!

#16 – HURRICANO – PART III**NARRATOR STACHE**

CRACK! The sound of splintering wood! Flapping canvas whipped by wind!

NARRATOR SLANK

CRACK! The deck is breaking up! Mast that was, a mast no more!

NARRATOR STACHE

The *Neverland*

NARRATOR SLANK

-she's split in two!

AQ 160 - 101

NARRATORS

A whole Ship Half'd!!

SAILOR BOY

Abandon ship! Abandon ship!

MOLLY

We're saving the trunk, and that's all there is to it!

SLANK

Oi! You really missed the gravy boat, Better

MRS. BUMBRAKE

Don't let him smell your fear, Molly!

ALF, LEND A HAND!

SLANK

Outta my way!

ALL I WANT'S ME TRUNK!!!

ALF

Don't ye touch one hair on that woman's leg!

SLANK

She's all yours, lover boy!

ALF

NOW, BETTY!

62

ALF

Don't ye go to dinner!

NARRATOR MACK

But just before bunking with Davy Jones-

SLANK

O, the waves swallow me up, a great should of sea. And the sharks start nibbling away, like me mother's kisses – MOTHER! Ye left me on the steps of a tattoo parlor, wrapped in a half-eaten bag of fish 'n' chips. Round me neck, a note: "Orphan Bill Slank – Too wicked to end well."

NARRATOR MACK

TTFN!

ALF

Ye good fer nothing bucket o' scum!

MRS. BUMBRAKE

My white knight!!

MOLLY

Now, let's get moving!

ASTER

Molly! Molly, I'm locked in the broom cabin!

MOLLY

DADDY, THE TRUNK IS OURS!

MOLLY

BRING IT TO ME!!

Gavin

Abandon ship!

SMEE

Check your trunks! Some trunks may appear identical to other trunks!

PIRATE ALF

Save yourself!

MOLLY

AQ 165 - 104

Help, boy! I need more time to get the Queen's trunk to my father!

BOY

Don't worry! I'll stall the pirates!
Some crazy weather, huh?

STACHE

What are you?

BOY

What are you?

STACHE

WHAT AM I?

PIRATES

BLACK STACHE!!!!

BOY

AQ 170 - 107

Never heard o' you.

STACHE

Liar! The Stache is on everyone's lips.
Why, is that the Queen's trunk you're sitting on?

BOY

Oh yeah, Queen's trunk, totally. Molly Aster told me to protect it.

STACHE

From who?

BOY

Pirates like you

STACHE

Yer name, bub

BOY

No name. Orphan.

STACHE

If you were a pirate, you'd have a proper name.

BOY

You could do that?

STACHE

I'm the boss, ain't I? How about bluebeard Bob?

Long john Larry?

Oooh! Pirate Pete. That's available.

BOY

Pirate Pete...

65

STACHE

Good solid name is Peter, like a rock. That's what you'll be, boy, my rock. Now, gimme the trunk.

BOY

Pete. Yeah. I like that.

STACHE

Now, gimme the trunk.

PETER

And what would I do?

STACHE

You need to connect, Peter. NO man is an archipelago. Now, be a good Peter and give your captain his GREAT BIG TREASURE!!!

Sand again!

PETER

You blew it, Stache! The Queen's trunk's safe on the Wasp
We saved the treasure, Molly!! Wwe saved the world!

STACHE

You're killing my buzz, boy – to which I say die!

AQ 175 - 110 #17 – SWIM ON

PETER

Not again!

MOLLY

Not again! The boy's gone overboard!!

ASTER

Molly, bring me the trunk!

PETER

Help! I can't swim!

MOLLY

But daddy, the boy needs help!

ASTER

Molly, this is a direct order! BRING THE TRUNK TO ME!

MOLLY

This trunk floats, boy!

PETER

My name's Peter

MOLLY

Peter! I like it!

PETER

Me too!

MOLLY

There's an island, Peter! Ride the trunk to the island!

ASTER

Molly, No!

AQ 180 - 113

ALL

CRACK AND RIP IN CRACK AGAIN!
SOAKED BY SEA IN SOAKED BY RAIN!
SOON, WE PRAY, THE STORM BE DONE,
AND WHEN IT'S DONE,
PRAY YOU SEE THE SUN!

ALF

GRAB A PAR, MRS. BUMBRAKE, GRAB SPAR!

MRS. BUMBRAKE

WHAT'S A SPAR?

ALF

THIS IS NO TIME OT ARGUE
AND WE CAN'T STAY WHERE WE ARE!

MRS. BUMBRAKE

OH, THE WIND IS LIKE A WHIP!

ALF

TAKE ME HAND! ABANDON SHIP!

MRS. BUMBRAKE

BUT MY MOLLY. OH MY MOLLY-
WHAT A BLOODY AWFUL TRIP!

STACHE

BLOW YOUR WINDS! OH, YOUR WINDS! I'M STILL THE MAN!

SMEE

YOU'RE THE MAN!

STACHE

THANK YOU, SMEE
CARRY ME AND ALL THE OTHER CRAP YOU CAN!
EVEN IN THE CHURNING SEA,
STILL AM I THE CAPTAIN, SMEE:
"ONE FOR ALL, AND ALL FOR ME!"

PRENTISS

I'M THE LEADER!

TED

NO, YOU'RE NOT!

PRENTISS

YES I AM!

TED

WHEN THERE'S A FEW OF US. THERE CAN'T BE A LEADER NOW!

PRENTISS

WHY NOT?

TED

THERE'S ONLY TWO OF US!

PRENTISS

JUMP! C'MON TED! WE'LL JUMP TOGETHER!

TED

I WAS THINKING WE COULD MAYBE WAIT FOR SLIGHTLY BETTER WEATHER!

ALL EXCEPT MOLLY

THE NEVERLAND HAS COME APART!
SCREW YOUR COURAGE, STEEL YOUR HEART!

MOLLY

SOMEWEHRE OUT THERE, SEARCH FOR HIM!

MOLLY**MEN**

DIVE, MOLLY ASTER, AND SWIM!	...DIVE AND SWIM!
---------------------------------	----------------------

ALL

SWIMMING AGAINST THE CURRENT.
SWIMMING AGAINST THE SEA,
THO THE TIME THEY TURN AGAINST US,
THO TOO STRONG THAT I MAY BE.
THOUGH EACH STROKE, EACH STROKE GROWS HEAVY,
THOUGH EACH BREATH IS AGONY,
WE TRY, TILL WE CAN BREATHE NO MORE,
TO CLAMBER OF THE NEAREST SHORT,
AND FOLLOW UP ON HER KNEES BEFORE
THE TRUTH THAT SETS US FREE-

STACHE

Follow that trunk, Smee! Get me to that island!

MOLLY

Get to the island, Peter! And don't let that trunk out of your sight!

ALL

SWIM ON AGAINST THE CURRENT.
SWIM ON AGAINST THE SEA,
THOUGH THE TIDE I TURN AGAINST YOU,
NO TWO SHOWING THAT I MAY BE.
I KNOW YOUR ARMS BE LEADIN
SLICING THROUGH THE SPRAY IN FOAM,
SWIM ON, SWIM ON.
SWIM ON, SWIM ON.
SWIMMING AGAINST THE CURRENT
TILL YOUR COURAGE BRINGS YOU HOME,

TILL YOU STAND
ON THE LAND
SAFELY HOME!

AQ 181 - 114

AQ 185 - 116

ACT 2 – PROLOGUE

70

#18 MERMAID OUTTA ME

MERMAID STACHE

YOU'RE LIKELY WOND'RING WHEAT WE'VE HAD TO DRINK NOW. AND YOU MIGHT
THNK, "NOW, THEY'VE GONE TOO FAR." BUT SOMETHING WE SHOULD NOT HAVE
BEEN EXPOSED TO WE GOT CLOSE TO BY SWIMMING AFT OF PETER'S RAFT AND HERE
WE ARE. ANAD IT WAS STARSTUFF FROM THE SKIES THAT MADE EACH FISH THE
LOVELY DISH BEFORE YOUR EYES. NOW FINS ARE FINGERS, HUMAN STYLE. BECAUSE
OF STARSTUFF WE SMILE.

ALL

AND IT WAS THE STARSTUFF

MERMAID STACHE

IT GAVE YS NECKS. IT GAVE US PECS. WHAT'S NOT TO LOVE?

71

ALL

OH, HOW WE TINGLE, AND EV'RE DAY'S SPRING, BECAUSE OF STARSTUFF. WE SING,
OH YES, IT'S STARSTUFF

Slank

I WAS A FLOUNDER YESSIR!

ALL

...WE ADORE.

Sara

AND IM A SMELT.

ALL

I GOT A BUZZ. OH, WHAT IT DOES! I WANT SOME MORE!

Clam

I WAS A YELLOWTAIL TUNA 'TIL I FELT-

ALL

I'M ALL WARM AND FUZZY

Clam

I'M WILD AND FREE!

Clam

A WARM AND FUZZY FEELING-

ALL

I LOVE HOW STARSTUFF

Clam

...TIL' STARTUFF MADE MY TUNA MELT

ALL

IT MADE A MERMAID OUTTA ME! IT WAS THE STARSTUFF...

Jacqueline

AND OH, WHAT A GLOW AS YOUR FINS START A GROWING SOME MORE.

72

ALL

...THAT DISSOLVED

Jacqueline

GO WITH THE FLOW AS THE GLOW GETS YA GOIN' SOME MORE

ALL

YOU GET A THRILL

Slank

SOON! YOU'RE BREATHIN' AIR.

ALL

YOU LOSE A GILL,

MERMAID STACHE

SOON YOU'RE GROWING HAIR.

ALL

YOUR PROBLEM'S SOLVED

Grempkin

SOON IT'S LONG AND CURLY

MERMAIDS PRENTISS & BUMBRAKE

SOON YOUR ACTING GIRLIE.

MERMAID GROUP

EACH ARROWTOOTH AND AHI, EACH MANYL MAHI MAHI

ALL

ARE NOW THE COOLEST CREATURES IN THE SEA. HOO-HEE! TO THE SURF FOR THE
STARSTUFF MADE A MERMAID OUTTA ME MERMAIDS ARE WE!

Dance break

AND EACH OF US WERE MADE, EACH HIM AND HER MADE, INTO A-

MERMAID STACHE

MERMAID!!

73

ALL EXCEPT MERMAID STACHE

BREAK THE OLDEST OF NATURE'S LAWS! WE'LL NEVER BE FISH AGAIN BECAUSE-

ALL

STARTSTUFF

MADE ME A MERMAID OUTTA ME!

MADE ME A MERMAID OUTTA ME!

MADE ME A MERMAID OUTTA ME!

IT MAKES YOU WHAT YOU WANNA BE! SHOOP!

74

AQ 190 - 116

ACT 2 SCENE 1

#19 – MERMAID PLAYOFF/PETER REVEAL

PETER

That, Molly? I'm coming! Wait for me!

Molly, wait!

No, not s'posed to sleep! S'posed to be guarding the trunk, not – what if she came and –
I DID WHAT YOU SAID, MOL – Dragged it right up a mountain!

Nope, no Molly.

So... bright. That must be the sun! I'm feeling you, sun!

And check – it – out!! Space. Light. Air. I'm finally FREE!

And I'm gonna have... freedoms! Whatever I want.

Whoa. Hey bird, wassup? Me? Well, let's see... saved the worl. Got a name. Not too shabby.

I just – I wonder if Teddy and Prentiss made it off the ship before it sank. I mean, how werid
would it be if they-

Please let them be okay.

75

Bird, we should make a pact. I don't even leave you, you don't leave me. Deal?

FX 2 No! Come back! I don't wanna be alone! **COME BACK!**

Hey, fine. No Molly, no Teddy, no Prentiss... so what? This is perfect. I can just be a boy for
awhile. It's all I want anyway.

I gotta get out here!

TED

Sorry, did you wanna be alone?

PETER

No! stay with me.

TED

Good answer.

PETER

Thank you!

PRENTISS

You ready for this? Teddy floats! We jumped overboard and I held on to Teddy, and two of us bobbed all the way here!

PETER

Prentiss!

PRENTISS

No-name!

PETER

I got one now. It's peter.

TED

Solid.

76

PRENTISS

Whatever.

PETER

Look, the wasp! Way out there, you see it? It's still in one piece

PRENTISS

Oh no – I see where this is going.

TED

Where's mother?

PRENTISS

For the love of – her name is Molly! And she probably drowned.

PETER

No! she drove off the ship as it went down. She's like a real swimmer. I think maybe she made it to the wasp. Or maybe she's floating on what's left of the Neverland –

AQ 200 - 125

MRS. BUMBRAKE

We'll end up in China drifting like this. And I'm in no mood for moo shoo, Alf! Tried it once – went through me like the winter wind in Wessex!

PETER

AQ 205 - 128

Or maybe Molly's down there, in the jungle

PRENTISS

I say we wait for her up here.

PETER

C'mon! help me hide the trunk, and we'll find some branches down the beach.

77

TED

At some point we're gong need food.

PETER

Branches. What we need are branches.

TED

Hey, I think I found some –
Sweet!
Ow!

PRENTISS

Branches, branches ... guy's got a jones for branches-

PETER

To build a raft, you know so we can float out to the wasp. We get the Wasp, Molly's father'll have to take us.

PRENTISS

Where?

PETER

Home.
C'mon – everybody holds hands and nobody gets lost. Clear?

TED

Crystal.
Ew. Your hand's all sweaty.

PRENTISS

Yeah, 'cuz perspiration's mark of true leadership.

ACT 2 SCENE TWO: JUNGLE

TED

You there, Peter?

PETER

Here! You there, ted?

TED

Present

PETER

You there, Prentiss?

Prentiss? You there?

Teddy, you holding on to Prentiss?

Teddy?

Guys? Where is everybody??

MOLLUSKS

VINO BLANCO! TREVVIANO! MOSCAT! PINOT GRIGIO!

PRENTISS

You said hang on to each other, Peter!

MOLLUSKS

GNOCCHI!

79

TED

Where are you, Peter?

MOLLUSKS

CANNOLI!

PETER

I'm here, ted!

MOLLUSKS

GNOCCHI!

TED

I'm scared peter!

MOLLUSKS

CANNOLI

PRENTISS

I can't see a thing!

MOLLUSKS

GNOCCHI!

TED

Help! Gorillas!

STACHE

Oh, Hello!

PETER

Who was that?

FIGHTING PRAWN

CANNELLONI!

MOLLUSKS

CHIANTI!

SMEE

It's smee, sir!

FIGHTING PRAWN

LINGUINI!

MOLLUSKS

VINO ROSSO! MONTEPULCIANO!

TED

How do you eat this?

MOLLUSKS

TOCAI E DOLCETTO!

STACHE

There! Footprints!

PRENTISS

Something's chasing me!

FIGHTING PRAWN

MONTEPULCIANO!

MOLLUSKS
MONTEPULICANO!

PETER
Who's that? What the-?

FIGHTING PRAWN
CHIANTI!

STACHE
I'm right behind you!

MOLLUSKS
LINGUINI!

STACHE
And I want that trunk!

MOLLUSKS
LINGUINI!

TED
Help, I'm hungry!

STACHE
I'm gonna find you!

MOLLUSKS
CHIANTI!

PETER
I'll find you, ted! Keep heading down!

PRENTISS
Which way is down!?

PETER
Prentiss! Teddy! Guys! You hear me??

TED
HUNGRY, PETER!

STACHE
WANT THAT TREASURE!

PRENTISS

I'M THE LEADER!

SMEE

WANT THAT TREASURE!

TED, PRENTISS

HELP ME, PETER!

STACHE, SMEE

WANT THAT TRUNK!

MOLLY

AQ 215 - 134

World class swimmer that we know me to be, I reached the island in record time! I'm awfully glad I saved the boy, even if Daddy's furious. Saving the whole world's, a bit abstract for a thirteen-year-old. Putting a human face on it makes it more jolly.

Oh, this training bra is so irksome! Now, I really must fetch Daddy's trunk and bring it back to the Wasp, or my first ever mission'll be my last. Don't worry, peter, wherever you are! I'll find you!

82

MOLLUSKS

VINO ROSSO! MONTEPULCIANO! TOCAI E DOLCETOO!

FIGHTING PRAWN

PRIMI, PRANZO – DOPO, GABINETTO!

Hallo. I am king of this island, and you boys are my prisoners.

LASAGNA!

83

AQ 220 - 137 ACT 2 SCENE 3: MOLLUSK TERRITORY

FIGHTING PRAWN

You three will do nicely.

TED

You speak English!

FIGHTING PRAWN

If I must. Preferez-vous que je parle francias?

PRENTISS

But you're savages!

FIGHTING PRAWN

We Mollusks are no savages. I know here you savagery is, boy. When I was young man, English landed here, took me to your island in chains. Many long years I serve as kitchen slave in Not-So-Great-Britain. Until by kindness of fate-

HAWKING CLAM

-A ship wreck brought my father back to Mollusk Island.

FIGHTING PRAWN

Yes. In your language, my name is Fighting Prawn. This is my son, Hawking Clam. My son shall wear his hat once worn by my brutal British master. For years, I was his kitchen slave. He beat me raw, but I was brave and one day put him in his grave with a plate of poison pasta!

FIGHTING PRAWN

Thank you

HAWKING CLAM

Come, it is time/

PRENTISS

Time?

FIGHTING PRAWN

Feeding time.

84

TED

Feeding time, finally!

HAWKING CLAM

Not where you eat, piggy boy. Where you are eaten.

FIGHTING PRAWN

You must answer to the law: The law of mister grin.

PRENTISS

Who's mister gin?

HAWKING CLAM

We worship[him, and he protects us from foreign trouble makers,

FIGHTING PRAWN

Come, we feed you now to vicious crocodile

PETER

WAIT!!!! Please don't feed us to any crocodile. First – first take us to mister grin,

FIGHTING PRAWN

Crocodile is mister grin.

(take them)

PASTA!

PETER

Wait! We can give you great gift!

FIGHTING PRAWN

ANTI-PASTA!

You said gift?

PETER

A story – yeah, we'll give you a bedtime story. Sleeping beauty. Right, guys?

TED

Sleeping beauty, yeah. The thing is, I nodded off before the end.

85

PETER

Maybe they will too, and we can get outta here!

We give you story, you let us live, and we leave your island. Deal?

FIGHTING PRAWN

Okey dokey. But if I am not entertained, it's Mister Grin for all of you!! Assume the position!
You have one minute!

TED

One minute? What'am I supposed to do in one minute? I can't transform, I can't inhabit the character-

FIGHTING PRAWN

Bring me the holy relic of my captivity!

HAWKING CLAM

Here, Mighty father. The kitchen timer.

FIGHTING PRAWN

One minute, starting... NOW!

PRENTISS

Um... one at a time-

TED

Once upon a time – that's how they always start! Upon a time, upon a time!!!

FIGHTING PRAWN

Tick-tock, tick-tock... hungry, Mister Grin?

86

PRENTISS

Okay, okay! Once upon a time, there was a beautiful baby princess. Waaaah!

TED

And an evil witch with a curse: a-ha-ha!

PRENTISS

Waaaah!

TED

A-ha-ha!

PRENTISS

Waaah!

TED

A-ha-ha!

PETER

and the curse was very terrible, for every time the baby cried –

PRENTISS

Waaah!

PETER

-the whole kingdom would fall asleep!

PRENTISS

Waaah!

PETER

Snores

TED

A-ha-ha!

PRENTISS

Waaah!

PETER

Snores

TED

A-ha-ha!

PRENTISS

Waaah!

PETER

Snores

TED

A-ha-ha!

PETER, PRENTISS, TED

AND BEAUTY WA HER NAME-OH!

88

FIGHTING PRAWN

Fifteen seconds, master grin!

TED

And soon the princes was old enough to talk-

PRENTISS

Hi. I'm sixteen, I'm beautiful, and I'm in the market for something long term...

PETER

But nobody could stay awake long enough to kiss her!

PRENTISS

And everybody got so sleep all of a suddennnn...

TED

And that's the story of sticky pudding

PETER, PRENTISS

SLEEPING BEAUTY!

AQ 225 - 140

89

MOLLY

That's not the end! They missed the whole emotional arc of the story!

PETER

Where'd you come from??

FIGHTING PRAWN

Goody, another English!

And your minute is up!

PETER

You shoulda stayed hidden, Molly!

MOLLUSKS

Molly! Molly! Molly!

PETER

What's so funny?

FIGHTING PRAWN

You called her "molly"!

90

MOLLY

Well, It's my name. Molly
What?

FIGHTING PRAWN

In our luggage, Molly means squid poop.

HAWKING CLAM

WAIT!

Entertained, might father?

FIGHTING CLAM

First prize – you got me with squid poop. Two thumbs up!

PETER

So you let us live, right? That was the deal.

PRETISS

Which is so great, see, 'cuz you need us! We can do al the things you guys don't wanna do anymore. We're foreigners – that's what we're for!

FIGHTING PRAWN

Nice try. But, the law is the law! All English must die!

Kill them!

CALAMARI!

91

AQ 230 - 143

ACT 2 SCENE 4

#21 – MR. GRIN

PRENTISS

Teddy, I hope that was your stomach

TED

I wanna go home.

PRENTISS

What home?

PETER

He made a deal with us, and he lied, just like they always do. I hate grown-ups!

TED

Do something, Prentiss! You're the leader! Have a plan!

PRENTISS

Eat the kitchen timer and leave us alone!!

TED

Great, now we can count the seconds till we die.

PETER

This is all your fault, Molly. Makin me feel like this big man who's gonns save the world!
Well, I'm not a big man, and I can't save anything!

MOLLY

Not a good time for a hissy, peter. You failed, so you try again. My father always says that.

92

PETER

THEN LET HIM SAVE US!

MOLLY

Should've given the trunk to my father. Then he'd have all the starstuff and-
Molly, you idiot!

I have a plan!

PRENTISS

Eyes! Look at the eyes!

MOLY

This amulet is my plan! The starstuff inside is my plan!
You with us, boy, or is it sulk and die?

PETER

I'm with you, I'm with you.

MOLLY

Good.
It's better team with you on it, Peter.

PRENTISS
HERE IT COMES!

93

MOLLY
Now, Peter! Get him to open wide!!!

PETER
Tasty boy! Fresh today! Come and eat me!!!

MOLLY
Duck!!

NARRATOR PRENTISS
The ringin of bells fills the air.

NARRATOR TED
And Mister Grin begins to coo, gurgle-

NARRATOR PETER
-and GROW!

NARRATOR MOLLY
Until the crocodile shatters through his bamboo enclosure-

NARRATORS PETER, TED, PRENTISS, MOLLY
-an airborne leviathan!

PETER
So basically I'm thinking... Let-

94

TED
-get outta-

PRENTISS
-HERE!!!!

FIGHTING PRAWN
Those dirty, filthy, rotten, stinking English@

HAWKING CLAM
We catch and kill them, Might father!

FIGHTING PRAWN
But leave Peter Boy and little miss squid poo for me. Them, fighting Prawn will butterfly and deep fat fry!

AQ 235 - 146

(after them!)

SCAMPI!!!

AQ 240 - 149

MOLLUSKS

BUTTERFLY AND DEEP FAT FRY! BUTTERFLY AND DEEP FAT FRY! BUTTERFLY AND DEEP FAT FRY!

95

ACT 2 SCENE 5: THE BEACH

STACHE

Set me down, you dozy prat. I can't go another step.

SMEE

That trunk is hard to fund, Cap'n

Rest yerself a while. Smee'll track yer treasure solo.

STACHE

Negaroni. We'll trick the pewling spwan and make'em bring it hither. But how to do it? How to smoke 'em out-

SMEE

We could lure em, cap'n!

STACHE

Lure 'em, y'say?

SMEE

Stupid idea, smee. Stupid stupid!

STACHE

Lure 'em, yes. Down here to the beach. In which case, we shall need-

SMEE

A magnet. Really big one. That'll attract em!

STACHE

Smee, you've been hitting the three-bean couscous again.

SMEE

'tweren't I, Cap'n

96

STACHE

Wait! I have it!

SMEE

Oh, captain?

STACHE

Lucky for me you saved your ukulele!

SMEE

Captain stache!!!!

STACHE

A siren's song is what we need, smee, and you're going to be luscious siren-
WHOA! BIG CROC!

AQ 245 - 152

97

ACT 2 SCENE 6: JUNGLES EDGE

PETER

Grab anything that looks like it'll float! We're getting out of here.

MOLLY

No – first, take me to the trunk. Remember the mission.

PETER

Forget thr trunk – the trunk is safe. What we need is a raft!

MOLLY

It's not your decision, Peter. Protect the trunks – that's the mission!

PETER

You have to have it your way, don't you!
What is that-?

PRENTISS

Blinking fierce-?

MOLLY

It's father! Father – oh, god! He's signaling me all the way from the wasp!!

TED

What's it mean?

MOLLY

He's using Norse code@ it's norse code, everyone!

PRENTISS

Um-sorry – I think you mean Morse code.

MOLLY

Not morse code. Norse code! From Norway. The ancient Viking signaling system.

PRENTISS

That's ridiculous

98

PETER

What's he saying?

MOLLY

Unless I miss my guess, he's saying, "Un, gettsie Molly doozee blingen." That's "first, take Molly to the trunk" "coom heller water." That's "remember the mission"

PETER

Very convenient

MOLLY

"un gettsie blingen doozee plakken" that's the trunk down to the beach." "Marla Bella furna" – Father'll be there with the longboat. Anka danke, papa – love daddy

PETER

I feel kinda stupid not knowing Norwegian

MOLLY

It isn't a contest. Though, if it were, I'd win

PETER

And the running – you're really fast. Better than me.

MOLLY

Well, you're a better leader

PETER

Really?

MOLLY

No.

C'mon, take me to the trunk!

MOLLUSKS

(off)

BUTTERFLY AND DEEP FAT FRY! BUTTERFLY AND DEEP FAT FRY! BUTTERFLY AND DEEP FAT FRY!

MOLLY

The Mollusks!

MOLLUSKS*(off)*

THE MOLLUSKS!!!!

PETER

Take the guys with you! I'll get the Mollusks to follow me!

TED

Hear that, Pretiss? That's the sound of a leader!

MOLLY

I'm not leaving you!

PETER

Afraid I'll beat you to the top?

MOLLY

As if!

Bravo, Peter.

PETER

Here I am, Mollusks! Come and get me!

100

AQ 250 - 155**ACT 2 SCENE 7: UP THE MOUNTAIN****#23 – DOWN AND DOWN AND DOWN****NARRATOR FIGHTING PRAWN**

bounding through the jungle and up the mountain, Peter's thoughts are only of outrunning the natives.

PETER

Try'n catch me, Fighting Prawn!

NARRATOR SMEE

And the further he runs, the more that he smiles-

NARRATOR FIGHTING PRAWN

-from saving the others-

NARRATOR STACHE

-and being a leader-

NARRATOR MOLLY

-til, panting and jumping and practically flying, peter feels something entirely new!

PETER

Alive!

NARRATOR ASTER

And all of a sudden, surround his head-

101

PETER

Get outta my face, bird. I can't see where I'm going!

NARRATOR MOLLY

And that's when he misses a ledge and falls!

PETER

MOLLY!

NARRATOR SCOTT

and down and down he bumps and bruises-

NARRATOR FIGHTING PRAWN

-leaving the natives with no one to chase.

NARRATORS

SPLASH!

NARRATOR SCOTT

His brutal fall is broken-

NARRATOR ASHER

-and not his neck-

NARRATOR FIGHTING PRAWN

By a shimmering lake of golden water, far, far, underground.

102

AQ 255 - 158 #24 – TEACHER COMFORTS

NARRATOR ASTER

He should've been drowning, should've been afraid, but he was neither drowning nor afraid. Peter bobbed to the surface, safe as you please, and began to get his bearings.

NARRATOR STACHE

And the water was thick like oil, and full of ight, too – and warm, like a rich man's bath.

Sara

And looking down fondly at Peter was-

PETER

- A mermaid!

103

ACT 2 SCENE 8: GROTTO

TEACHER

Well, well... nice of you to drop in. I'm teacher. I know your name is Peter. I know a lot of things

PETER

Where am I?

TEACHER

In a hurry.

PETER

That's right... I was running away from-

TEACHER

The Mollusk natives.

PETER

I was gonna build a raft to get to the wasp, but Molly's father is-

TEACHER

You don't need a raft to get home, and you don't need the Wasp. All you need is Starstuff

PETER

How'd you know about-?

TEACHER

When you rode the trunk to this island, seawater seeped inside. Then the starstuff in the trunk enchanted the water. Then the water enchanted the fish in the wake of the trunk. Then the waves-

PETER

But how'd you know about-?

TEACHER

I'm not finished. Then the waves washed the water right into this grotto, where I was swimmin'

PETER

So you used to be a rish?

104

TEACHER

Scotch salmon. This is way cooler, FYI
The starstuff'll change you, too. It makes you what you want to be.

PETER

But I just wanna be a boy for awhile. Couldn't I just be a boy?

TEACHER

Well, I suppose... once you sit in the starstuff-

PETER

Yeah, then what?

TEACHER

Sky's the limit. You could even fly yourself home maybe, just like you dreamed.

PETER

And find a family.

TEACHER

In which case, you're going to need something. A name.
And we've come up with a good one, haven't we?

NARRATORS

PAN>

TEACHERS

What are you, boy?

PETER

I'm Peter.

105

NARRATORS

Pan.

PETER

Pan? You mean like in the kitchen?

TEACHER

You are just too cute. I mean tow things, actually. First is fun and frolic – anarchy, mischief,
all the things a boy likes to-

PETER

Fun! Okay! I'm Peter Pan

TEACHER

There. You're changing already .

PETER

You said Pan means two things. What's the second thing?

TEACHER

Shouldn't you be on your way? Molly's going to beat you to that trunk.

NARRATORS

MOLLY!

PETER

THE TRUNK!

AQ 260 - 161 **ACT 2 SCENE 9: MOUNTAINTOP**

106

MOLLY

WINNERS – YES! We beat him to the top! We came in first, I'll make that very clear when he gets here.

PRENTISS

If he gets here.

MOLLY

Of course he'll get here! He has to!

PRENTISS

Face facts, Molly. The natives got him and I feel terrible.

MOLLY

Tat red dot on the horizon!

ALF

Betty, you're a genius! Whee-ho! A vast behind!

MRS. BUMBRAKE

My bloomers have stood up to stronger wind than this! Fill speed ahead!

MOLLY

They're safe
I wish Peter was here.

107

MOLLY

The mission comes first. Get the truth to the beach. Now, move it!

NARRATOR GREMPKIN

The night that Ted and Prentiss spend dragging the trunk down the mountain is worse than any at the orphanage-

NARRATOR TED

-because the rain isn't like the rain in England

NARRATOR PRENTISS

It falls like stones and hurts your head!

NARRATOR STACHE

And you can't see, because there's trees-

NARRATOR BUMBRAKE

Smacking your face.

NARRATOR MOLLY

And you can't breathe-

NARRATOR ALF

-from the bugs-

NARRATOR ASTER

-and they're in your mouth-

108

NARRATOR STACHE

-and up your nose-

NARRATOR MOLLY

-and down your front!

NARRATOR PRENTISS

So you take cover and wait out the storm-

NARRATOR STACHE

-but you take cover and wait out the storm-

NARRATOR BUMBRAKE

-'cuz it's way too scary out here and there's a trunk to save-

NARRATOR ASTER

-and you still have to reach the beach!

MOLLY

I said forget about sleep! Teddy!

AQ 265 - 164

PETER

He's spark out.

MOLLY

Peter! Oh, Peter! I thought-

PETER

The most incredible thing – you won't believe – I met this-

MOLLY

Right. Well. Good to see you, Peter. Shall we wake the boys?

PETER

Been kind of a long day. Leave 'em be.

MOLLY

Just us then.

109

PETER

Yeah. Just us. We should open the trunk – make sure the starstuff's okay.

MOLLY

Very dangerous – exposure to so much of it.

PETER

I don't care!

MOLLY

Well, I do! I was so worried. We waited and waited. I told them you'd come. We waited- and then the rain and the dark and I was so worried-

PETER

I'm here. Do you think I've changed?

MOLLY

You're dirtier.

PETER

So, I've been meaning to ask you about the, um... about that, uh – you know – about that thing you did-

MOLLY

What thing?

PETER

The kiss, okay? The kiss.

110

MOLLY

Oh, the kiss. What about it?

PETER

Nobody's ever wanted to kiss me, that's all-

MOLLY

Want to? I didn't want to, we were about to be eaten alive and-

PETER

I mean, I was just sitting there and you grabbed me-

MOLLY

Oh for heaven's sake, such a fuss! Didn't you like it?

PETER

No, it was

MOLLY

You didn't like it. You didn't like it, and now you're telling me you didn't like it! Unbelievable.

PETER

I'm not saying I didn't like it0

TED

Mmm...pork.

MOLLY

Then what're you saying?

PETER

I guess I'm saying – I guess I'm asking –

MOLLY

You stop that right now. I won't answer any such question. You're inclining towards the sentimental and that's all well and good for a boy, but the fact is –

111

PETER

Inclining towards what?

MOLLY

-we girls can't afford to be sentimental. We must instead be strong. And when I marry, my husband will have you to-

PETER

MARRY? Whoa, you thought I was asking you to-

MOLLY

Not you, you swot. Uch, the ego. And when I marry, I shall make it very clear to this person – that sentimentality is not on the calendar. He will have to lump it or leave it. And if he should leave, I'll stay a spinster and pin my hair back and volunteer weekend at the hospital. And I'll have a good old dog, and think what I like, and be a part of a different sort of family, with friends, you know? – who understand that things are only worth what you're willing to give up for themM. Even if I – in the face of death, I may have – you know –

PETER

Wanted to?

MOLLY

I didn't say that.

PETER

Got it.

MOLLY

Good.

PETER

Wow.

112

MOLLY

You know, I might just – now you're here – rest my eyes for a little –

PRENTISS

No, Molly, no! The leader had to be a-!

MOLLY

Where's Peter?

PRENTISS

The Mollusks got him, remember?

TED

Is that the sun? What's for breakfast?

MOLLY

We must be very near the beach! C'mon, Boys! We made it!

113

AQ 270 - 167 ACT TWO SCENE TEN: THE BEACH

MERMAID SMEE

COME TO ME, YE SHIPWRECKED SAILORS.
LOOKEE HERE, YE WAVE-TOSSED WHALERS.
OOH AH! OOH AH!
SAILOR BOY, KEEP SAILING NEAR ME.
CLOSER NOW, SO YOU CAN HEAR ME.
AS YER SHIP BREAKS TO BITS,
FROM YER DECK, FOR A SEC,
YOU CAN SEE MY LOVELY-

STACHE

No no no no no! The object is to lure 'em, Smee – not send 'em into psychoanalysis! No, simple's best. We go to plan B. The Poisoned Fruitcake. The hateful brats arrive – empty beach, tempting morsel. They eat it, they die –

SMEE

They come, Cap'n!

STACHE

Let's kill us some kiddies, Smee!

TED **AQ 275 - 170**

So hungry. So very hungry.

114

PRENTISS

There's the longboat.

MOLLY

But where's Mommy?

STACHE

Get yer tasty fruitcake here! Get yer nice slice o'fruitcake!

TED

Omigosh, YYYEESSSSSSSS!!!!

MOLLY

NO, TED! DON'T!

STACHE

Fresh out of the bakehouse! Yummy Yum Yum –

MOLLY

You're the Black Stache. My mother will have your guts for garters.

STACHE

AQ 280 - 173

Oooooooh! Plan, C Smee!

SMEE

Poisoned fruitcake, brats?

STACHE

That was plan B, Smee. Get rid of it.

STACHE

PLAN C!

MRS. BUMBRAKE

Molly!

MOLLY

Oh, Mrs. Bumbrake! Mrs. Bumbrake-

MRS. BUMBRAKE

Bum-broken's more like it! They grabbed us by the mangroves when we landed, the ruffians. Alf was valiant, heroic-

STACHE

Ruffians?? How dare you, madam. We are no ruffians.

SMEE

Why, we've never even been to Ruffia!

MRS. BUMBRAKE

I don't care what you are, sir, I assure you.

STACHE

What I am, madam? I'll tell --!

SMEE

BLACK STACHE!

STACHE

Thank you, Smee! And it is my serious intent to kill this woman until she is dead, and Alfred too, unless you leave that trunk with me and my nasty crew.

MOLLY

Stay right where you are, and I'll see it goes easy for you with my mother.

AQ 285 - 176

116

STACHE

Your mommy's not around dearie. And there's more of us than there are of you.

FIGHTING PRAWN

OFFSTAGE And there's more of us than anybody! PROSCIUTTO!

#26 – FINAL SCORE

MOLLY

Daddy! Captain Scott! Not you, too!

FIGHTING PRAWN

NO ENGLISH MOVE!

MRS. BUMBRAKE

Prawnies--? Prawnie, is that you?

FIGHTING PRAWN

Better?

MRS. BUMBRAKE

"The mistress wants more of your manicotti."

FIGHTING PRAWN

"And a pasta fazool—"

MRS. BUMBRAKE

"—to make you drool!"

FIGHTING PRAWN

Betty Bumbake, it's you! This woman only English kind to me when I was kitchen slave!

117

MRS. BUMBRAKE

Be a prince, Prawnie, and let Lady Aster loose.

FIGHTING PRAWN

You are English, so I'll choose my words carefully. No.

MRS. BUMBRAKE

But Prawnie—

FIGHTING PRAWN

You English invade our island, now Nature's Laws are all focaccia!

MOLLY

Because of the contents of this trunk, Your Highness. Release my father, and we'll take the trunk off the island. Nature restored. Mollusks live happily ever after!

STACHE

"Happily ever after" my kebab knife! You, bring the trunk here or I cut the savage's throat.

MOLLY

That's a terrible choice – I have a sacred duty!

STACHE **AQ 290 - 179**

Take yer time. I'll count to three – THREE!

ECHO (PETER)

THREE... Three... three...

STACHE

What's that? An ECHO?

ECHO (PETER)

ECHO... Echo... echo...

STACHE

Excellent effect! The Stache is CUNNING!

118

ECHO (PETER)

CUNNING...Cunning

STACHE

The Stache is SUPREME!

PETER

I DON'T THINK SO!

STACHE

You.

PRENTISS

He's alive!

TED

We're saved!

MOLLY

Thrust and parry, Peter!

STACHE

And so we arrive in the belly of the beast.

PETER

Teddy, throw it!

119

TED

Yo! Think fast! Really, after all that? Prentiss, PRENTISS!!!!

PRENTISS

WHAT AM I DOING?? Omigod please don't hurt me, I'm just a nauseous little kid! I'm not responsible!!

STACHE

Is he crying? Seriously? Aaaaargh! Me hand! Next?

MOLLY

Aaaaaaaiiiiiieeeeeeee-hunh!

STACHE

Oh, looky-loo! A baby koala!

MOLLY

A kaola? Oh they're just a adora— Unfair!

120

STACHE

Say yer good-byes, m'dear—

PETER

WAIT! Don't you want the trunk?

MOLLY

Peter, don't!

PETER

Are you with me, guys?

TED

Gotta save Mother.

PRENTISS

She's more important than some trunk.

PETER

Even if I never get home.

STACHE

Are we quite done with the hugging and learning?

PETER

Decision. It's a better world with you in it, Molly. Now, let her go.

AQ 295 - 182

STACHE

'Dja note that, Smee? 'Dja see it? Genuine heroic sacrifice.

SMEE

Inspiring, Cap'n. I've got gooseflesh all over.

121

STACHE

Go, lad. Take yer precious lady and live another day.

MOLLY

My first mission, and I've wrecked it!

STACHE

Now, open in, Smee. Open, and elaborate.

SMEE

It's – it's –

STACHE

"It's"? I don't like "It's." Bollocks to "It's."

SMEE

Empty, Cap'n. The trunk's empty.

STACHE

So it is. Clean as the sheets in a convent.

PETER

Empty, it can't be empty!

MOLLY

You mean all this time—

STACHE, PETER

WHERE'S MY TREASURE!!

122

MOLLY

The seawater got in. It must have dissolved—

STACHE

Gold and diamonds don't DISSOLVE!

MOLLY

But starstuff does. Is that right, Mommy?

ASTER

Well actually, the molecular framework of starstuff begins to break down when it—

STACHE

Starbucks? What's Starbucks? Enough of this non-versation! See, this is why I have, I hate, I HATE--! Omigod. Omigod. Omigod. Omigod. Um – wait –

SMEE

Sir?

STACHE

And you are--?

123

SMEE

Smee, sir – your right-hand man.

STACHE

Not anymore, Smee. Not anymore – thanks in no small part – TO THIS!!

SMEE

Oh Captain, my Captain!

STACHE

Crocodile tears, Smee. What'm I to do now?

STACHE

Kindly retrieve it! I'm not leaving me hand behind for these children to paw!

SMEE

Retrieved, Cap'n.

STACHE

You! You sacrificed, willingly for the sake of a gill.

SMEE

Girl.

STACHE

Girrrrrrl. You've piqued the poet in me, Pan. What say we merge a forger?

SMEE

Forge a merger.

124

STACHE

THANK YOU, SMEE! Picture it, Pete. The ultimate pirate and his worthy opponent.

PETER

Molly fights better than me.

MOLLY

I run faster too.

STACHE

I'm not interested. Consider the possibilities. Foes forever. Adversaries *ad neverendum*. I'm talking book, movies, Broadway –

PETER

But you just tried to kill me—

STACHE

Don't you get it, Peter? You're my hero!

PETER

Me?

STACHE

You're the wind beneath my clipped wings!

PETER

Gee, I hadn't really—

STACHE

Thanks o you, I am reborn! The complete villain! O, what sublime enemies we'll be! Forget gold! Time. Time'll be our treasure. We'll fight for all eternirty.

PETER

Only if my friends go free.

125

STACHE

Oh, bravo, bravissimo! Give the Pan a round of— This is all your doing, ye loathsome Pan. You single-handedly rendered me single-handed!

PETER

Go on! Get the hook!!

SMEE

North-northwest! Enormous ticking crocodile, Cap'n! Back for another snack!

SMEE

Just not your day, sir.

STACHE

Hang on! I could use a killer croc on me crew. Bring the beast along, Smee.

SMEE

How'm I to lure 'im, sir?

126

STACHE

Give 'im the hand, y'fool! Adieu, Pan. But believe this: Where'er you call home, keep you back to the wall. For just when you least expect it, there I'll be! The Stache, right under yer nose! Clap if you believe!

AQ 300 - 185

MOLLY

Mommy! Thank goodness you're safe—

ASTER

Molly! My Molly!

MOLLUSKS

Molly! Molly! Molly!

FIGHTING PRAWN

Boy! You good son. Fighting Prawn honor that. Boy will wear hat of hero. And Fighting Prawn will bend Mollusk law – allow all English to leave island! You be good to Betty, or I severe you up al dente!

ALF

Oh, we've made plans, Your Prawnness. I got down on bended knee and Missus B said –

MRS. BUMBRAKE

You betcha! Betty's bound for bridal bliss!

ALF

Aye, the HMS Bumbrake may have a few barnacles on her bottom, but Alf'll scrape 'em off!

127

MRS. BUMBRAKE

Don't speak, dearie. Oh, Prawn! TTFN.

FIGHTING PRAWN

Ta ta for now. Or in my language: TIRAMISU!

ALL

TIRAMISU! TIRAMISU!

SCOTT

Leah, old sport, it's back to England. And then I can finally set my sights on the South Pole.

ASTER

The Antarctic?

SCOTT

Or my name's not Robert Falcon Scott. Trunk to the longboat!

MOLLY

Good luck, Captain. Don't let the Norwegians beat you to it!

SCOTT

Nobody beats the British, little girl. Rule Britannia!

ASTER

Not a little girl. A full-fledged Starcatcher.

MOLLY

Full-fledged Starcatcher! Just like my wonderful mother!

AQ 305 - 188

PETER

She deserves it, sir. Molly's the real hero.

MOLLY

Thanks, Peter.

ASTER

Mission fulfilled. We're heading home!

MOLLY

And you'll come with us! Can't they, Mommy? Can't the boys come with us?

PETER

And Teacher said all I needed to get home was starstuff! Ha! WRONG!

MOLLY

Who's Teacher?

PETER

This tricked-out mermaid. Well, she was a fish, but she swam in the grotto and NOW WE'RE GOING HOME!

ASTER

Wait! What grotto?

PETER

The grotto with the golden water.

ASTER

Did you go in that water?

PETER

Yeah, it was great – all warm and tingly.

MOLLY

The starstuff.

ASTER

And he soaked in it. We can't do this.

129

MOLLY

But it already dissolved in the waves!

ASTER

The waves that turn fish into mermaids. I'm sorry, Peter – we can't take you with us.

PETER

Why? What'd I do?

3, 4 off

MOLLY

But he isn't evil or greedy. And he isn't—

ASTER

We don't know what he is. Or what he wants to be.

PETER

I just wanna be a boy for a while. That's all I ever wanted—

MOLLY

There, you see?

ASTER

With starstuff, "a while" could be a very long time.

PETER

But I'll be good. I promise!

MOLLY

The boy deserves a home!

ASTER

Of course he does, but – wait – Peter, what if your mermaid was right?

PETER

She wasn't right, and neither are you! Grown-ups lie. They lie and then they leave.

ASTER

I thought she said the starstuff was all you needed to get home.

PETER

But I'm still here.

ASTER

Precisely. Did she say anything else?

PETER

She said I needed a family name – so she gave me one.

130

MOLLY

Pan. Pan, and in "all." Probably.

PETER

All?

MOLLY

Your family name, understand? The whole island. All the ants on the beach, all the birds in the air, the mermaids, the Mollusks, the pirates, and the boys too, of course, especially the boys – they're all your family.

ASTER

And how does that make you feel?

PETER

Like – like I'm finally out of the dark.

ASTER

There's a name for that feeling, Peter.

PETER

Home.

ASTER

And here you are. And here he'll stay.

PRENTISS

Yeah, me too, totally, count me in.

TED

You didn't wanna be alone, didja?

MOLLY

We Asters do not leave boys behind.

PETER

Whoa! That crazy bird is after me again. Whadda you want? Lemme alone!

131

ASTER

STOP! Don't hurt that bird! You're going to need something to protect you. Now, it seems to me—if we take the last of the starstuff, like so – and stir vigorously, I think anti-clockwise... Peter, lend a hand, whip the meringe!

PETER

Hey, the hat's getting all warm and tingly. Just like—

ASTER

And so!

MOLLY

My hair!

TED

C'mere, you!

PRENTISS

Hey! Don't eat it, Teddy!

ASTER

Nice to know I've still got it.

132

MOLLY

If you really want to protect him, you'd take him with us.

SCOTT

Tide's going out, my lord!

ASTER

I'm afraid it's time for good-byes.

MOLLY

Be a woman. This is my address in London. You don't have to write me every day or anything, just when you feel like it.

PETER

Well – you know my address. Molly Island.

MOLLY

Mollusk Island, you mean.

PETER

Or maybe I'll call it Neverland – y'know, to remember. Hat of a hero. Wear it when you get home.

MOLLY

To rememeber.

ASTER

Molly, now. The tide won't wait.

MOLLY

I want you to look after Prentiss and Teddy.

PETER

Five more minutes! C'mon, a bedtime story! Tell me, Molly, tell me!

MOLLY

There'll be other tides, won't there?

133

PETER

Y'see? She wants to stay!

ASTER

She can't.

PETER

But I don't want it to end!!

ASTER

Soon, Peter. You'll forget, and it won't hurt anymore.

MOLLY

No! It's supposed to hurt – that's how you know it meant something! This isn't the end. You're going to remember everything, every single detail—

PETER

And you're a better leader.

MOLLY

Really?

PETER

No.

MOLLY

You won't stay mad at me forever, will you?

PETER

Go on, get lost.

MOLLY

I'm bound to grow up, see? What would we do?

PETER

Be friends.

MOLLY

In a year, that's be hard. In five years, it's be silly. In twenty years, it would just be sad.

PETER

You sound older already.

134

ASTER

The thing you did, against impossible odds – it's what the two of you will always have.

PETER

The thing we did...

AQ 310 - 191

MOLLY

...against impossible odds... Yes, I wanted to.

NARRATOR SCOTT

Peter watches the Wasp get smaller and smaller, wondering about his adventure, about Molly, about that kiss.

NARRATOR STACHE

It would be the only moment that Peter would teeter, at the top of the rolley-coaster, on the verge of becoming what he'd always hated – a grown-up.

NARRATOR ASTER

And then, as promised, he began to forget. And stayed right where he was.

NARATTOR STACHE

The outsider.

NARRATOR ALF

Molly, true to her word, would remember everything, until one night, many years later—

NARRATOR SMEE

--she stared out the nursery window watching Peter fly off with her daughter in tow—

NARRATOR BUMBRAKE

--and this grown-up Molly would comfort her new Nana, the good old dog who tended her children—

NARRATOR MOLLY

"Don't worry, Nana darling. I always hoped, if Peter came to visit, that my daughter would take my place. And once Wendy grows up—"

135

NARRATOR FIGHTING PRAWN

"I hope she will have a little girl—"

NARRATOR HAWKING CLAM

"A little girl who will go off with him in turn—"

NARRATOR BUMBRAKE

OH, FOR THE WINGS,
FOR THE WINGS OF A DOVE...

NARRATOR MOLLY

And so may we go on and on, dear Nana, as long as children are young and innocent—

NARRATOR STACHE

--and rude and juvenile and heartless—

NARRATOR ASTER

--past all of the jostles of life –

NARRATOR MOLLY

--'til we fly back home.

PETER
Home.

AQ 315 - 194

TED
HELP! That bird-bell thing is after us!!

PRENTISS
Keep it away! It's tryin' to eat my brains!!

PETER
Okay, okay, calm down – I think... yeah, I think she wants me to race you down to the grotto.

136

TED
Look! Stache sliced it open! Oh, yes – mmm, OH YES!

PRENTISS
It's hard to believe you're still single.

PETER
Wait! How can I race 'em to the grotto if I don't run?? Whoa whoa whoa – I can what??

PRENTISS
What'd she say? What's she say??

PETER
"To have faith is to have wings."

PRENTISS
Wait a minute – did you say grotto?

PETER
How'd you like to just be a boy for a while?

TED
The starstuff water an do that?

PETER
It makes you what you want to be.

PRENTISS
A lawyer?

PETER
Guys – this is gonna be one awfully big adventure.

AQ 320 - 197

TED, PRENTISS

Alright! You said it!

137

PETER

Ready?

ALL

READY!

PETER

Set?

ALL

SET!

MOLLY

Go!

PETER

Ca ca Ca ca CAAAH!

AQ 325 - 200