# Drew University College of Liberal Arts

Disability: Advocation and Representation in Theatre and the Community

A Thesis in Theatre Arts

by

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The conversation of disability rights advocation has been one on my mind long before I ever came to Drew University. It was imperative to me, as someone with a disability, to write a piece of theatre of which was created for and by members of the disabled community. Thus, my original musical *Autonomous* was formed. But not overnight. This two-year process has been some of the best and worst of the theatrical experiences I've had throughout my life. Though the hours were long and the work, hard, all was satisfactory in reminding myself for whom this piece was created for. When surveying works of theatre throughout the years, what each severely lacks, even in the modern day, is disability representation. Specifically, plays, musicals, or any art form of which had the potential to have been performed, produced, and created by disabled identifying individuals. Namely for the sake of other members of the community finding representation in media and other entertainment formats. Also, for the betterment of educating the able-bodied and making for a safer and more accepting space for all kinds of people.

For this reason, after extensive research regarding the histories of disability awareness and its place in theatre, I created Autonomous, which I would like to identify as the truest form of intentional theatre. It is the story of an average man who through a series of unforeseen circumstances and misunderstandings becomes immersed in a world all unlike his own. Though on the surface, it is a rather ridiculous narrative of steampunk pirates and sea faring adventures, its true purpose exposes the division between the disabled and the able-bodied; the discrimination, intentional or not, and the overall lack of education of what it truly means to be a disabled individual. Additionally, the aim was to explore the beauty behind a disability and how it is not something to be feared or reviled. In an ideal performance setting, the entirety of the cast, as well as the crew and creative team would be those who identified as part of the community. Unfortunately, however, this particular performance was scaled back as a simplified reading for the completion of my Honors Thesis as there was a significant lack of numbers in the disabled populace of the University's Theatre Department at this time. Regardless, it was imperative to me that it be shared in some way with the committee, as well as the Drew population, to reflect the importance of finding love in one's disability and overcoming the impossible.

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# AUTONOMOUS

written by

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#### CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

NELSON: An average man who unexpectedly finds himself aboard The Domino, an infamous pirating vessel, after having accidently revealed his true nature; half man, half automaton. Given this medium is unique to a magical bloodline, Nelson is the last hope to his newfound crew in ending both the war between man and machine, and perhaps, the battle within himself.

JONES [Josephine]: First Mate and a former heir to the throne of the Kingdom of Bartieheire. She is determined to save all automaton kind, believing herself responsible for her sister's villainous actions.

ROSE: Jones' human sister with a deadly secret. She has a vicious rage and vendetta against the automatons, thus seized the royal throne and began the automaton war to purge them from existence.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM KIDD: The crew's strong leader, Jones' partner, and the largest voice of reason among his pirate companions.

KANAKA [John]: The ship's eccentric navigator, notorious for causing mischief and endeavoring to win the heart of his friend Louie

LOUIE [Louisa]: The ingenious but hot-headed mechanic and medic of the crew

WILEY: The mad artillerist of the Domino with a love for sharp objects and fire.

YUSSLER: Rose's second in command, viscous and disciplined, he isn't afraid to get what he wants

THE SIRENS: Gatekeepers of a magical sea, protecting its waters with a deadly song

THE MAGE: Once the greatest of sorcerers in all Bartieheire. Now reduced to a grotesque figure of the past by the curse of the compass and magic of his own creation.

NAME: Nelson's dead sister, passed as a result of mistreatment at an asylum for being Autonomous.

KING CLUTTERBUCK: The mad and laughable King of the Kingsville Abbey

MANSERVANT: Servant to the King.

MAN: A Respectable Lord

WOMAN: A Respectable Lady.

GUARD SUPERIOR: Head of the Queen's Guard.

(#1 OVERTURE)

#### SCENE 1

Summer, 1839. Bartieheire England. Within the room of a lavish gathering. Celebrants mingle about, toasting many a drink, yet there is an obvious division between the gathered crowds. Half the room presents an alikeness to the average upstanding Victorian; proper and primed with the powders of the times. The opposing half however, are **Automatons**. Machine-like individuals, steampowered, embroidered in metal, and painted in brass oils.

To say they tolerated each other would be saying the least regarding the disdain each held. And yet, both denominations were present in one space; merrymaking and pretending the other was not in the room.

ROSE and JONES Enter; the royal siblings of great Bartieheire. They share no acknowledgement towards one another until their arms inevitably cross; for ROSE who moves her gloved hand for a cup of tea and sugar and JONES, who reaches across the same table for a glass of whiskey. They've not seen each other for some time. Evidently, by choice. Beat.

#### ROSE

Still wasting away in the spirits, are we sister?

#### **JONES**

Aye. And you? Still making a mockery of father's kingdom?

#### **ROSE**

There's really no need for jealousy...I heard recently the most obscure rumor you've been off with a bunch of pirates. But now it seems that is the only explanation for your unexpected disappearance.

#### JONES

If that is what you believe, I should remind you of your attempt to frame me for homicide. Or your unsuccessful endeavor to smother me in my sleep.

#### ROSE

A small miscalculation on my part. I'd forgotten your kind needn't lungs to breathe.

#### **JONES**

Perhaps you'd achieve more on a second attempt. Not that I'd allow you the opportunity.

A beat as they each drink.

JONES (CONT'D)

I hear you've been promoted?

ROSE

Yes, to the Nipperton District of all places. It's a dreadful little slime pit.

**JONES** 

*It's a poverty district.* 

ROSE

Same thing.

**JONES** 

That area has a large Automaton population. The people are in need of a new sheltering house, food, hot water. I've been meaning to speak to an official about it-

ROSE

I am in no position to distribute governmental funds to the outmoded machinery you call *people*.

**JONES** 

And what of this new grant I hear of? The one for the Guilderog foundation?

ROSE

The children of Guilderog requested a new sporting arena for their local schools. It was my obligation-

**JONES** 

And what of the children of Nipperton? Or New Atia [8-she-a]? Are they meant to freeze and starve whilst the human denizens of Bartieheire enjoys their games of Cricket?

**ROSE** 

Automaton people are not a charity case! That much you've made perfectly clear. Thus, if they should not wish for death on account of their faulty imitation of human life, I suggest they find an upkeep and earn their place of existence as the rest of us do. Unless I was right of course, and the lot of you couldn't be damned to care when **real people** are suffering!?

**JONES** 

(upset)

We are real people.

ROSE

Not to me you're not.

Angrily, JONES whips her sword from her belt, ready to attack. Anticipating this, ROSE reactively does the same. Their blades meet with a thunderous clash turning the heads of all within.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Must you always make a scene? (#2 DOWN AMONG THE DEAD MEN)

ROSE (CONT'D)

(sheathing her sword)

Come now sister. This is a celebration, is it not? Alliance between our peoples? What say we make a toast!

ROSE beckons over one of her servants who hands a drink to both herself and her reluctant sister.

HERE'S A HEALTH TO THE KING

JONES TO LASTING PEACE. TO FACTION END

ROSE

TO WEALTH INCREASE. COME, LET US DRINK WHILE WE HAVE BREATH.

**JONES** 

FOR THERE'S NO DRINKING AFTER DEATH

ROSE

AND HE THAT WOULD THIS TOAST DENY

THE SISTERS

DOWN AMONG THE DEAD MEN. DOWN AMONG THE DEAD MEN. DOWN, DOWN, DOWN, DOWN AMONG THE DEAD MEN LET HIM LIE!

KANAKA and LOUIE Enter.

**KANAKA** 

Take it all in Lou! The lights, the sounds, the food!

LOUIE

The people. I hate pageantry.

KANAKA

Dance with me, will you!?

LOUIE

Absolutely not. I want to go back to the ship.

KANAKA

What, are you afraid?

LOUIE

Hardly.

**KANAKA** 

Then why?

LOUIE

Everyone out there is human! If we get too close, upset them, who do you think they'll blame? Besides, if you believe for a second that I would <u>ever</u>- Hey! Kanaka!-

Despite her protests, he manages to pull LOUIE out to floor as CAPTAIN William Kidd Enters who carries a drink to JONES.

**JONES** 

What kept you.

| CAPTAIN<br>Whiskey for my darling wife.   |
|---|
| JONES I'm not your wife yet.  |
| CAPTAIN But I am your Captain.  |
| JONES And as such, you should know better than to leave me unattended with that rat.  |
| CAPTAIN I know you have disdain for your sister, but we are meant to be celebrating our mutual peace! Not scowling across the room. |
| KANAKA and LOUIE return, joining the pair's conversation.   |
| LOUIE (To Kanaka) I told you they'd get upset!  |
| KANAKA How was I supposed to know?  |
| LOUIE A little grease on their petticoats and the whole room's in a panic!  |
| JONES She's dividing the room against itself!   |
| CAPTAIN You only ever see the worst in people.  |
| JONES And you see only the best! Why else would she demand we share peace? <i>Out of the goodness of her heart?</i>                 |
| LOUIE You think she intends to take Bartieheire?  |
| Beat. A shudder in the air.   |
| JONES I believe she already has.  |
| CAPTAIN (conflicted) Bully.   |
| The group stares at ROSE and the other humans across the room in growing suspicion.   |

#### LOUIE

LET CHARMING BEAUTY'S HEALTH GO ROUND WITH WHOM CELESTIAL JOYS ARE FOUND

#### **CAPTAIN**

AND MAY CONFUSION YET PERSUE THAT SELFISH WOMAN HATING CREW

#### KANAKA AND JONES

AND HE WHO WOMAN'S HEALTH DENY.

#### ALL

DOWN AMONG THE DEAD MEN. DOWN AMONG THE DEAD MEN. DOWN, DOWN, DOWN. DOWN. DOWN AMONG THE DEAD MEN LET HIM LIE

YUSSLER Enters from the shadows with armed GUARDS and militia weaponry. As the party-goers obliviously celebrate amidst the hall, the crew is petrified, watching before their eyes as they and the COMPANY become sealed both within the room and in their grim fate.

#### **COMPANY**

IN SMILING BACCHUS' JOYS I'LL ROLL

DENY NO PLEASURES TO MY

SOUL LET BACCHUS' HEALTH ROUND BRISKLY MOVE

FOR BACCHUS IS THE FRIEND OF LOVE

AND HE THAT WOULD THIS HEALTH DENY

DOWN AMONG THE DEAD MEN. DOWN AMONG THE DEAD MEN.

DOWN, DOWN, DOWN, DOWN.

DOWN AMONG THE DEAD MEN LET HIM LIE!

As armed guards flood the area, ROSE steps forward, aiming her weapon into the autonomous crowd. The shot fires, disappearing into the swarm of people, causing chaos to ensue.

#### COMPANY (CONT'D)

DOWN, DOWN, DOWN, DOWN.

DOWN, DOWN, DOWN, DOWN

DOWN, DOWN, DOWN.

DOWN AMONG THE DEAD MEN LET HIM LIE!

More gunfire and explosions erupt all around as the masses desperately search for any means of escape.

**ROSE** 

COMPANY (CONT'D)

MAY LOVE AND WINE THEIR RIGHTS MAINTAIN AND THEIR UNITED

PLEASURES REIGN WHILE BACCHUS'

TREASURE CROWNS THE BOARD WE'LL SING THE JOY THAT BOTH

AFFORD

AH, AH, AH, AH AH AH AH, AH, AH-AH AH AH

## COMPANY (CONT'D)

AND THEY THAT WON'T WITH US COMPLY.
DOWN AMONG THE DEAD MEN. DOWN AMONG THE DEAD MEN.
DOWN, DOWN, DOWN, DOWN.

**ROSE** 

COMPANY (CONT'D)

DOWN AMONG THE DEAD MEN LET HIM LIE!

DOWN, DOWN, DOWN DOWN, DOWN, DOWN

### COMPANY (CONT'D) DOWN AMONG THE DEAD MEN! LET HIM LIE!

As the villainous militia advances on the Autonomous crowd, the crew of the Domino scarcely discover freedom. Horrified, they are forced to leave countless injured and bodies of their own kind as ROSE forcibly secures her control over all of Bartieheire. The war has begun.

(END #2)

#### SCENE 2

7 years later. The stage moves from the banquet hall of the past to a busy town square in a seemingly more-modern part of England. NELSON Enters, a satchel slung over his shoulder.

#### **NELSON**

After seven years of war, I'd think myself entitled to a pleasant morning. *It hadn't been*, but a gentleman always believes it so. I'd arisen early enough to see the airship launch. 9 o'clock promptly. It makes for an entertaining sketch.

NELSON takes a sketchpad from his bag and draws as he walks

#### NELSON (CONT'D)

The bellman calls out the latest ballot:

"War reaches the shorelines! Devon Shire doused in black Autonomous blood!"

#### NELSON (CONT'D)

I never was a man for politics...Marie tries to ask me to brunch.

"Or Afternoon tea? Whatever you could spare!"

### NELSON (CONT'D)

The old hag never quits. I don't believe she'll ever amount to anything more than a beggar woman. She desists when a brassed carriage clatters by. The wheel, gushing into a puddle which pounces back and soils my new dressing coat. Autonomous street oil doesn't wash out if you were curious. A delightful start to a work day. I would not proclaim myself a master at the art of picking a rich pocket. It's not as though there's a guide for such things but a man can certainly do his best with the tools he's stolen- aghmrmha, "been given".

NELSON removes from his satchel a fake beard and long cloak of which he drapes over his head. Arching his back and adopting a limp, he staggers towards a fanciful couple walking by. The MAN dressed in his Sunday best. And the WOMAN, over dressed.

MAN

Do you fancy a walk in the orchard today my dear?

**WOMAN** 

The orchard? Marie says it's infested with wasps again

**NELSON** 

(old and crotchety)

Spare change for a poor old man?

MAN

(to Woman)

Good Lord, do you think he's unwell?

**WOMAN** 

Just give the degenerate a coin dear and sent it off.

**NELSON** 

Much appreciated sir.

Unbeknownst to the couple, as the MAN hands him a dull copper coin, NELSON, reaches to the MAN's pocket, taking his coin purse for himself.

**MAN** 

Best make good use of it.

**NELSON** 

Such kind people.

As MAN and WOMAN exit, noses high in the air, NELSON relishes in his 'earned' loot.

NELSON (CONT'D)

Are all Londoners so thick?

NELSON removes his hood and beard, emptying the bag to find it disappointingly empty.

NELSON (CONT'D)

And so poor.

(#3 ROLL THE WOODPILE)

Americans could never be so frugal. I'd heard of pockets there so mobbed, they could weigh down a corpse in salt waters. Can you imagine?

WAY DOWN SOUTH WHERE THE WHALE FISH BLOW.

WAY DOWN IN FLORIDA.

THEM GALS ALL DANCE TO THE ROLL AND GO.

AND WE'LL ROLL THE WOODPILE DOWN.

WHEN I WAS A YOUNG MAN IN MY PRIME.
WAY DOWN IN FLORIDA.
I WAS COURTING PRETTY GIRL'S TWO AT A TIME.
AND WE'LL ROLL THE WOODPILE DOWN. ROLLIN!
ROLLIN! ROLLIN THE WHOLE WORLD ROUND
THAT FINE GAL OF MINE'S ON THE GEORGIA LINE!
AND WE'LL ROLL THE WOODPILE DOWN!

OH WE'LL HAUL UP HIGH AND WE'LL HAUL 'EM LOW. WAY DOWN IN FLORIDA.
WE'LL BUST THEIR BLOCKS AND AWAY WE'LL GO.
AND WE'LL ROLL THE WOODPILE DOWN.
OH "ROUSE 'EM BUSTER" IS THE CRY
WAY DOWN IN FLORIDA.
BUT A POOR MAN'S WAGE IS NEVER HIGH.
AND WE'LL ROLL THE WOODPILE DOWN.

ROLLIN! ROLLIN! ROLLIN THE WHOLE WORLD ROUND THAT FINE GAL OF MINE'S ON THE GEORGIA LINE!
AND WE'LL ROLL THE WOODPILE DOWN!
ROLLIN! ROLLIN! ROLLIN THE WHOLE WORLD ROUND THAT FINE GAL OF MINE'S ON THE GEORGIA LINE!
AND WE'LL ROLL THE WOODPILE DOWN!
AND WE'LL ROLL THE WOODPILE DOWN!
AND WE'LL ROLL!
(END #3)

As NELSON pockets the remaining coin, he spots another viable target of his schemes. Returning to his costume, NELSON approaches the FIGURE; her face hidden behind a painted mask.

NELSON (CONT'D)

(crotchety)

Madame, might you spare some coin for a poor old fool?

**FIGURE** 

Of course I could

As the FIGURE reaches for a pocket, NELSON attempts to pull the same trick. To his surprise, however, the woman catches his hand reaching for hidden treasures.

FIGURE (CONT'D)

If you were really an old man.

The anonymous woman pulls back NELSON's hood, revealing his farce.

FIGURE (CONT'D)

I see only the fool in a shoddy disguise.

**NELSON** 

Shoddy? This is real beard hair!

| From where? A goat's back end?                            | FIGURE  |
|---|---|
| Just who do you think you are?                            | NELSON  |
| No one you'll remember.                                   | FIGURE  |
| I beg your pardon?  | NELSON  |
| Forgiven.   | FIGURE  |
| Now see here-   | NELSON  |
| <i>Listen shrimp</i> . A word of advice. Fr               | FIGURE rom one scoundrel to another.  |
| trains her eyes on NEL                                    | mask to reveal the somewhat familiar face of JONES who SON accusingly. It is clear, given her sunken and she has spent the last five years at sea, hidden among |
| Pick your pockets wisely.                                 | JONES   |
| You? You're one of those-                                 | NELSON  |
| Ah ah, watch it luv. That ain't nice.                     | JONES   |
| Your kind aren't permitted in this di                     | NELSON<br>strict.   |
| Nor are petty thieves gifted with the learned to do that? | JONES e slight of hand. And yet, here we are. Where is it you   |
| Spend a few years of your life on th                      | NELSON<br>e streets, you'll pick up a thing or two.   |
| That a pirate's trick.                                    | JONES   |
| And so what if it is?                                     | NELSON  |
| I know a crowd who'd pay handson                          | JONES nely for a hand like that.  |

| Pay? Willingly?                       | NELSON  |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| My crew and I are a tad well known    | JONES around these parts. It's made us moderately fortunate.  |
| How much?                             | NELSON  |
| Enough to your liking.                | JONES   |
| For a trip to America?                | NELSON  |
| One way.                              | JONES   |
| That's more than enough.              | NELSON  |
| So we've got ourselves a deal? What   | JONES tis it then you're running from?  |
| Nothing. Nothing at all.              | NELSON  |
| We've all got something to be running | JONES ng from shrimp.   |
| From offstage, the voice              | of Cranston YUSSLER can be heard:   |
| You there! Stop that girl!            | YUSSLER   |
| Speak of the devil. You best run kid. | JONES   |
| Me? They're not after me, they're aft | NELSON<br>ter you!  |
|                                       | osite direction of the voice, clearly just in time as in appanied by a hoard of defense GUARDS. NELSON finds himself trapped. |
| Are you deaf?                         | YUSSLER   |
| Not that I'm aware, sir.              | NELSON  |
| I said, 'stop that girl.'             | YUSSLER   |

| You did sir.  | NELSON  |
|---|---|
| And what did you do?  | YUSSLER   |
| Nothing sir. But forgive me, as an or                           | NELSON fficer, is that not your job?                                |
| Beat.   |   |
| (angrily) The girl. Where is she?                               | YUSSLER   |
| It's not my business know-                                      | NELSON  |
| Well you had better make it your bu                             | YUSSLER siness before you start losing fingers.                     |
| Ten paces ahead, that direction. You She's very clearly unwell. | NELSON can still reach her if you'd like but I'd advise against it. |
| What did she say to you?  | YUSSLER   |
| Nothing of importance sir. I'd only j                           | NELSON ust met her by chance this morning.                          |
| A beat. YUSSLER looks   | NELSON up and down.   |
| Do I know you?  | YUSSLER   |
| Afraid not sir. Got one of those face                           | NELSON<br>s I'm afraid.   |
| I could'a sworn-  | YUSSLER   |
| Swiftly, MAN and WOM  | IAN return to the stage, frantic.                                   |
| You there!  | MAN   |
| Officer detain that man!  | WOMAN   |
| He's stolen my coin purse!                                      | MAN   |
|   |   |

NELSON

No no, it's not what it looks like!

YUSSLER

Save your stories. I haven't the time nor the interest. (To the Guards)

Take him.

Obeying, the GUARDS first search NELSON, handing the stole bag back to the MAN before taking him prisoner.

NELSON

Get your hands off me! This is the finest corduroy-

YUSSLER

Queen Rose is going to love you. She prefers a good chatterer.

Abruptly, YUSSLER grabs NELSON face. Beat.

YUSSLER (CONT'D)

They're more fun to smother when they talk.

He laughs, escorting his GUARDS and an unwilling NELSON offstage. Blackout.

SCENE 3

To the Rose Garden: A factory that does not adhere to its name. The GUARDS and YUSSLER toss NELSON to the hard ground, then Exit. The room lamps illuminate one at a time, each with a eerie 'thud'. The light reveals a shrine of wilting flowers, fogged windows, pipes that drip with oil, and in the center of it all, **a gallows**. ROSE remains hidden in the darkness, sharpening a knife. She still wears gloves on both her hands.

NELSON

Hello? Hello!? Please, I think there's been some sort of misunderstanding...I'm not supposed to be here!

ROSE

You think so? Cranston has done a fine job briefing me on this afternoon's affairs.

NELSON

You can't detain me. I have done nothing wrong. Nothing illegal!

ROSE

Stealing is prohibited in Bartieheire.

Beat.

**NELSON** 

I have done nothing *morally* wrong. *Slightly* illegal-

ROSE

The laws are clear and just.

**NELSON** 

On what grounds are the laws 'just' when the one instating them is a frivolous tyrant?

ROSE slinks out of the darkness, revealing her identity to NELSON who immediately becomes fearful for his life.

ROSE

You believe I am a tyrant?

**NELSON** 

Oh! Queen Rose! How lovely to see you here. Apologies, I must have mistaken you for... someone else

ROSE

I wasn't aware I was so indistinguishable.

**NELSON** 

No of course not. You're perfectly unique...m'lady.

Beat.

**ROSE** 

What a silly little game you must play in your head; pretending you are anything more than a pebble in my boot.

ROSE snaps, bringing the knife to NELSON's neck.

**NELSON** 

What do you want!?

ROSE

Your head.

(#4 HANGING JOHNNY/THE MAID OF AMSTERDAM)

ROSE (CONT'D)

WELL THEY CALL ME HANGING JOHNNY AWAY, BOYS, AWAY! THEY SAY I HANG FOR MONEY! SO HANG, BOYS, HANG. THEY SAY I HANGED MY MOTHER, AWAY, BOYS, AWAY! MY SISTERS AND MY BROTHERS, SO HANG, BOYS, HANG!

The stage explodes with light as GUARDS and flood the area. Mockingly, they and YUSSLER surround him.

ROSE (CONT'D)

THEY SAY I HANGED MY GRANNY, AWAY, BOYS, AWAY!

I STRUNG HER UP SO CANNY, SO HANG, BOYS, HANG! THEY SAY I HUNG A COPPER, AWAY, BOYS, AWAY! I GAVE HIM THE LONG DROPPER SO HANG, BOYS, HANG!

YUSSLER and the GUARDS begin escorting NELSON to the hanging place.

YUSSLER

IN AMSTERDAM THERE LIVED A MAID

Y. GUARDS

MARK WELL WHAT I DO SAY!

**YUSSLER** 

IN AMSTERDAM THERE LIVED A MAID AND SHE WAS MISTRESS OF HER TRADE

Y. GUARDS

I'LL GO NO MORE A-ROVING WITH YOU, FAIR MAID!

**ROSE** 

I'D HANG THE MATES AND SKIPPERS,

R. GUARDS

AWAY, BOYS, AWAY!

ROSE

I'D HANG 'EM BY THEIR FLIPPERS

R. GUARDS

SO HANG, BOYS, HANG!

ROSE

HANG 'EM FROM THE YARDARM

R. GUARDS

AWAY, BOYS, AWAY!

**ROSE** 

HANG THE SEA AND PIGFARM

R. GUARDS

SO HANG, BOYS, HANG!

YUSSLER

I ASKED THIS MAID TO TAKE A WALK

Y. GUARDS

MARK WELL WHAT I DO SAY

YUSSLER

I ASKED THIS MAID TO TAKE A WALK SO WE MIGHT HAVE SOME PRIVATE TALK

Y. GUARDS

I'LL GO NO MORE A-ROVING WITH YOU, FAIR MAID! A ROVING, A ROVING

YUSSLER

SINCE ROVING'S BEEN MY RUIN

Y. GUARDS

I'LL GO NO MORE A ROVING WITH YOU FAIR MAID.

YUSSLER

IN AMSTERDAM THERE LIVED A MAID

Y. GUARDS

MARK WELL WHAT I DO SAY!

YUSSLER ROSE

IN AMSTERDAM THERE LIVED A WELL THEY CALL ME HANGING

MAID AND SHE WAS MISTRESS OF JOHNNY

HER TRADE

Y. GUARDS R. GUARDS

I'LL GO NO MORE A-ROVING WITH AWAY BOY AWAY

YOU, FAIR MAID!

ROSE

THEY SAY I HANG FOR MONEY

R. GUARDS SO HANG BOYS HANG!

ROSE Y. GUARDS

THEY SAY I HUNG A COPPER HANG HANG, HANG HANG, HANG

HANG HANG

R. GUARDS

AWAY BOYS AWAY

ROSE ALL

I GAVE HIM THE LONG DROPPER AH, AH, AH

ALL (CONT'D)

SO HANG, BOYS, HANG!

ROSE Y. GUARDS

A ROPE, A BEAM, A LADDER HANG HANG, HANG HANG

ALL

AWAY, BOYS, AWAY!

# ROSE I'D HANG YOU ALL TOGETHER

An uncomfortable silencing beat.

ROSE (CONT'D)

SO

**ALL** 

HANG, BOYS, HANG! A ROVING, A ROVING, SINCE ROVING'S BEEN MY RUIN I'LL GO NO MORE A ROVING WITH YOU FAIR MAID. A ROVING, A ROVING, SINCE ROVING'S BEEN MY RUIN I'LL GO NO MORE A ROVING WITH YOU FAIR MAID.

ROSE

WELL THEY CALL ME HANGING JOHNNY (END #4)

The song concludes with NELSON at the noose and ROSE taunting him, hand on the dropping lever.

**NELSON** 

Alright, fine! Perhaps I was being unreasonable before. *Tyrant*? Ha! What a poor choice of words and clearly not the right one. What I meant to say was ty-ta-ter-...wonderful! Yes, wonderful! So adored. And beautiful! Wonderfully beautiful. Like the sky or the...the sky!

ROSE

Look at him Mr. Yussler. Babbling like monkey.

YUSSLER

I think you've frightened him.

ROSE

It is most entertaining. Perhaps we shouldn't kill him yet?

**NELSON** 

(nervously)

Only if the ask would not be too great.

ROSE

No of course not. Killing you swiftly would be such a waste. You'll find I like to take my time with such things. This room is perfectly designed. You can hear every drop of blood hit the tile floor. Drip, drip, drip-

ROSE inches with the knife to draw blood from NELSON's neck when GUARD SUPERIOR unexpectedly Enters.

**NELSON** 

No no, wait please!

**GUARD SUPERIOR** 

Your highness!

| <b>ROSE</b> |  |
|-------------|--|
|-------------|--|

**What!?** Can't you see I'm in the middle of something?

**GUARD SUPERIOR** 

(cautiously)

It's your sister ma 'me.

ROSE

Excuse me?

**GUARD SUPERIOR** 

Your men captured her beyond the city walls.

**ROSE** 

(maliciously)

That's impossible.

**GUARD SUPERIOR** 

I swear on my life, it was just this morning!

ROSE

Bring her to me!

Beat.

ROSE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. Do bring her in luv.

GUARD SUPERIOR salutes and Exits

ROSE (CONT'D)

(To Nelson)

And you.

ROSE again ties NELSON's head in the noose of the gallows, immobilizing him.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Wait your turn.

GUARD SUPERIOR returns with JONES in sturdy bindings. She is lead to kneel before ROSE who confiscates her sword. NELSON, recognizing JONES' face, remains silent, uncertain of what to do.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Jonsey! So good to see you...alive.

**JONES** 

Well I wish I could say the same to you.

ROSE

You're looking well. As far as corpses go.

| Well, you know how it is. Being dea                              | JONES and and all. Wasn't really for me.                        |
|--|---|
| Yes, I see that.   | ROSE  |
| You haven't changed a bit. Just as pu                            | JONES attrid as ever.   |
| Be smug all you like. I'm still going                            | ROSE to kill you. For good this time!                           |
| Well I should hope so. It's about time                           | JONES e you gathered the nerve.                                 |
| Excuse me? I feel as though this is a                            | NELSON a private moment. Might I be excused?                    |
| I'm sorry, have we met?  | JONES   |
| Never in my life!  | NELSON  |
| Really?  | JONES   |
| (To Rose Is he not our third cousin? Wilfred?                    | )   |
| Winifred.  | ROSE  |
| Oh yes, Winifred. She was such a w courted was her real husband. | JONES ragtail, I never did know which of the eleven men she     |
| Enough! I have waited so long for the                            | ROSE his! 7 years of-   |
| Seven? No, it's been three years, or                             | JONES have you already forgotten Montenegro?                    |
| You should have died in that fire.                               | ROSE  |
| If only I had. Then I wouldn't be need that matter!              | JONES eding this conversation with you. Or any conversation for |
| Your repugnance is mutual.                                       | ROSE  |
| Really? Perhaps then you would not                               | JONES to be compelled to forgive me for this.                   |

JONES easily escapes her bonds and swipes her sword from ROSE's belt. YUSSLER and the GUARDS immediately Enter in ROSE's defense. They surround JONES' who is clearly outnumbered, and yet, is uncomfortably confident. From beneath her sleeve, a small but aggressive looking crab unearths itself, crawling up to JONES' shoulder.

ROSE

Still carrying around a bottom feeder, are you?

**JONES** 

Not at all. I abandoned you years ago.

In fury, ROSE unsheathes her sword, slashing it towards JONES who skillfully blocks it.

JONES (CONT'D)

Now now sister, lets not be hasty...What is that, an iron blade? Very poor metal of choice. You should invest in a bronze or steel. See mine just here? It's quite sturdier.

ROSE

Stand down. Now.

**JONES** 

Why? Do I frighten you?

ROSE

It's not a fair fight. Don't make this easy, I won't enjoy it if you do.

**JONES** 

Well it's 12 v pirate so I do believe *you're* the one at a disadvantage here.

**ROSE** 

Let's test that theory then, shall we?

**JONES** 

Gladly...It's just-

Suddenly, an explosion sounds in the distance, shaking the entire room. JONES begins inching herself closer to one the fogged windows.

JONES (CONT'D)

I'm afraid my two o'clock is calling.

ROSE

Not another step!

**JONES** 

Any other day, you know I would.

ROSE

Josephine!

**JONES** 

Let's do this again sometime. Lunch? Later rather than sooner if you can.

| ROSE Don't turn your back on me!  |
|---|
| JONES<br>Cheers.  |
| Before there is time to react, JONES throws a flash bang to the floor. It erupts with smoke and shatters the window, allowing for her to disappear.   |
| ROSE Get out there and find her! All of you!  |
| YUSSLER What of the boy?  |
| ROSE Leave him. Have your men scout the Eastern Gate! I'll bar the south!   |
| They all Exit, leaving NELSON who continues to struggle with the noose. A beat passes before JONES reveals herself, still present within the room. She rushes to his aid, releasing the rope from his neck. |
| JONES<br>Not to worry shrimp. I wouldn't leave without ya. Lucky bastard.   |
| NELSON<br>Not you again?  |
| JONES Well don't sound so disappointed. Not after all the trouble I went to saving you.   |
| NELSON Saving me!? This is all your fault!  |
| JONES My fault? I am honoring the sanctity of our deal.   |
| NELSON I wouldn't be here if not for you!   |
| JONES Clearly you've forgotten who picked who's pocket in the marketplace. Has my sister mangled your brain to the point of stupidity or were you always this daft?   |
| NELSON Your sister!?  |
| JONES Yes, the insociable one with a love for rope? I'm sure you're familiar. Now let's go!   |
| NELSON  |

I'm not going anywhere with you.

| 1 | 1 | 1 | N  | E | C |
|---|---|---|----|---|---|
|   | u | , | IN | г |   |

I'm honoring the sanctity of the deal. Or would you rather wait here for my familial abscess to return?

Beat.

**NELSON** 

A fair point. Lead on.

**JONES** 

I thought as much. Now shrimp-

**NELSON** 

Nelson.

**JONES** 

Gesundheit. All I ask, try not to fall behind.

Blackout as another explosion sounds, plunging the stage into darkness. The light returns with a lantern, shining on LOUIE and KANAKA.

**LOUIE** 

Easy with those charges, the whole building'll fall on us!

KANAKA

(flirting with her)

I was watching it! Somethin' pretty just caught me aloft is all.

JONES Enters, Jean-Claude on her shoulder and NELSON not far behind. They arrive in time to witness LOUIE slap KANAKA across the face.

KANAKA (CONT'D)

Ow!

LOUIE

Eyes off me Kanaka!

**JONES** 

Louie!

**LOUIE** 

What? He asked for it.

**JONES** 

What am I gonna do with you two? We agreed, three minutes for the detonators. Three, on the dot, not seven!

**LOUIE** 

What can I say, we had company.

KANAKA

As did you it seems.

| Right. Shrimp? Louie. Kanaka. Shri   | JONES<br>imp.   |
|--|---|
| Nelson is fine.  | NELSON  |
| They'll be ample time for introduction   | JONES ons once we've returned safely to the Domino.             |
| So what's the plan gettin' out?  | KANAKA  |
| There's a whole block of imprisoned  | JONES d workers just a flight down from here.                   |
| That wasn't part the plan. The Capta   | LOUIE<br>ain said-  |
| The Captain isn't here.  | JONES   |
| And what if your sister finds us?  | KANAKA  |
| Then you'd best hope she's in a forg   | JONES iving mood.   |
| But Jones-   | LOUIE   |
| There are people in those prisons. <i>C</i>  | JONES <i>Our</i> people. That is where our priorities must lie. |
| This all reeks of madness.   | LOUIE   |
| Agreed. But I'd expect nothing less<br>(To Nelse<br>I trust you might hold your own. |   |
| Hold my what?  | NELSON  |
| She Exits.   |   |
| Jo!? She's gonna get us all killed!  | KANAKA  |
| What else is new.  | LOUIE   |
|  |   |

LOUIE and KANAKA, following after Jones. NELSON is uncertain at first. He considers going back, but then remembers the horrors of the last hour and hesitantly joins his new pirate companions. All return somewhere within the factory, stealthily searching for the prisoners ward.

(#5 SOUTH AUSTRALIA)

**JONES** 

IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA I WAS BORN

ALL

HEAVE AWAY, HAUL AWAY

**JONES** 

SOUTH AUSTRALIA 'ROUND CAPE HORN

ALL

WE'RE BOUND FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**JONES** 

AS I WALKED OUT ONE MORNING FAIR

ALL

HEAVE AWAY, HAUL AWAY

**JONES** 

'TWAS THERE I MET MISS NANCY BLAIR

ALL

WE'RE BOUND FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**JONES** 

I SHOOK HER UP, I SHOOK HER DOWN

**ALL** 

I SHOOK HER ROUND AND ROUND THE TOWN WE'RE BOUND FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**JONES** 

HAUL AWAY YOU ROLLING KINGS

**ALL** 

HEAVE AWAY, HAUL AWAY

**JONES** 

HAUL AWAY, YOU'LL HEAR ME SING

ALL

WE'RE BOUND FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Upon finding the imprisoned automatons, the merry crew begin breaking open their cells while JONES continues to rally them in her support.

ALL (CONT'D)

THERE AIN'T BUT ONE THING GRIEVES ME MIND

JONES
TO LEAVE MISS NANCY BLAIR BEHIND

ALL AND AS WE WALLOPED AROUND CAPE HORN

JONES YOU'LL WISH TO CHRIST YOU'D NEVER BEEN BORN.

ALL WE'RE BOUND FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA

JONES WE'RE BOUND FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA

ALL
HAUL AWAY YOU ROLLING KINGS
HEAVE AWAY, HAUL AWAY
HAUL AWAY, YOU'LL HEAR ME SING
WE'RE BOUND FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA
HAUL AWAY YOU ROLLING KINGS
HEAVE AWAY, HAUL AWAY
HAUL AWAY, YOU'LL HEAR ME SING
WE'RE BOUND FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA

GUARDS flood the area as a sword fight ensues.

**JONES** 

IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA I WAS BORN
IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA 'ROUND CAPE HORN
AS I WALKED OUT ONE MORNING FAIR
'TWAS THERE I MET MISS NANCY BLAIR
I SHOOK HER UP, I SHOOK HER DOWN
I SHOOK HER ROUND AND ROUND THE TOWN THERE AIN'T BUT ONE
THING GRIEVES ME MIND TO LEAVE MISS NANCY BLAIR BEHIND. AS
WE WALLOP AROUND CAPE HORN YOU'LL WISH TO CHRIST YOU'D
NEVER BEEN BORN. WE'RE BOUND FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA

JONES ends the battle with a clever move and the others move on to freedom.

**ALL** 

WE'RE BOUND FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA HAUL AWAY YOU ROLLING KINGS HEAVE AWAY, HAUL AWAY HAUL AWAY, YOU'LL HEAR ME SING WE'RE BOUND FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA

HAUL AWAY YOU ROLLING KINGS HEAVE AWAY, HAUL AWAY HAUL AWAY, YOU'LL HEAR ME SING WE'RE BOUND FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA HAUL AWAY YOU ROLLING KINGS HEAVE AWAY, HAUL AWAY HAUL

# JONES AWAY, YOU'LL HEAR ME SING

ALL

WE'RE BOUND FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA (END #5)

They continue out the doors of the factory, escaping and celebrating victory. ROSE and YUSSLER watch them from an above tower window.

YUSSLER

You're letting them go?

ROSE

I'm letting them leave. There's a difference.

YUSSLER

I don't see what for?

**ROSE** 

Hope is a precious thing Cranston. Let them celebrate a victory they think they've earned.

YUSSLER

And then what?

ROSE

Would you stop asking me questions and use your head!

YUSSLER

We go after them?

**ROSE** 

Ah! So there's a brain in there afterall. Ready my ship. I want to know what dear Jonsie's been up to.

*They Exit.* 

SCENE 4

Amidst a blackout

WILEY

Are you sure he's not dead?

**JONES** 

Pretty sure.

**NELSON** 

I'm sure! What's the matter with you?

A faint light appears from a lantern held by WILEY. It illuminates NELSON, blindfolded and tied to a chair.

JONES pulls the covering from his face, then returns to a closed window where she picks up Jean-Claude who waits patiently.

NELSON (CONT'D)

| What is going on?   |  |
|---|--|
| An intervention so quit yer yappin'.  | WILEY  |
| Jones!? A little help here!   | NELSON   |
| Perhaps you're hard of hearing. Shut  | WILEY your mouth or the next thing goin' in it'll be my foot!                      |
| That is disgusting! I mean really! W  | NELSON ho is this nuisance?  |
| Wiley, our lead artillerist.  | JONES  |
| 'ello princess.   | WILEY  |
| Head of our demolitions department  | JONES  |
| His face is lopsided. I'll bet I have a off a bit of his nose, he wouldn't look | WILEY crack in there, turn his eyes the other way round, sliver k like so rabbity. |
| Forgive me, but is this all really necessity                                    | NELSON essary?   |
| It is.  | JONES  |
| But you've tied me to a chair?  | NELSON   |
| With good reason.   | WILEY  |
| What good reason could possibly was of manner!                                  | NELSON arrant this!? I'm all for introductions but never in this sort              |
| Relax. He's only here for your interr   | JONES ogation.   |
| Interrogation?  | NELSON   |
|   |  |

WILEY

That all? I thought I'd come if the little devil got cheeky. Brought me hammer, you want to see!?

**JONES** 

No-

WILEY takes out a small hammer with nails unevenly poking out of it.

WILEY

Pulled the shrapnel from me own head I did!

**JONES** 

Put it down. Look at him. You really think you'll need that?

**NELSON** 

This is ridiculous!

(To Jones)

What kind of a captain are you to allow such horrid behavior-

**JONES** 

I'm not the captain.

**NELSON** 

Then I should like to speak with whomever is. Perhaps they can make sense of you heathens!

**JONES** 

Very well. It's your funeral.

**NELSON** 

I'm sorry, what?

JONES allows Jean-Claude to snip the rope, freeing NELSON from the chair.

WILEY

Someone wake the captain!

**NELSON** 

Looking back on it, perhaps that's not the best idea.

From Offstage:

**KANAKA** 

Oy! You heard it, wake the Captain!

**NELSON** 

(nervously)

It's just- You're choice of wording? Funeral. Perhaps it's a pirate expression-

NELSON's nerves increase as a loud, eerie thumping seems to surround the room. He turns to run as CAPTAIN Enters, coming face to face with him.

**JONES** I hope you know what you're doing. **NELSON** I don't! I definitely, definitely don't! **CAPTAIN** This had better be good Wild! WILEY Don't look at me Cap. Is him who wanted a word with ya. (#6 CAPTAIN KIDD) **CAPTAIN** Bully! You're a wee thing, aren't ya boy? **NELSON** You're the captain? **CAPTAIN** I am. **NELSON** Right, I should like to speak to you about-CAPTAIN MY NAME IS CAPTAIN KIDD AS I SAILED, AS I SAILED OH. MY NAME IS CAPTAIN KIDD AS I SAILED. NELSON What? Why are you-CAPTAIN MY NAME IS CAPTAIN KIDD AND GOD'S LAWS I DID FORBID AND MOST WICKEDLY I DID AS I SAILED **NELSON** I'm not entirely certain of what's happening here but I should like to-**CAPTAIN** MY PARENTS TAUGHT ME WELL, AS I SAILED, AS I SAILED, OH MY PARENTS TAUGHT ME WELL, AS I SAILED OH MY PARENTS TAUGHT ME WELL TO SHUN THE GATES OF HELL, BUT AGAINST THEM I REBELLED, AS I SAILED. AS I SAILED.

ALL

AGAINST THEM I REBELLED, AS I SAILED.

OH, I

CAPTAIN MURDERED WILLIAM MOORE!

ALL

AS I SAILED, AS I SAILED OH

**CAPTAIN** 

I MURDERED WILLIAM MOORE AS I SAILED

ALL

OH!

**CAPTAIN** 

I MURDERED WILLIAM MOORE

ALL

AND I

**CAPTAIN** 

LAID HIM IN HIS GORE THIRTY LEAGUES FROM SHORE

ALL

**AS I SAILED** 

**CAPTAIN** 

AS I SAILED THIRTY LEAGUES FROM SHORE

**ALL** 

**AS I SAILED** 

The rescued automatons Enter. Everyone jovially dances, bringing NELSON out from the ship's brig to the deck. He is visibly frightened as the group continues to revel around him

ALL (CONT'D)

BA DA BA BA DA DA DA BA DA BA BA BA DA DA DA

BA DA BA BA DA DA DA

BA DA BA BA DA DA DA

BA DA, BA DA DA DA

MY NAME IS CAPTAIN KIDD

OH!

BUM BUM BA BA DA BA DA BA DA DAT DA DA DA

AH AH AH MY

CAPTAIN

NAME IS CAPTAIN KIDD AS I SAILED, AS I SAILED

OH, MY NAME IS CAPTAIN KIDD

AS I SAILED. MY NAME IS

CAPTAIN KIDD AND GOD'S LAWS I

**DID FORBID** 

AND MOST WICKEDLY I DID AS I

**SAILED** 

ALL (CONT'D)
NAME IS CAPTAIN KID AS I
SAILED OH CAPTAIN KIDD MY
NAME OH FORBID

AND MOST WICKEDLY I DID AS I

**SAILED** 

ALL (CONT'D)

ALL (CONT'D)

OH AND

**CAPTAIN** 

BEING CRUELER STILL

ALL

AS I SAILED, AS I SAILED OH

**CAPTAIN** 

AND BEING CRUELER STILL, AS I SAILED

ALL

ОН

**CAPTAIN** 

THE GUNNER I DID KILL

ALL

AND HIS

**CAPTAIN** 

ALL (CONT'D)

PRECIOUS BLOOD DID SPILL OH AH OH YES AH

YES BEING CRUELER STILL

ALL (CONT'D)

**AS I SAILED** 

**CAPTAIN** 

**AS I SAILED** 

**ALL** 

BEING CRUELER STILL AS I SAILED

ALL (CONT'D)

MY NAME IS CAPTAIN KIDD AS I SAILED, AS I SAILED

OH, MY NAME IS CAPTAIN KIDD

AS I SAILED. MY NAME IS

CAPTAIN KIDD AND GOD'S LAWS I

DID FORBID

AND MOST WICKEDLY I DID AS I

SAILED (X3)

CAPTAIN YES IT IS AND I SAILED MY

NAME IS CAPTAIN KIDD AND GODS

LAWS I DID FORBID AND

WICKEDLY I SAILED AND MOST

WICKEDLY YES I DID MOST

WICKEDLY I DID AS I

ALL (CONT'D)

MOST WICKEDLY I DID AS I SAILED

(END #6)

**NELSON** 

(To Captain)

Sir, if I may-

**CAPTAIN** 

Kanaka!

| Yea Cap?                                      | KANAKA  |
|---|---|
| Reef the sails in.                            | CAPTAIN   |
| What for?                                     | KANAKA  |
| Uh, pardon me?                                | NELSON  |
| Louisa? How does The Domino far               | CAPTAIN re?   |
| Right as rain I suspect.                      | LOUIE   |
| Well be certain. I sense a storm onc          | CAPTAIN oming, I want us well prepared-   |
| Excuse me!Sorry. I've been mean               | NELSON ing to speak with you.   |
| Josephine, I trust you've brought the         | CAPTAIN is rat aboard for a purpose?  |
| You ask for a thief, I deliver.               | JONES   |
| And you're certain he's up to par?            | CAPTAIN   |
| (To Nels Empty your pockets.                  | JONES<br>on)  |
| What? Why? I see no reason I shou             | NELSON<br>ld-   |
| JONES draws her pisto                         | ol, pointing it at NELSON without hesitation.   |
| A fantastic reason, thank you.                | NELSON (CONT'D)   |
| NELSON empties his p<br>KANAKA's telescope, I | ockets dropping several items: WILEY's shrapnel hammer, OUIE's wrench, and various other treasures. |
| My hammer!                                    | WILEY   |
| My telescope!                                 | KANAKA  |

| My wrench!   | LOUIE          |  |  |
|--|----------------|--|--|
| The hands want what the hands wan  | NELSON<br>nt.  |  |  |
| There are ways to remedy that.   | WILEY          |  |  |
| WILEY raises his hamn  | ner excitedly. |  |  |
| What?  | NELSON         |  |  |
| No fair! You always get all the fun!   | KANAKA         |  |  |
| I call the left hand!  | LOUIE          |  |  |
| Van agult da thatl   | KANAKA         |  |  |
| You can't do that! (To Capt  | ain)           |  |  |
| She can't do that!   |                |  |  |
| LOUIE And you call yourself a gentleman. Whatever happened to ladies first?  |                |  |  |
| WILEY I ain't no gentleman but I says <i>I</i> get the left hand.  |                |  |  |
| Well I say I get both hands!   | KANAKA         |  |  |
| Not if I get them first!   | LOUIE          |  |  |
| The three all charge towards NELSON at once who runs away, terrified.  |                |  |  |
| Agh! Help! Help me!  | NELSON         |  |  |
| Get back here mongrel!   | KANAKA         |  |  |
| Wiley, that's cheating!  | LOUIE          |  |  |
| Beat.  |                |  |  |
| (To Jone How is it I've come to command a comm |                |  |  |

| Keep away from me you insolent, ba                                       | NELSON<br>arbaric-  |
|--|---|
| Hold still!  | LOUIE   |
| How much ya betting he tastes like o                                     | WILEY chicken? Two Francs and a tooth?                      |
| 2 pence. I'm never going back to Fra                                     | KANAKA ance!  |
| Alright, you've all had your fun. Har                                    | JONES ands off the shrimp, I ain't through with him yet.    |
| Reluctantly, the three rel   | lease NELSON who rushes away from their grasp.              |
| Well it's about time! He nearly ate m                                    | NELSON<br>ne!   |
| A beat. JONES and CAI  | PTAIN inspect NELSON more closely.                          |
| He'll do.  | CAPTAIN   |
| Do what?   | NELSON  |
| Our deal?  | JONES   |
| I wasn't certain you were serious?                                       | NELSON  |
| For what other reason would I risk the more than whale meat.             | JONES ne crew's lives and mine? Unfortunately, you're worth |
| (an aside) (as till wager it's chicken.                                  | WILEY   |
| You don't know that.   | KANAKA  |
| I got time to find out.  | WILEY   |
| Enough. No one is eating anybody.  (To Jones We'll speak in my quarters. | CAPTAIN ()  |
|  | S and NELSON away and they Exit.                            |

| Kanaka, our course needs recharting  | CAPTAIN (CONT'D)<br>g.   |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| Where to Cap?  | KANAKA   |  |  |
| The Kingsville Abbey.  | CAPTAIN  |  |  |
| What? Already?   | KANAKA   |  |  |
| Captain, are you sure that's wise?   | LOUIE  |  |  |
| CAPTAIN does not spec  | ak but stares at the three menacingly.                                     |  |  |
| (nervous You know what, there's a pressure v   | LOUIE (CONT'D)  sly)  valve with my name on it. I should go taking a look. |  |  |
| Ship ain't gonna turn herself around   | KANAKA<br>I.   |  |  |
| Cannons to load. Metal to eat.   | WILEY  |  |  |
| LOUIE, KANAKA, and WILEY hurriedly Exit. The scene refocuses on JONES in the captains quarters with NELSON who sits quietly in the back part of the room CAPTAIN Enters. |  |  |  |
| (To Jone I should be furious with you. Disob   | CAPTAIN s) eying my orders like that, you could have been killed.          |  |  |
| But I wasn't.  | JONES  |  |  |
| Why is it you never do what you're   | CAPTAIN told?  |  |  |
| Those people needed our help. Wha  | JONES at was I meant to do, nothing?                                       |  |  |
| Sometimes the worst course of action   | CAPTAIN on is the best one. Sacrifice is necessary for-                    |  |  |

JONES Why must you always speak to me as your Captain?

Because I am your Captain.

CAPTAIN

| And my husband.  | JONES   |  |
|--|---|--|
| I hadn't forgotten, if that was your i   | CAPTAIN mplication.   |  |
| All I want is to do what is right.   | JONES   |  |
| All I want is for you to be safe. Wh   | CAPTAIN at would I have done if you were killed?            |  |
| But I wasn't-  | JONES   |  |
| But if you had been?   | CAPTAIN   |  |
| Then you'd continue being the grea   | JONES<br>t Captain that you are.                            |  |
| Then I would be a shell of a man.  | CAPTAIN   |  |
| A comforting beat.   |   |  |
| You're a sap. <i>Never stop</i> You may  | JONES come out of the shadows now shrimp.                   |  |
| Nelson! Of course! My apologies, l   | CAPTAIN 'd forgotten you were-                              |  |
| NELSON Still here? Yes, that seems to be a recurring theme today. Now, let me be certain I've retained this right. You want me to invade a sacred church, guarded properly by militia weaponry, evade a crowd of pompous partygoers to the back rooms where I am meant to desecrate the grave of a Automaton wizard? |   |  |
| He was a <i>mage</i> , not a wizard.   | JONES   |  |
| I don't care what he was, I won't do   | NELSON it!  |  |
| We just need the compass. It should  | JONES d be a simple job for someone of your qualifications. |  |
| If it's such a simple job then you ma  | NELSON<br>ay do it.   |  |
| Autonomous folk are forbidden fro  | CAPTAIN m the Abbey grounds.                                |  |

| That's never stopped you before.                                 | NELSON  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| JONES I thought you were adamant to see the Americas?            |   |  |  |
| Well, I am-  | NELSON  |  |  |
| The Americas?  | CAPTAIN   |  |  |
| Passage in exchange for our work.                                | JONES   |  |  |
| Curious. What business have you th                               | CAPTAIN nere?   |  |  |
| None of yours.   | NELSON  |  |  |
| It was only an inquiry.  | CAPTAIN   |  |  |
| I have nothing to say about it. Our r professional.              | NELSON elationship isn't meant to be personal. Strictly |  |  |
| Then we are in agreement?  | JONES   |  |  |
| Beat. NELSON hesitates.  |   |  |  |
| Just a compass?  | NELSON  |  |  |
| JONES For <i>moderately</i> safe passage. Permitted you deliver. |   |  |  |
| To whereabouts would we land?                                    | NELSON  |  |  |
| The Southern Keys.   | CAPTAIN   |  |  |
| To Boston.   | NELSON  |  |  |
| The Carolinas.   | JONES   |  |  |
| New York.  | NELSON  |  |  |

| Virginia.                                   | CAPTAIN   |
|---|---|
| Done.                                       | NELSON  |
| As NELSON firmly shall                      | kes CAPTAIN's hand, KANAKA swiftly Enters.        |
| Pardon the intrusion Cap.                   | KANAKA  |
| Yes, what is it?                            | CAPTAIN   |
| We're seein a rolling in of fog and so      | KANAKA<br>ort.                                    |
| Can you not navigate it?                    | CAPTAIN   |
| Course I can but-                           | KANAKA  |
| Then I see no issue.                        | CAPTAIN   |
| It's a challenge to explain.                | KANAKA  |
| You're afraid you'll dent Louie's sh        | JONES ip. Have I got that right?                  |
| It's a challenge <i>for me</i> to explain.  | KANAKA  |
| John Patrick Spens, are you not the         | CAPTAIN finest navigator in these lands?          |
| I am sir!                                   | KANAKA  |
| Then you best start to act like it for      | CAPTAIN the sake of the cause.                    |
| Loud and clear Cap'n.                       | KANAKA  |
| That's a curious name, <i>Spens</i> . No re | NELSON lation to he of the Northumbria of course? |
| The only and only.                          | KANAKA  |

**NELSON** 

What, you-? The Naval Master of York?

KANAKA

Aye.

**NELSON** 

How is that possible? I'd heard your division was attacked by merfolk! The whole crew is meant to be sunk at he bottom of the ocean!

KANAKA

That's what you're meant to think. It's a long story.

**NELSON** 

They said you were dead!

(#7 SIR PATRICK SPENS/JOHN KANAKA)

KANAKA

Dead? Ha! You can't be dead if you were never really alive, can ya?

**NELSON** 

You faked your death? But how?

**KANAKA** 

Quite easily I'd say.

THE KING SITS IN DUNFERMLINE TOWN DRINKING A BLOOD RED WINE

LOUIE

(acting as Rose)

"WHERE CAN I GET A GOOD SÉA CAPTAIN TO SAIL THIS SHIP OF MINE?"

KANAKA

THEN UP THERE SPOKE A BONNY BOY SITTING AT THE QUEEN'S RIGHT KNEE

**CAPTAIN** 

(acting as the boy)

"SIR PATRICK SPENS IS THE VERY BEST SEAMAN THAT EVER SAILED THE SEA."

**KANAKA** 

THE KING HAS WRITTEN A BROAD LETTER AND SEALED WITH HIS OWN RIGHT HAND SENDING WORD TO SIR PATRICK SPENS TO COME AT HIS COMMAND.

ALL

AN ENEMY THEN

KANAKA THIS MUST BE WHO TOLD A LIE ABOUT ME

ALL FOR I NEVER WAS A GOOD SEAMAN

KANAKA

NOR EVER DO INTEND TO BE.

THEY HAD NOT SAILED UPON THE SEA
A DAY, BUT BARELY THREE
WHEN LOUD AND BOISTEROUS GREW THE WIND AND STORMY GREW
THE SEA.
THEN UP THERE CAME A MERMAIDEN
A COMB AND GLASS IN HER HAND

**JONES** 

(acting as the mermaid)

"HERE'S A HEALTH TO YOU MY MERRY YOUNG MEN FOR YOU'LL NOT SEE DRY LAND!"

ALL

OH, LONG MAY MY LADY LOOK WITH A LANTERN IN HER HAND BEFORE SHE SEES MY BONNY SHIP SAILING HOMEWARDS TO DRY LAND.

ALL (CONT'D)

FORTY MILES OFF ABERDEEN
THE WATER'S FIFTY FATHOMS DEEP
THERE LIES GOOD SIR PATRICK SPENS
WITH THE SCOTS LORDS AT HIS FEET.

KANAKA

I THOUGHT I HEARD THE OLD MAN SAY

ALI

JOHN, KANAKA-NAKA TOO-RYE-AY

KANAKA

TODAY, TODAY IT'S A HOLIDAY

ALL

JOHN, KANAKA-NAKA, TOO-LYE-AY TOO-LYE-AY, OH! TOO-LYE-AY JOHN, KANAKA-NAKA, TOO-LYE-AY

KANAKA

WE'RE BOUND AWAY AT THE BREAK OF DAY

**ALL** 

(HOO!) JOHN, KANAKA-NAKA, TOO-LYE-AY

KANAKA WE'RE BOUND AWAY FOR 'FRISCO BAY

ALL

(HOO!) JOHN, KANAKA-NAKA, TOO-LYE-AY TOO-LYE-AY, OH! TOOLYE-AY JOHN, KANAKA-NAKA, TOO-LYE-AY THEM FRISCO GIRLS AIN'T GOT NO COMB HOO!

KANAKA

JOHN, KANAKA-NAKA, TOO-LYE-AY

**ALL** 

THEY COMB THEIR HAIR WITH A HERRING BACKBONE HOO! JOHN, KANAKA-NAKA, TOO-LYE-AY

**KANAKA** 

TOO-LYE-AY

**ALL** 

OH! TOO-LYE-AY, LYE-AY JOHN, KANAKA-NAKA, TOO-LYE-AY LYE-AY, LYE-AY I THOUGHT I HEARD THE OLD MAN SAY (HOO!) JOHN, KANAKANAKA, TOO-LYE-AY TODAY TODAY IT'S A HOLIDAY (HOO!) JOHN KANAKA-NAKA, TOO-LYE-AY

**KANAKA** 

I THOUGHT I HEARD
THE OLD MAN SAY
JOHN KANAKA-NAKA, TOOLYE-AY
TODAY, TODAY IT'S A HOLIDAY
JOHN, KANAKA-NAKA TOO-LYE-AY
TOO-LYE-AY
TOOLYE-AY

ALL

I THOUGHT I HEARD THE OLD MAN SAY JOHN KANAKA-NAKA, TOOLYE-AY TODAY, TODAY IT'S A HOLIDAY JOHN, KANAKA-NAKA, TOO-LYE-AY (TOO-LYE-AY)

ALL (CONT'D)

TOO-LYE-AY, OH! OH! TOO-LYE-AY JOHN, KANAKA-NAKA, TOO-LYE-AY

> KANAKA AND THAT'LL D

JUST ONE MORE HEAVE AND THAT'LL DO

**ALL** 

HOO! JOHN, KANAKA-NAKA, TOO-LYE-AY TOO-RYE-AY, OH! TOO-LYE-AY JOHN, KANAKA-NAKA, TOO

**KANAKA** 

LYE-AY

ALL

LYE-AY (END #7)

Blackout.

SCENE 5

NELSON stands nervously among a crowd of fanciful partygoers at the Kingsville Abbey. A MANSERVANT Enters.

## **MANSERVANT**

Here ye! Here ye! His royal highness King Clutterbuck the IXth wishes to share words of good faith!

KING CLUTTERBUCK Enters

### KING CLUTTERBUCK

My loyal worms. We celebrate this seventh spring feast in honor of my late mother. A woman devoted to the arts. To good food. To wine!

ALL

To wine!

KING CLUTTERBUCK

And more wine!

ALL

And more wine!

**MANSERVANT** 

More wine?

**NELSON** 

No, thank you. I'm not much of a drinker myself.

Beat. The music ceases and everyone in the room stares, disapprovingly.

NELSON (CONT'D)

But of course I will have my share! In honor of our king.

**MANSERVANT** 

His majesty insists.

*NELSON tales a goblet and hurriedly downs the wine as the band plays on.* 

**NELSON** 

(struggling)

It's divine.

As the manservant refills his cup, NELSON hides his face, gagging. The remainder of the crew Enter. They stand off-center, implied to speak to NELSON through a radio of Louie's design.

## NELSON (CONT'D)

You've got to get me out of here. These people are lunatics! The spirits taste of soiled laundry and I fear they've snuffed me out.

**KANAKA** 

Just say something posh. You'll blend right in.

**NELSON** 

Like what?

CAPTAIN Enters carrying Jean-Claude of whom he passes back to JONES.

**CAPTAIN** 

Josephine, your crustacean was trifling through the rum again.

**LOUIE** 

Oh! Talk about water polo.

KANAKA

No no, mention your smoking habit.

**NELSON** 

But I haven't got a smoking habit?

WILEY

All those tea loving mollycoddles have smoking habits.

**NELSON** 

This is ridiculous. Can I not simply access the catacombs and be done with this nightmare?

**JONES** 

Perhaps you could if the King had not kept the passage under lock and key. Aside from ancient remains, he's also a vast collection of jewels and values beneath the very foundation.

**NELSON** 

You never mentioned a key! Where am I meant to find that!?

**CAPTAIN** 

I'd imagine if you'd a underground chamber of fortunes, the only means of entry would be kept close on hand.

**NELSON** 

You mean it's-

**MANSERVANT** 

Here ye! Here ye!

KING CLUTTERBUCK

Such gracious news! The adoring Mr. Pettigrew has brought us a mummy for the Unwrapping Ceremony!

ALL

Science!

KING CLUTTERBUCK flashes an large golden key dangling around his neck.

## KING CLUTTERBUCK

He'll only need a moment's time to prepare the dining showroom. In the meanwhile, help yourselves to the grog. I've already helped myself.

**NELSON** 

You've got to be kidding? What kind of mad people allow delicacies and the deceased to share the same table!?

**CAPTAIN** 

Victorians.

**NELSON** 

And just how am I meant to approach him without raising alarm?

Suddenly, there is a suspicious bang over the radio coms. Those seen aboard The Domino are violently thrown about the deck.

NELSON (CONT'D)

Hello?

LOUIE

My ship!!

**NELSON** 

Is everything alright?

WILEY

We've got company!

KANAKA

Incoming fire, sir!

**CAPTAIN** 

Ready our cannons Wild. I expect this will be violent.

**JONES** 

Brace yourselves!

Another loud explosion rocks the boat. ROSE and YUSSLER board their vessel, accompanied by a few odd armed GUARDS.

ROSE

Oh Jonsey! I'm home!

KANAKA

Ugh, who invited the sea witch?

## **YUSSLER**

Your queen requires no invitation. Not to say this is pleasurable by any means. If I'd a say, we'd have remained on our own vessel. Not tainted my boots on some crummy little dingy.

### LOUIE

Dingy? How dare you! This is fine mahogany! Do you know how long it takes to carve quality wood?

### YUSSLER

Quite long, though I suspect an amateur such as yourself wouldn't have know that regardless.

## **LOUIE**

## That's it!

LOUIE launches into a frenzy and lunges at YUSSLER. All parties present then sequentially attack. Cannons and guns aimlessly fire and the sound of swords clashing ring out. CAPTAIN remains with the radio.

**NELSON** 

What's going on over there?

**CAPTAIN** 

Nothing for you to worry about.

**WILEY** 

Fire in the hole! Mwahahaha!

**JONES** 

Really sister, who taught you to use that sword? A far-sighted monkey?

KANAKA

Louie! Watch where you're shooting!

LOUIE

13 weeks it took for that banister alone! 13 weeks!

YUSSLER

Is that all? You poor little girl.

LOUIE

AGH!!!!

ROSE

Mind your appendages Cranston. It seems you've been coerced into fighting a wild boar.

**LOUIE** 

Amateur he says. I'll show you who's an amateur when I sever the skin from your face!

The battle moves offstage and the connection in the radio begins to fail.

**NELSON** 

What was that?!

**CAPTAIN** 

Just get to the compass Nelson. Circular seal. Dagger. The mouse-

NELSON

What? Hello? Hello!?

CAPTAIN Exits as the signal of the radio dies. The Viennese Waltz again overtakes the room.

NELSON (CONT'D)

Oh bollocks.

NELSON thinks for a moment before taking out his sketchpad, taking a quick drawing before approaching KING CLUTTERBUCK who is actively drinking.

NELSON (CONT'D)

Your highness, it is an honor that you've finally graced my presence.

KING CLUTTERBUCK

And you are?

**NELSON** 

No one of importance sir. I drew you a portrait.

KING CLUTTERBUCK

My nose is not that crooked!

**NELSON** 

Oh! I can fix it if you just-

KING CLUTTERBUCK

(shielding the drawing)

No it's mine!

**NELSON** 

Alright! You're sure I can't-

KING CLUTTERBUCK

Have you ever been to France my boy?

**NELSON** 

I can't say that I have.

KING CLUTTERBUCK

I once put Marie Antoinette's whole ring finger in my mouth. It tasted of her garden crocuses and cherry pie filling.

**NELSON** 

That's nice.

*As the king drones on, NELSON attempts to snatch the key from his neck.* 

## KING CLUTTERBUCK

I've never cared for the French. They've always been such rowdy people. I'm a man of a more civilized nature.

(He burps)

The people simply need to accept that a monarch is a man made by God. Not some poor chap off the streets with a want for great power.

**NELSON** 

That's exactly what they are.

KING CLUTTERBUCK

And poor Louis. All he ever did was try to do right by the people.

**NELSON** 

You mean he robbed and starved them?

KING CLUTTERBUCK

And what did those crazed ruffians do? They chopped off his poor noggin. The same way one slices witches or heads of lettuce.

In a desperate attempt, NELSON begins to rub the king's shoulders until he is able to gently ease the key from his person, hiding it beneath his coat.

KING CLUTTERBUCK (CONT'D)

I can't imagine the scandal!

**NELSON** 

Of course not.

KING CLUTTERBUCK

People adore me!

**NELSON** 

No doubt of that. But I really must be back to the festivities. Wouldn't want to miss the mummy ceremony...thing. I hear it's quite the attraction.

Leaving no room for KING CLUTTERBUCK to respond, NELSON rushes offstage. The music and the party disappear in a blackout behind him. NELSON reemerges some time later, now dimly lit and trapped in an eerie silence as he wanders through the underground passages. He tiptoes around countless relics and artifacts carelessly strewn about in erratic piles; all worth a hefty fortune. Eventually, NELSON finds himself in a large room littered with coffins built into the walls. Most notably, however, the largest and most decorated coffin sits in the center of the room. It's branded with a seal depicting a wind-up toy mouse whose back has been pierced by a dagger.

NELSON (CONT'D)

Hello?

*No response.* 

NELSON (CONT'D)

Honey, I'm home!

After a moment, NELSON cautiously approaches the center coffin.

## NELSON (CONT'D)

Please don't be alive, please don't be alive, please please please-

NELSON takes a heavy breath before beginning to slide the lid of the coffin. He's dismayed however, to find it completely empty.

## NELSON (CONT'D)

Well. Somehow that's worse. Perhaps you're still around here little compass. Or maybe you're long gone after 7 decades.

NELSON begins to search the piles of treasure for the lost trinket. Meanwhile, he hardly notices the misshapen shadow that ominously stalks behind him.

## NELSON (CONT'D)

That wouldn't please the pirates. Surely they'll blame me for this. Probably string me up in their nets and let the crows pick out my eyes. Or be a halfway decent figuration of straw meant to frighten buzzers and little children...Or perhaps that's just an overreaction and there's no real danger-

THE MAGE

Doth my eyes deceive me?

**NELSON** 

Aaghh!!

NELSON recoils in fear before a terrifying and grotesque figure dressed in ratted robes and towering above him. A foul stench pierces the room that disorients NELSON, realizing it is the animated corpse of THE MAGE. Frightened beyond belief, NELSON is momentarily relieved when he sees the compass, seared into the creature's rotting skin where, if he were alive, the heart would be.

### THE MAGE

Don't ye shout! You frighten the rats! Goblins and crawlers stalking the night. Many coiling a precarious brow.

### **NELSON**

Aren't you meant to be dead? You certainly look dead-

### THE MAGE

Many trifles a man must tolerate. But mockery will not go un-scorned under thy roof of Gods and Kings. Choose one's next words carefully.

## **NELSON**

Uh.....I humble thine self in the presence of you. The great Mage who bares his teeth at death's cold hands.

### THE MAGE

And who be-ith you? Foul intruder who calls to me as I slumber?

**NELSON** 

Nelson sir. Nelson Bagley of Devonshire.

THE MAGE

And what can thou possibly ask of me? I am all but what you see; molted feathers and dust.

**NELSON** 

I would not mind your compass sir. The one that has been brandished upon you.

*The Mage howls and snickers.* 

NELSON (CONT'D)

Why do you laugh?

THE MAGE

You are an amusing little newt. For to believe I might so carelessly bestow such power to you! A worm among angels. I have not what ye seek human. Now begone from my presence and take your selfish intentions with you!

NELSON

My intentions are far from selfish. I am here on behalf of a noble crew-

THE MAGE

Then let your champions come and earn their winnings, not entrust a hopeless endeavor to a young boy.

**NELSON** 

I am more than that.

THE MAGE

I speak only to what I see.

**NELSON** 

Then you are blind. I am a man of a respectable character.

THE MAGE

I speak only to what I see.

**NELSON** 

That's not fair.

THE MAGE

Do not roll a dice and expect it to obey.

NELSON

This isn't about me. Or, it isn't meant to be of me.

THE MAGE

But you've made it so.

**NELSON** 

I just need the compass. Now, I am not a violent man by nature-

## THE MAGE

I know this Nelson Bagley of Devonshire. I know more of you and this realm than is favorable. I may have decayed beyond a point of recognition, but do not suggest it has made me a fool.

**NELSON** 

But I hadn't-

THE MAGE

A good man admits his deceptions of thy mouth. The falsehoods of his life.

**NELSON** 

I know what I've done.

THE MAGE

Then you will answer me honestly.

**NELSON** 

In exchange for the compass?

THE MAGE

Should that be your wish.

**NELSON** 

Fine. Not a problem.

NELSON outstretches a hand of which the MAGE shakes.

THE MAGE

Your sister-

**NELSON** 

No. Don't bring her into this. Ask me something else.

THE MAGE

Is she content with your traveling to America?

**NELSON** 

Marion is dead. I have no money so there's nothing more to say about it-

THE MAGE

Do not make justifications where there are none.

**NELSON** 

She did not deserve to suffer as a consequence to my poverty. My mistakes. That is why I am here to begin with!

THE MAGE

Money cannot save a human life and to believe so is a fool's mentality.

**NELSON** 

Then I am a fool.

### THE MAGE

And a man who believes so little of himself is not worth the thought of breathe.

NELSON

Perhaps not.

A beat.

THE MAGE

Very well Nelson Bagley of Devonshire.

**NELSON** 

Just shrimp is, *aghmm*, Nelson! Just Nelson is fine.

THE MAGE

Your candor has granted you death.

**NELSON** 

Excuse me?

Suddenly, THE MAGE plunges his hand deep into his chest and pulls out the compass.

#### THE MAGE

This alone will lead to that which ye seek. The center of the mechanism beckons. I shall await your failure from the beyond. Before another champion come to disturb my peace.

**NELSON** 

But I will not fail.

### THE MAGE

You have great hope for a man who is ignorant. The divinity you seek is an ancient power. One I carried for a millennia of strife and anguish. Magic is strong as it is unforgiving and can only be wielded by one of our blood and our suffering. For to carry this will place a copper taste in your mouth.

Abruptly, THE MAGE forces the compass into NELSON's arm. A purple ray of light emanates from the contact point.

**NELSON** 

(strained)

What are you doing?

## THE MAGE

The people will spit and scorn you in the streets. You will learn to be hated. You will to be ignored. You will learn to be spited and forgotten and betrayed. Such is Autonomous life.

NELSON crumples to the ground unconscious as the light beams fade. THE MAGE himself appears weary.

### THE MAGE (CONT'D)

Let you return to your champions. May you be the ones to save me from this prison. Save me from damnation. Save my people.

Slowly, THE MAGE falls to the ground as well, into a blackout.

### SCENE 6

Back on the ship, the crew stands threateningly before ROSE and YUSSLER who are surrounded by readied swords and other weaponry.

YUSSLER

Well this is unfortunate.

**LOUIE** 

For you maybe. I'm positively overjoyed.

JONES

Louie, be nice. They fought rather valiantly. Like headless chickens before surrendering so prematurely.

ROSE

You'd wish it were that easy.

KANAKA

What'll we do with em Cap?

**CAPTAIN** 

Take them to the brig.

ROSE

The brig?

YUSSLER

That's a bit excessive is it not?

**LOUIE** 

It's not.

KANAKA

(struggling)

I would Cap, but they won't stay still!

WILEY

Shouldn't be a problem.

WILEY shrinks to the floor and aggressively bites ROSE on the ankle.

ROSE

Ah, it bit me! It actually bit me!

YUSSLER

What it wrong with you!?

WILEY

Tastes like chicken.

From the silence, a distant screaming came be heard. The crew looks on to see NELSON rushing towards the ship in a panic.

**CAPTAIN** 

I don't like the look of this. Louisa, the engines if you will.

**LOUIE** 

Aye Cap!

As LOUIE Exits, KING CLUTTERBUCK, a large swarm of angry Victorians, and the MANSERVANT, ringing his bell, all charge towards NELSON

KING CLUTTERBUCK

Get back here you heathen!

**NELSON** 

(panicked)

Sail! Set sail!

KING CLUTTERBUCK

He's stolen me jewels! My trinkets! After him!

**NELSON** 

Go go go go go go!

**CAPTAIN** 

(To Wiley)

Get them below deck!

Kanaka, to the halyards! I'll bar the wheel.

WILEY escorts ROSE and YUSSLER offstage as JONES assists in getting NELSON aboard the ship. His hands and pockets are stuffed with breads and cheeses, rubies, and other treasures.

JONES

Couldn't keep to yourself, could ya shrimp.

KING CLUTTERBUCK

The treason! The scandal! Agh! My wine!

**NELSON** 

I told you, the hand wants what it wants!

Just as the angry mob breeches the dock, there is a heavy lurch in the ship's engine and the boat speeds off back into the sea. ROSE and YUSSLER now appear in the brig below.

**LOUIE** 

Well that was utterly stupid.

**NELSON** 

Hey! I deserve a little extra compensation for being left alone to that ordeal.

**JONES** 

I hope you've left room for our compass in your greedy pockets.

**NELSON** 

Oh yes. About that.

NELSON pulls back his sleeve to reveal the Compass branded into his arm.

NELSON (CONT'D)

It seems your good friend the Mage was discontent with his role as the departed.

**LOUIE** 

You spoke to him?

**NELSON** 

I wouldn't call it conversation. He certainly wasn't very personable. Thus, I thought myself entitled to a little extra coin for going through such trouble.

**CAPTAIN** 

You nearly got yourself killed.

**WILEY** 

(biting the coins)

But the loot Captain!

**JONES** 

I told ya you might make a fine pirate someday.

**NELSON** 

Not likely. I can't imagine how you all operate like this. And regardless, the feeling of your treasure if becoming quite cumbersome so help yourselves to it. I believe myself deserving of a long nights rest after all that.

**LOUIE** 

Shouldn't be a problem.

LOUIE takes her wrench latches it to the compass. However, despite great effort, it does not budge from NELSON's skin. She attempts again. Nothing. Beat

LOUIE (CONT'D)

(nervously)

Problem.

KANAKA

Is that magical binding?

**LOUIE** 

Seems that way.

**NELSON** 

What does that mean?

| No one's been versed in magical arts                                       | LOUIE s for hundreds of years.   |
|--|--|
| So what are you saying? You can't r  | NELSON remove it?  |
| Afraid not.  | KANAKA   |
| But what am I meant to do? I can't v                                       | NELSON very well carry on like this!   |
| WILEY Enters   |  |
| Is that meant to be spreadin?  | WILEY  |
| He points to NELSON's orange.  | hand which has already begun to turn a rust colored                                    |
| Agh! Get it off, get it off!   | NELSON   |
| We already told. It can't just 'come of                                    | LOUIE off' it's magically branded to you.  |
| This wasn't part of our deal. I agreed nonsensical adventure! You don't ev | NELSON d to retrieve this for you, not get roped into your ven know where we're going! |
| The compass says west so I reckon  | CAPTAIN west.  |
| An astute observation.   | NELSON   |
| Do you want our help or not?   | KANAKA   |
| I won't pretend to fathom how you o  | NELSON<br>could.   |
| Magically of course.   | JONES  |
| No, no I've had my fill of fairytales,                                     | NELSON thank you.  |
| You think we would be out here if the                                      | JONES here weren't an inking of proof to its existence?                                |

NELSON

But what if it's not?

WILEY Then there won't a world to live in regardless. NELSON And what if this keeps spreading? LOUIE Then we'll handle it **NELSON** But what-**CAPTAIN** One day at a time Nelson old boy. One day at a time. With common goal in mind, the crew begins making preparations for the long journey ahead, reading the ship for departure. **NELSON** Oh biscuits. (#8 ONE MORE DAY) **JONES** HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS, ME JOHNNY KANAKA JONES (CONT'D) ONE MORE DAY ONE MORE DAY JONES (CONT'D) WE'RE HOMEWARD BOUND TOMORROW JONES (CONT'D) **CAPTAIN** ONE MORE DAY ONE MORE DAY LOUIE ONLY ONE MORE DAY, ME JOHNNY **MAINS** ONE MORE DAY WILEY OH, ROCK AND ROLL ME OVER **MAINS** ONE MORE DAY

**JONES** 

DON'T YOU HEAR THE OLD MAN GROWLIN' ONE MORE DAY DON'T YOU HEAR THE MATE A HOWLIN' ONE MORE DAY KANAKA DON'T YOU HEAR THE CAPS'N PAWLIN' ONE MORE DAY DON'T YOU HEAR THE PILOT BAWLIN' ONE MORE DAY

CAPTAIN ONE MORE DAY ME JOHNNY LOUIE ONE MORE DAY ME JOHNNY

CAPTAIN AND WILEY (CONT'D) ONE MORE DAY LOUIE (CONT'D)

ONE MORE DAY

**MAINS** 

OH, ROCK AND ROLL ME OVER.

ALI

ONE MORE DAY. ONE MORE DAY

**MAINS** 

ONE MORE DAY

**CAPTAIN** 

ONLY ONE MORE DAY A-HOWLIN

ALL

ONE MORE DAY

**CAPTAIN** 

CAN'T YOU HEAR THE GALS A-CALLIN'

ALL

ONE MORE DAY

LOUIE

ONLY ONE MORE DAY A-FURLIN'

ALL

ONE MORE DAY

LOUIE ONLY ONE MORE DAY A-CURSIN' WILEY

ONLY ONE MORE DAY A-CURSIN'

ALL

ONE MORE DAY

ONE MORE DAY, ME JOHNNY

ONE MORE DAY

OH, ROCK AND ROLL ME OVER

ONE MORE DAY

ONE MORE DAY, ME JOHNNY

ONE MORE DAY

OH. ROCK AND ROLL ME OVER

ONE MORE DAY

NO MORE GALES OR HEAVY WEATHER

ONE MORE DAY ONLY ONE MORE DAY TOGETHER BOYS ONE MORE DAY

NELSON HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS ME JOHNNY

ALL

ONE MORE DAY OH, ROCK AND ROLL ME OVER ONE MORE DAY

ONE MORE DAY, ME JOHNNY ONE MORE DAY OH, ROCK AND ROLL ME OVER ONE MORE DAY (X4)

**MAINS** 

ONE MORE DAY

ALL

ONE MORE DAY ONE MORE DAY

**MAINS** 

ONE MORE DAY

ALL

ONE MORE DAY

**MAINS** 

ONE MORE DAY

**ALL** 

ONE MORE DAY

**MAINS** 

ONE MORE DAY

ALL

ONE MORE DAY.

(END #8)

With everyone aboard the vessel, the engine roars to life as an air balloon inflates above and the ship takes flight. Now, drifting off into the dark evening sky, the crew embraces fear as they sail onward. Their fear of failure. Fear of success. Fear for each other.

# BLACKOUT. END OF ACT 1

## **ACT II**

SCENE 1

Aboard the Domino. The crew has been on a tedious journey for nearly a week. JONES, CAPTAIN, LOUIE, and KANAKA lounge about the ship deck in curious places. Each with glass of moonshine in their hand; not a care under the afternoon sun. ROSE and YUSSLER meanwhile are tied to the center ship's mast. WILEY drunkenly stumbles about the stage.

(#9 BULLY IN THE ALLEY)

WILEY
HELP ME BOB I'M BULLY IN THE ALLEY
WEY HEY, BULLY IN THE ALLEY
HELP ME BOB, I'M BULLY IN THE ALLEY
BULLY DOWN IN SHINBONE AL

SALLY IS A GIRL IN SHINBONE ALLEY WEY HEY, BULLY IN THE ALLEY SALLY IS THE GIRL THAT I SPLICED NEARLY BULLY DOWN IN SHINBONE AL

ALL

SO!
HELP ME BOB, I'M BULLY IN THE ALLEY
WEY HEY, BULLY IN THE ALLEY
HELP ME BOB, I'M BULLY IN THE ALLEY
BULLY DOWN IN SHINBONE AL

WILEY
I FOUND BY SELF OUT UNDER THREE-OH
WEY HEY, BULLY IN THE ALLEY
FOUND BY SELF WITH TIME SO FREE-OH
BULLY DOWN IN SHINBONE AL

ALL

SO! HELP ME BOB, I'M BULLY IN THE ALLEY WEY HEY, BULLY IN THE ALLEY HELP ME BOB, I'M BULLY IN THE ALLEY BULLY DOWN IN SHINBONE AL

**ROSE** 

Keep it down up there, would you!

**WILEY** 

We're busy!

YUSSLER

Doing what?

WILEY

We're drinking!

YUSSLER

Clearly.

**ROSE** 

If you're going to keep us here, the least you could do is share the grog.

YUSSLER

Hello!?

WILEY What? Don't ignore us. Hey! I'm talking to

I BOUGHT HER RUM AND I BOUGHT HER GIN, OH WEY HEY, BULLY IN THE ALLEY BOUGHT HER WINE, OF WHITE AND

RED. OH

BULLY DOWN IN SHINBONE AL

ALL

SO! HELP ME BOB, I'M BULLY IN THE ALLEY WEY HEY, BULLY IN THE ALLEY HELP ME BOB, I'M BULLY IN THE ALLEY BULLY DOWN IN SHINBONE AL

**ROSE** WELL THEY CALL ME HANGING JOHNNY

WEY HEY, BULLY IN THE ALLEY HELP ME BOB

BULLY DOWN IN SHINBONE AL

ROSE (CONT'D) THEY SAY I HANG FOR MONEY SO HANG BOYS HANG

ROSE

you! A sip is all I ask!

WILEY

**BULLY DOWN IN SHIN-**AND WHEN I'VE SPENT A FOLLY TOTAL

WEY HEY, BULLY IN THE ALLEY

WILEY

OFF TO BED, WE END UP CRIPOL

ALL

BULLY DOWN IN SHINBONE AL. AL. WE'RE OPEN, TOPE A LOW LIGHT LARK, OH WEY HEY, BULLY IN THE ALLEY DAWN AND RAIN, CAN THE COCK DID CALL, OH BULLY DOWN IN SHINBONE AL SOI HELP ME BOB, I'M BULLY IN THE ALLEY WEY HEY, BULLY IN THE ALLEY

HELP ME BOB, I'M BULLY IN THE ALLEY BULLY DOWN IN SHINBONE AL SO!
HELP ME BOB, I'M BULLY IN THE ALLEY WEY HEY, BULLY IN THE ALLEY HELP ME BOB, I'M BULLY IN THE ALLEY BULLY DOWN IN SHINBONE AL BULLY DOWN IN SHINBONE AL

BULLY DOWN IN SHINBONE AL

(#9 END)

WILEY passes out drunk as CAPTAIN Exits after more moonshine. The remainder of the crew continues to waste away in their merriment as NELSON Enters, slightly more autonomous since last we saw him. ROSE listens in from below in the brig.

## **NELSON**

Louisa? Has anyone seen- oh, you're here. Wonderful. My hand betrays me. It need be mended at once and- why do you all smell of piss?

ROSE

Thank God you're here! They've been drinking all afternoon!

**JONES** 

Those in the brig do not speak.

YUSSLER

I can't stand it! The singing, the spirits! How is anyone supposed to get any sleep down here!?

LOUIE

Let me take a look at that hand.

**NELSON** 

Absolutely not! You're inebriated!

LOUIE

That I am. Would you like to be?

**NELSON** 

No of course not! It's not even past noon yet!

**JONES** 

That philosophy my friend, is why, you're a shrimp.

ROSE

Something we can agree on.

**NELSON** 

This is besides the point! Now I must speak to your Captain about our plans moving forward. Where's he gone off to?

CAPTAIN stumbles back onstage, mostly dressed and carrying half of a bottle of...something.

### **CAPTAIN**

Josephine, I've lost my trousers! It seems I've also thrown the bottle stopper overboard...more for me I suppose.

He chugs it, a complete mess of his usual self.

**NELSON** 

Has he gone mad?

**CAPTAIN** 

(sing-songy)

Rum, rum, bottle of rum. Rum Rum...

**JONES** 

I'm afraid my dear William is the worst of us when it comes to trifling in the spirits.

**NELSON** 

But he's a pirate?

YUSSLER

And a lightweight it would appear.

**CAPTAIN** 

Has anyone found my pants?

He Exits, searching.

**NELSON** 

The plan? Please, anyone!

**JONES** 

I don't believe we've ever had one.

**NELSON** 

What of when you me rescued from town? Surely you had one then to pull off such a feat?

**LOUIE** 

We did.

KANAKA

We got drunk.

**NELSON** 

And should that have failed?

KANAKA

We'd get drunker I suppose.

CAPTAIN, from offstage.

**CAPTAIN** 

I found my pants!

## **NELSON**

I've just had an aneurism. I'm certain of it. Forget I asked.

As the rest of the crew continues to bask in the afternoon sun, NELSON step aside to a quieter place on deck. He takes out his sketchbook and starts to draw. JONES follows him, Jean-Claude swaying tipsily on her shoulder. They sneakily peers over his shoulder at the rendering. A beat.

**JONES** 

What are you drawing?

**NELSON** 

Ah, don't do that!

**JONES** 

Sorry.

**NELSON** 

And stand over there. I can smell the alcohol on your breath and it's foul.

Another beat.

**JONES** 

You're very good.

**NELSON** 

I should hope so. I've only been doing it for 15 years.

**JONES** 

Let me see some of them!

JONES takes the book from NELSON and begins flipping through the pages!

**NELSON** 

Hey!

**JONES** 

There's a lot of airships. Do you fancy a good airship? It would explain a lot about you.

**NELSON** 

I draw things I don't want to forget.

**JONES** 

Trees, carriage, another airship, ugh...Is this one us? From supper some evenings past?

**NELSON** 

I'll admit it. That night got off quite well...You were all so joyful. It's been some time since I've had the company to share a meal with. I couldn't help myself. That one's Wiley. He'd fallen asleep hanging from the boarding nets. And Jean-Claude.

**JONES** 

Is this one meant to be me? You know I'm not that young.

JONES flashes an older page in his book detailing the face of a young girl.

|   | (  |
|---|--|
| NELSON NoNo, that's my sister Marion.   |  |
| JONES<br>Your sister? I didn't know you had a sister? Doe   | s she live with you in Devonshire?   |
| NELSON Not exactly. She's dead.   |  |
| JONES Oh. I'm sorryShe's very beautiful.  |  |
| NELSON I wanted to remember her face. Before she'd got  | tten ill.  |
| JONES Sick so young? I can only imagine.  |  |
| NELSON It wasn't sickness per say. She'd been in an accid brown. Then grey and on until it was an oily blather was cold. And rough <i>Metallic</i> .  | dent. Made her blood start thickening. Turning ack. I'd though nothing of ituntil the touch of |
| JONES She'd become one of us.   |  |
| NELSON I didn't know what else to do. Our parents were and certainly noy on my own so I- A charity had asylum. I hadn't thought it could be a lie or that for her. And what was best was to be far away f | d offered a placement of care and education at she'd die there. I only wanted what was best    |
| A beat.   |  |
| JONES I was-  |  |
| KANAKA<br>Well look who's sobered up. Good on ya Cap!   |  |
| CAPTAIN Has our course altered since last inspection?   |  |
| NELSON<br>(checking the compa<br>Still reading west. I believe it might be broken.  | ss)  |
| KANAKA<br>Maybe if we justopen it. Tinker around a bit, i   |  |

LOUIE (excitedly)

Tinker?!

| Are you certain that's safe?        | NELSON   |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Not in the slightest. (excitedly    | LOUIE y taking out her wrench)   |
| Perhaps we should wait then? Until  | NELSON we're sure.   |
| No time for waiting.                | LOUIE  |
| But what if it-                     | NELSON   |
| Impatiently, LOUIE for              | ces the face of the compass open. Beat.  |
| See. Nothing happened.              | KANAKA   |
| But I was certain something might-  | NELSON   |
|                                     | ass begins to retaliate, pulling NELSON along ruthlessly.<br>ew are uncertain of what to do, dodging as NELSON is<br>the deck of the ship. |
| Bully!                              | CAPTAIN  |
| Agh! Help me!                       | NELSON   |
| Watch the railing!                  | LOUIE  |
| What's it doing!?                   | KANAKA   |
| How the bloody hell should I know!  | NELSON !   |
| Well it is attached to <i>you</i> . | JONES  |
| We both know I never asked for that | NELSON<br>t!   |
| My door, watch the door! If you bre | LOUIE ak something, I swear- Hey, I just repainted that!   |
| Someone stop it!                    | NELSON   |

WILEY awakens from his drunken sleep and begins to charge after NELSON.

WILEY

Not a problem!

**NELSON** 

No, wait! Bad idea, bad idea!

WILEY bear hugs and tackles him over the side railing, into the ocean below. Beat.

**CAPTAIN** 

Do you think we should help them?

A moment later, WILEY returns up the side of the ship with a live fish in his mouth.

**WILEY** 

Still says west Captain.

He throws the partially eaten fish overboard. It hits NELSON who tediously clambers back onboard, tangled in seaweed.

**NELSON** 

(shaken)

Never. Do that. Again.

LOUIE

Well I did warn you about the railing.

**CAPTAIN** 

We carry on west.

KANAKA

Twill be done Captain.

**CAPTAIN** 

In the meanwhile.

*CAPTAIN* begins collecting the bottles of grog from the crew.

KANAKA

What are you doing?

WILEY

Hey, that's mine!

**CAPTAIN** 

No more grog.

LOUIE

What!?

| Not until we've sorted out this whole   | CAPTAIN<br>le mess.  |  |
|---|--|--|
| This is mutiny!   | KANAKA   |  |
| Mutiny?   | CAPTAIN  |  |
| Shouldn't have said that.   | JONES  |  |
| CAPTAIN unsheathes h  | nis rapier.  |  |
| Don't challenge me Captain. It's not  | KANAKA good for your old bones.  |  |
| Shouldn't have said that either.  | JONES  |  |
| I'll show you who's old!  | CAPTAIN  |  |
| The two share an intense but friendly fight. CAPTAIN slashes towards KANAKA who skillfully blocks his attack. |  |  |
| Try not to kill him Cap'.   | LOUIE  |  |
| Or do should it please ya. Not that'c   | WILEY It be hard.  |  |
| (sarcastic<br>Thanks for the encouragement. Alv   |  |  |
| SCENE 2   |  |  |
| Their swordfight contin moment alone, JONES   | nues until they Exit followed by LOUIE and WILEY. After a approaches ROSE, cutting the binds from her hands. |  |
| Get up.   | JONES  |  |
| Why? Finally tossing me overboard   | ROSE dare you?   |  |
| If it were only that.   | JONES  |  |
| You're not leaving me here? Alone   | YUSSLER  |  |

| 1 | 1 | V | F. | S |
|---|---|---|----|---|
|   |   |   |    |   |

My sister and I need a word privately, unfortunate as it is for you.

YUSSLER

You sure your Captain would approve of that?

**JONES** 

Ignore him. Walk.

JONES escorts ROSE to the storage level of the ship. It's full of old shipping supplies, broken glass, and other assortments of obscure mysteries.

**ROSE** 

Can we hurry this along? You've interrupted my afternoon sun. Not that I really need it. I've been baking out there all morning-

**JONES** 

What are you doing?

ROSE

I'm not sure I understand?

**JONES** 

You followed us from town, raided our ship and from your failure, yielded graciously?

ROSE

What can I say? We were beaten fair and square.

**JONES** 

Do you expect me to believe that? You and I may have been strangers these last years or so but I am still your sister. That much is enough to know when you're pulling your punches.

Beat. ROSE's act falls. In a moment of desperation, ROSE takes a rusted sword from an old display and strikes towards JONES who unbothered, disarms her easily. Beat.

ROSE

Can't blame a girl for trying.

**JONES** 

Don't make me ask again.

ROSE

How can I answer when I don't know what it is you're implying?

**JONES** 

Enough! For once in your life would you just be truthful with me?-

ROSE

*Alright!*...Fine. It is possible Cranston and I surrendered intently.

**JONES** 

Why?

| Why do you think?  | ROSE   |
|--|--|
| A long beat.   |  |
| Has it gotten worse?   | JONES  |
| ROSE slowly removes t  | he glove on her hand, revealing it's autonomous likeness                                   |
| I've been able to contain it for now. spread. Still experimental, so who k | ROSE It's a new science I've been tampering with to slow the mows how long this will last. |
| You're dying?  | JONES  |
| The same way as fatherDo you re matching daggers?                          | ROSE member when we were kids? He'd gotten us those  |
| You tried to kill me with that blade.                                      | JONES  |
| I remember we used to chase each oknocking pictures off the walls.         | ROSE other through the corridors. Sliding across the tiles and                             |
| Father was furious.  | JONES  |
| Those were better days.  | ROSE   |
| Long beat.   |  |
| Perhaps life could have gone different                                     | ROSE (CONT'D) ently. Should you have seen things from my perspective.                      |
| Or you from mine.  | JONES  |
| A sudden lurch in the bostage and a wave of fog                            | oat takes the sisters aback as a heavy cloud darkens the pools around them.                |
| Sister? I think your ship is on fire.                                      | ROSE   |
| That's not smoke. We need to get al  | JONES bove ground.   |

JONES escorts ROSE to the door, however, is surprised to find it locked.

| Door trouble?  | ROSE   |  |
|--|--|--|
| Clearly.   | JONES  |  |
| You mean you've locked us down he                    | ROSE ere?  |  |
| No. This door doesn't <i>have</i> a lock. S          | JONES<br>Something's wrong.  |  |
| Maybe you're not pushing hard enough                 | ROSE<br>ugh.   |  |
| Oh by all means, have at it.                         | JONES  |  |
| ROSE pushes on the door. It doesn't budge.           |  |  |
| What did I tell you?                                 | JONES (CONT'D)   |  |
| I don't want to talk about it.                       | ROSE   |  |
| Course not. We'll have to rush it. Or                | JONES<br>n my count. One. Two-   |  |
| Wait!  | ROSE   |  |
| What?  | JONES  |  |
| Why does it have to be on your cour                  | ROSE<br>nt?  |  |
| Oh for God's sake.                                   | JONES  |  |
| the main deck where NE<br>who is still tied, struggl | te the door, they disappear into a blackout. We return to ELSON protects his sketchpad from the rain. YUSSLER, es against the spraying sea water that hits his face as the d a dark cloud of rain of looms above them. |  |
|  | NELSON   |  |

YUSSLER

What the hell is going on?

Bad weather?

**NELSON** 

But it was such a nice a nice day only a moment ago. (#13 The Skye Boat Song/A Drop of Nelson's Blood/Byker Hill)

YUSSLER

(fighting more water)

Untie me would you? I'm practically drowning out here.

**NELSON** 

Wait a minute-

YUSSLER

I'm serious! It's up to my neck!

**NELSON** 

Ah-shhh shh shhhhh...Do you hear that?

YUSSLER

Hear what?

VOICE 1

SPEED, BONNIE BOAT, LIKE A BIRD ON THE WING ONWARD, THE SAILORS CRY.

**NELSON** 

Jones? Is that you?

VOICE 1

CARRY THE LAD THAT'S BORN TO BE KING OVER THE SEA TO SKYE.

The remainder of the crew Enters..

VOICE 2

LOUD THE WINDS HOWLS.

KANAKA

Uh, Captain?

VOICE 2

LOUD THE WAVES ROAR.

WILEY

What are those things?

VOICE 2

THUNDERCLAPS REND THE AIR.

**CAPTAIN** 

Sirens! Cover your ears!

BOTH

BAFFLED OUR FOES STAND BY THE

SHORE.

FOLLOW THEY WILL NOT DARE SPEED, BONNIE BOAT, LIKE A BIRD

ON THE WING

ONWARD, THE SAILORS CRY.

KANAKA

But they're singing so loud!

**NELSON** 

And beautifully!

LOUIE

What's going on?

CAPTAIN

They're luring us to the water!

YUSSLER

You mean they're going to drown us!?

**CAPTAIN** 

You've got to keep them from singing!

LOUIE

How am I meant to do that?

KANAKA

I think I'm in love!

LOUIE

Kanaka!

BOTH (CONT'D)

CARRY THE LAD

THAT'S BORN TO BE KING OVER THE SEA TO SKYE.

**WILEY** 

Snap out of it!

CAPTAIN

Josephine!

**LOUIE** 

No, that's not- Nelson, get away from them!

**WILEY** 

I got him.

LOUIE and WILEY struggle to maintain the entranced crew as the SIRENS continue their attack.

## SIREN 1

OH, A DROP OF NELSON'S BLOOD WOULDN'T DO US ANY HARM

# SIREN 2

A DROP OF NELSON'S BLOOD WOULDN'T DO US ANY HARM

**BOTH** 

OH A DROP OF NELSON'S BLOOD WOULDN'T DO US ANY HARM AND WE'LL ALL HANG ON BEHIND. YES WE'LL ROLL THE OLD CHARIOT ALONG WE'LL ROLL THE OLD CHARIOT ALONG

# WE'LL ROLL THE OLD CHARIOT ALONG AND WE'LL ALL HANG ON BEHIND!

The infected crew members begin to lash out against the remaining who fearfully draw their weapons as ROSE and JONES Enter.

ROSE

Damn door! I threw out my shoulder.

**JONES** 

What the hell is going on!?

**LOUIE** 

Sirens aboard! Everyone else's gone crazy!

WILEY

It's some sort of witch's spell.

ROSE

Try "the stupidity of men". Give me that sword.

**JONES** 

Absolutely not!

ROSE

Fine. By all means, let your friends kill you.

LOUIE

Kanaka! You moron! It's me!

WILEY

Easy Cap! Hey! We're dying out here!

Beat. JONES reluctantly passes ROSE the spare sword.

**JONES** 

If you so much as parry without my say so-

ROSE

You'll see me killed. What else is new?

LOUIE takes charge with JONES and ROSE as a battle against them and the SIRENS begins.

**LOUIE** 

IF I HAD ANOTHER PENNY
I WOULD HAVE ANOTHER GILL
I WOULD MAKE THE PIPER PLAY
THE BONNY LASS OF BYKER HILL

LOUIE, ROSE, AND JONES

BYKER HILL AND WALKER SHORE COLLIER LADS FOR EVER MORE

BYKER HILL AND WALKER SHORE COLLIER LADS FOR EVER MORE

LOUIE
THE PITMAN AND THE KEELMAN TRIM
THEY DRINK BUMBLE MADE FROM GIN
THEN TO DANCE THEY DO BEGIN
TO THE TUNE OF ELSIE MARLEY

LOUIE, ROSE, AND JONES BYKER HILL AND WALKER SHORE

LOUIE

COLLIER LADS FOR EVER MORE

LOUIE, ROSE, JONES

BYKER HILL AND WALKER SHORE

**LOUIE** 

COLLIER LADS FOR EVER MORE

THE SIRENS

WE'LL ROLL THE OLD CHARIOT ALONG WE'LL ROLL THE GOLDEN CHARIOT ALONG. WE'LL ROLL THE OLD CHARIOT ALONG AND WE'LL ALL HANG ON BE-

ROSE AND JONES

GEORDIE CHARLTON, HE HAD A PIG

**LOUIE** 

YOU HIT IT WITH A SHOVEL AND IT DANCED A JIG

**ROSE AND JONES** 

ALL THE WAY TO WALKER SHORE

LOUIE, ROSE, JONES

TO THE TUNE OF ELSIE MARLEY

LOUIE, ROSE, JONES (CONT'D) BYKER HILL AND WALKER SHORE COLLIER LADS FOR EVER MORE BYKER HILL AND WALKER SHORE COLLIER LADS FOR EVER MORE

BYKER HILL AND WALKER SHORE COLLIER LADS FOR EVER MORE

BYKER HILL AND WALKER SHORE COLLIER LADS FOR EVER MORE

THE SIRENS

WE'LL ROLL THE OLD CHARIOT

ALONG

WE'LL ROLL THE OLD CHARIOT

ALONG.

WE'LL ROLL THE OLD CHARIOT

ALONG

AND WE'LL ALL HANG ON BEHIND

--

WE'LL ROLL THE OLD CHARIOT

**ALONG** 

WE'LL ROLL THE OLD CHARIOT

ALONG.

WE'LL ROLL THE OLD CHARIOT

**ALONG** 

AND WE'LL ALL HANG ON BEHIND

LOUIE, ROSE, JONES (CONT'D)

BYKER HILL AND WALKER SHORE

THE SIRENS

ROLL THE OLD CHARIOT ALONG

LOUIE, ROSE, JONES

BYKER HILL AND WALKER SHORE

THE SIRENS

AND WE'LL ALL HANG ON

ALL

FOR EVER MORE!

LOUIE

IF I HAD ANOTHER PENNY
I WOULD HAVE ANOTHER GILL
I WOULD MAKE THE PIPER PLAY
THE BONNY LASS OF BYKER HILL
BYKER HILL AND WALKER SHORE
COLLIER LADS FOR EVER MORE
BYKER HILL AND WALKER SHORE
COLLIER LADS FOR EVER MORE
(END #13)

LOUIE, JONES and ROSE skillfully kill the two SIREN sisters dead with a satisfactory slice. Their hold on the crew dissipates.

**KANAKA** 

What just happened?

YUSSLER

Why do I taste fish?

**WILEY** 

Them water spirits got ya's all confused in the head. Had to save ya's ourselves.

| (sing-soi                                | LOUIE   |
|--|---|
| You're welcome.                          | ngy)  |
| Are you alright?                         | JONES   |
| As well as one can be from such an       | CAPTAIN ordeal.                                       |
| (clutchin Damn. Louisa?                  | NELSON ng his arm)                                    |
| Spread again has it?                     | LOUIE   |
| It's burning?                            | NELSON  |
| Arial joint's probably too tight. I'll t | LOUIE<br>ake a look.                                  |
| LOUIE uses her tools t<br>themselves.    | o mend NELSON's arm as the other continue to collect  |
| You're quite efficient with that swor    | ROSE rd sister.                                       |
| Nice try. Get back against the mast.     | JONES   |
| Are you serious? After all that, savi    | ROSE ing your life and you still don't trust me?      |
| Sit.                                     | JONES   |
| Unbelievable.                            | ROSE  |
| JONES confiscates the main mast.         | sword again and retires ROSE with YUSSLER against the |
| Better?                                  | LOUIE   |
| Much, thank you.                         | NELSON  |
| I don't understand. Why weren't yo       | YUSSLER<br>ou all affected?                           |

| A siren's song tempts a man's lust f                 | LOUIE For women.  |
|--|---|
| Didn't work on Wild though?                          | KANAKA  |
| Yeah I never felt a thing?                           | WILEY   |
| Lust. For. Women.                                    | ROSE  |
| Beat.  |   |
| Ohhhh. Right. Carry on. (realizing                   | WILEY<br>g)   |
| Suddenly, the waves of                               | the ocean begin to rise and thrash about.   |
| What is it now?                                      | NELSON  |
| The ocean. It's seems we've disturb                  | CAPTAIN ed her.   |
| Storm rolling in from the west Capt                  | KANAKA<br>tain!   |
| To the helm with you then! Louie, i bodies a module. | CAPTAIN mind the engine. The rest of us need furl the sails! Two  |
| closer. From which, it a                             | bling to their positions as the precarious tempests spirals uppears the ocean comes to life. As the waves grow more AKA begins acting impulsively at the wheel. |
| Kanaka! Quit steering like a lunation                | CAPTAIN (CONT'D) and get this ship under control!   |
| Sorry Cap'n. The winds are a bit roo                 | KANAKA ugh. Certainly angrier then expected.  |
| Focus on the ship please!                            | JONES   |

NELSON

We're all going to die.

KANAKA Not if I can help it! Maybe if I just- Whoa! KANAKA attempts to pull a clever direction move when he suddenly looses control of the wheel. It spins out of control sending himself and the rest of the crew into a nauseating whirlpool.

**NELSON** 

I think I might be sick!

**CAPTAIN** 

Brace yourselves!

Blackout. A loud crash is heard followed by the hiss of steam, then silence.

## SCENE 2

Beat. The lights slowly rise on a dark beach. Metal tubes and rigging litter the grounds, flush with ivy and vines. CAPTAIN, ROSE, NELSON and KANAKA, slowly rise from the ground, recovering from the impact. The shadow of a haunting lighthouse towers above them.

**CAPTAIN** 

Is everyone alright?

KANAKA

That was amazing! Did you see that!? The waves were all BMSHOOM! And I was like HYAH! HA! And then the thunder KWYRRCHH!

**NELSON** 

Perhaps we could have stuck the landing a bit better.

ROSE

A bit!? He nearly killed us!

JONES and YUSSLER Enter from the brush.

**JONES** 

Everyone alright?

YUSSLER

The crash dropped the rest of us about 5 meters north.

**JONES** 

Lucky for Kanaka's loud mouth, we managed to find our way back.

ROSE

Did you not hear what I said!? We could have died because of this maniac!

**JONES** 

Wouldn't be the first time.

WILEY Enters with Jean-Claude cradeled in his hands

WILEY

Here you are Joan. Saved ya crab. Took a bit of a crackin meself but I've been marooned worse before.

YUSSLER

Marooned? Surely you don't mean we're stuck here?

**CAPTAIN** 

The ship's damaged but she'll still sail with some minor repairs.

**JONES** 

Has anyone seen Louie?

**LOUIE** 

(from offstage)

KANAKA!!!

**JONES** 

Nevermind.

LAURIE rushes onstage, nearly tackling KANAKA.

**LOUIE** 

You worthless, bumbling, moronic, waste of cogs! Look at my ship! My beautiful sailing vessel smashed to **smithereens!** 

KANAKA

Relax Lou, Cap says she'll sail. And it's still in one piece-

**LOUIE** 

*Still in one piece?* Is that supposed to make me feel better!?

KANAKA

Alright, alright! I'll help you fix it!

**LOUIE** 

Oh you'll do more than fix it you careless miscreant! You're lucky if I don't kill you!

**KANAKA** 

You can't do that!

(To Jones)

She can't do that!

**JONES** 

Flaunt about at the wheel again and I will let her kill you.

KANAKA

How is this my fault!?

**LOUIE** 

When isn't it your fault?

**CAPTAIN** 

Enough! Have you all no sense? You're adults. Act like it.

| Look Jo! A field mouse!             | WILEY  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| I dare you to put it in your i      | KANAKA mouth.  |
| I already did.                      | WILEY (muffled)  |
| Spit that out!                      | CAPTAIN  |
| Pspfwy! Sorry Captain.              | WILEY (releasing the mouse)  |
| Uh, funny you should ment           | LOUIE tion mice.   |
| tower that stand<br>again, a wind u | a moment to fully assess where it is they've landed. The ominous ds before them is a frightening shape, baring the seal of the mage; up mouse, of which is carved into the upper dome. Several mice the grass and over foot. |
| That is his seal, is it not?        | ROSE   |
| That's disgusting! Vile crea        | YUSSLER tures.   |
| Aww. Is the big man afraid          | LOUIE of a little tiny baby mouse?   |
| I'm not afraid! Just keep tho       | YUSSLER ose things away from me!   |
| Fog's rolling back in.              | JONES  |
| Everyone get inside.                | CAPTAIN  |
| After you my good man.              | KANAKA<br>(To Wiley)   |
| No, no after you you.               | WILEY  |
| I insist.                           | KANAKA   |
|                                     |  |

| Well I insisted first.                               | KANAKA (CONT'D)   |
|--|---|
| Move.  | LOUIE AND JONES   |
| Enter within the lightho<br>roof has collapsed after | e leading the group inside the haunting building. They puse cupola. Many of the windows have shattered and the intense exposure to the elements. The beacon and all the ently darkened. The crew shivers as a splintered wind syed walls. |
|  | KANAKA  |
| (winded)   |   |
| So. Many stairs.                                     |   |
| Don't be a baby.                                     | LOUIE   |
| I see the maid ain't done her job in t               | WILEY he last century.  |
| This whole building is falling apart.                | ROSE  |
| What does the compass say?                           | JONES   |
| It's being rather unclear at the mome                | NELSON<br>ent.  |
| Everyone fan out. There's bound to                   | CAPTAIN be something of worth here.   |
| The crew begins to expl<br>ROSE and YUSSLER by       | ore the upper sky deck. CAPTAIN meanwhile restrains y their shirt collars.  |
| Not you two. You're with me.                         | CAPTAIN (CONT'D)  |
| This again? The boat's all the way d                 | ROSE own at the beach. Where is it you think we'd run off to?   |
| (calling o   | LOUIE<br>out)   |

KANAKA

JONES There's an old cot. I think he might have lived here.

Find anything?

Just glass here.

|        | LOUIE |
|--------|-------|
| Alone? |       |
|        |       |

(muffled, eating a mouse)

I found another mouse.

**YUSSLER** 

WILEY

Would you stop that? It's disgusting!

**CAPTAIN** 

Where's Nelson gone?

Almost hypnotically, NELSON stands before the center beacon of the lighthouse. As he inches closer to the light, the metal in his skin appears to glisten brighter.

**NELSON** 

*The center of the mechanism.* 

ROSE

What's he babbling about over there?

**NELSON** 

This is it!

**JONES** 

The beacon?

**NELSON** 

Something the old mage said!

(To Kanaka)

Here, help me move this.

NELSON and KANAKA pull back a series of old panels

NELSON (CONT'D)

You think there'd still be power in this building?

**LOUIE** 

After the thousands of years it's stood here? I doubt it would even-

NELSON pulls the handle of the mechanism. A whistle sounds and cogs begin to shift and coil.

LOUIE (CONT'D)

-turn on.

The machine whirs to life as a dullish beam of light flickers on in the center chamber, fading from a rusty orange to a shimmering purple. A gust of air radiates in the room as magical energy spindles around them.

**JONES** 

Well I'll be damned.

| You were right.   | NELSON   |
|---|--|
| I'm gonna lick it.  | WILEY  |
|   | o restrain WILEY from approaching the magical beam. In a six diverted from ROSE and YUSSLER                        |
| Are you insane!?  | LOUIE  |
| Is that even a question?  | WILEY  |
| No one goes near that beacon! Not                                 | CAPTAIN until I've ensured it's safe.  |
| Seems a bit strict.   | ROSE   |
| ROSE suddenly reached handing one to YUSSL                        | s forward, ensnaring two pistols from the CAPTAIN's belt, ER.  |
| And controlling. Are you certain yo                               | ROSE (CONT'D)<br>ou don't have a problem?  |
| She fires one into the a  | ir. The crew recoils in shock.   |
| What are you doing?   | JONES  |
| Take it easy with that thing.                                     | LOUIE  |
| Lower that firearm! Now!  | CAPTAIN  |
|   | ROSE , aren't we? That's all you pirates ever seem to do. All ing and drinking and fun but now I've had just about |
| Would you stop behaving like a chi                                | JONES ld and think about what you're doing?  |
| Believe me, I have thought long and Bartieheire at my fingertips. | ROSE d hard about what I might do with the great power of  |
|   | NELSON   |

That magic doesn't belong to you!

#### ROSE

Perhaps not. But you are just as unworthy of it as I. And to believe otherwise makes you as much a fool as the rest them!

ROSE rips the glove from her hand, holding it up to the light.

# ROSE (CONT'D)

The years I have spent a prisoner to this curse. *No more*. Keep a watchful eye on them Mr. Yussler. Should they behave irrationally, you have my full permission to shoot.

Entranced, ROSE begins to approach closer to the rays of magic.

WILEY

I wouldn't do that!

**CAPTAIN** 

You have no idea what that level of energy is capable of!

ROSE

Then count yourself lucky it is not you who must discover it.

**JONES** 

This is madness! For all we know it could kill you!

ROSE

A forcible death is better than a life like this.

**NELSON** 

Just wait, don't!-

Their protests fall deafly upon ROSE who reaches her hand into the purple mass. It hideously distorts before absorbing into her body with a shrilled echo. The lights flash an assortment of colors, blindingly before quieting back to a gentle purple. Beat.

**JONES** 

Rose? Are you alright?

Another beat.

ROSE

A minor setback.

ROSE turns to face the group, revealing the sheen of metal which now trails from her hand, up her arm and shoulder to her face. The skin melts and peels around her eyes and mouth in a horrifying shape.

**NELSON** 

Oh good god!

ROSE

The machine Cranston. Off with it.

# YUSSLER

Of course

YUSSLER returns to the lever, switching off the mechanism. The purple glow of the magic diminishes back into a small flame. Still present, but now contained in a smaller, more manageable bulb.

ROSE

Take it.

YUSSLER

But are you sure it won't-

ROSE

I said take it!

Terrified, YUSSLER reaches a shaky hand into the machine, removing the bulb and passing it to ROSE. It frighteningly continues to pulse in her hand, much like a human heart. Beat.

ROSE (CONT'D)

(To Nelson)

This is your doing.

**NELSON** 

Me!?

ROSE

How did you do it? Tell me!?

**NELSON** 

I haven't done anything, I swear!

LOUIE

Leave him alone!

**JONES** 

It's my fault. I brought him here, he has nothing to do with this.

ROSE

Petty little thief. Pulling one last trick before his unremarkable end!

ROSE aims the pistol at NELSON, however, as she pulls the trigger. JONES pushes him off, taking on the bullet for herself. CAPTAIN rushes to her aid.

**CAPTAIN** 

Are you alright?

**JONES** 

Fine. Really, it's fine.

**CAPTAIN** 

Takes this.

CAPTAIN takes a handkerchief and presses it into JONES' side of which leaks a pitch black oil.

**ROSE** 

(To Nelson)

Be grateful my sister is so quick on her feet.

KANAKA

That or you're just a lousy shot.

**LOUIE** 

John! Shut it!

ROSE

Cranston! Tie them up. You're leaving.

YUSSLER begins binding the crew's hands, and then to each other.

YUSSLER

To where madame?

ROSE

A scrap yard will do until I've found a greater purpose for them. Take the lifeboats to the southern trainyards. And leave the boy. That compass may still be of use to me.

YUSSLER

What will you do?

ROSE grabs JONES from the floor, holding the gun to the underside of her jaw.

ROSE

My sister and I have some business to attend to at home.

**JONES** 

Whatever you want. Just leave them out of it.

**CAPTAIN** 

If she dies, I will kill you!

**JONES** 

William, let it be.

ROSE

A pleasure as always Captain.

LOUIE

Untie me! I can take her!

WILEY

Get your hands off me grub!

KANAKA

This isn't over!

YUSSLER drags the crew offstage by their roped hands. ROSE slowly approaches NELSON, forcefully grabbing the compass on his arm.

| Where to?                   | ROSE   |
|-----------------------------|--|
| You've gone mad.            | NELSON   |
| Have I now?                 | ROSE   |
| So long as she lives, there | NELSON<br>e is hope for us yet.  |
| NELSON reg<br>against her w | rets his words, looking down to see JONES is struggling in the fight cound.  |
| Hope dies with her Mr. B    | ROSE   |
| Blackout.                   |  |
| SCENE 3                     |  |
| CAPTAIN, ar                 | le sounds. What remains of the crew, KANAKA, LOUIE, WILEY, and the tied to the floor of a transport train. YUSSLER stands against a the car, scowling out the moving window. |
| Is everyone alright?        | LOUIE  |
| Little dent in me shoulder  | WILEY is all. Nothing a little grog can't fix.   |
| William?                    | KANAKA   |
| Fine enough.                | CAPTAIN  |
| Beat.                       |  |
| Jo will be fine. You know   | LOUIE her, she's tough as nails.   |
| Nails?! Where!?             | WILEY  |
|                             | LOUIE  |

Shut up.

| If Josephine has gone with Rose to I                                   | CAPTAIN Bartieheire, then she is already dead.  |
|--|---|
| You don't know that.   | KANAKA  |
| Well if not yet then she might as we                                   | CAPTAIN<br>ll be.   |
| A long beat.   |   |
| I'm sorry I've failed you all. A Capta                                 | CAPTAIN (CONT'D) ain is meant to be strong. Courageous. A leader intent to-                     |
| Boo! What is this?   | WILEY   |
| I'm making a rousing speech-   | CAPTAIN   |
| Your speech stinks!  | WILEY   |
| Not helping.   | LOUIE   |
| You remember when we met Willy? tell me lefts from me rights. You know | WILEY Pack in Brokeshire? I was so stinking drunk I couldn't ow what else I did that night?     |
| You'd fell in the loo?   | CAPTAIN   |
| No, not that! I met me best mate. My nothing. Never backed down from a | WILEY y Captain. My man, who ain't never been afraid of ifight! Never could handle his alcohol! |
| Here, here!  | KANAKA  |

YUSSLER

KANAKA I says we strap that snake to the back trolly and ride the rail to its end.

Hey! Quiet back there!

Beat.

WILEY (whispering)
So what are we gonna to do about it?

LOUIE

Or we knock the lights out of him and book it to the morrow!

**WILEY** 

What say you Captain?

**CAPTAIN** 

We blow up the train.

LOUIE KANAKA

Excuse me? Pardon?

**CAPTAIN** 

We blow up the train!

WILEY

Now you're thinking like a genius!

**KANAKA** 

Are you crazy?

**CAPTAIN** 

Only moderately.

**LOUIE** 

You'rre sure that's a good idea?

A beat.

**CAPTAIN** 

Wild? How might we go about it?

WILEY

Way ahead of you Cap.

WILEY twists his shoulder from which a mouse emerges out from under his shirt collar.

KANAKA

How long has that thing been in there?

WILEY

Since we left the tower. I thought I might get hungry.

WILEY ushers the mouse behind him. It cleverly chews through the ropes, freeing WILEY's hands. From there, he unlocks a chamber in his chest where in he takes out a colorful explosive that smells like gas and drips a green-ish slime.

WILEY (CONT'D)

I've been saving this beauty for a special occasion. I call her 'The BIG KABOOM'

LOUIE

You had that all this time?

| So what if I did?   | WILEY   |  |
|---|---|--|
| You couldn't have set it off before we  | KANAKA e were kidnapped?                                |  |
| I told you! I was saving it for a speci   | WILEY al occasion!                                      |  |
| We need to get to the engine. Louisa  | CAPTAIN<br>, you'll take charge from there.             |  |
| Not a problem. But how are we supp  | LOUIE posed to get past him?                            |  |
| They all look to YUSSLE   | ER who is oblivious to their entire interaction.        |  |
| I may have an idea.   | WILEY   |  |
| (To Yussle Hey skinny!? Got a present for ya!   | er)   |  |
| How dare you address me as-   | YUSSLER   |  |
| Unexpectedly, WILEY launches a piece of rope of which the mouse confuses for cheese. It barrels towards YUSSLER who is immediately terrified!                                     |   |  |
| Agh! A rodent!  | YUSSLER (CONT'D)  |  |
| As YUSSLER leans down to avoid the mouse, WILEY snatches the sword from YUSSLER's belt with his teeth. After a simple toss to CAPTAIN, the crew manages to escape their bindings. |   |  |
| I told you he was afraid of mice!   | LOUIE   |  |
| Not the time Louisa.  | CAPTAIN   |  |
| Run for it!   | KANAKA  |  |
|   | YUSSLER he Queen hears of this! She'll have your heads! |  |
|   | WILEY menacingly)                                       |  |

CAPTAIN

Bomb bomb bomb!

Not yet.

| But the fire!   | WILEY   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Not yet!  | KANAKA  |  |
| But my bomb!  | WILEY   |  |
| Unconsciously, WILEY  | lights the fuse of the explosive.                                       |  |
| Wiley!  | LOUIE   |  |
| What? What did I do?  | WILEY   |  |
| A loud explosion sound around them. Blackout.   | s. The sound of shattering metal and glass radiates                     |  |
| SCENE 6   |   |  |
| We return to the cold, domed room within the Rose Garden Factory. NELSON is again imprisoned helplessly at the hanging place; his autonomous-ness now visibly affects his neck and small parts of his face. JONES unexpectedly begins to stir, still dangerously wounded. |   |  |
| Shrimp? Still alive up there, are you   | JONES<br>n?   |  |
| Much to my chagrin. And you?  | NELSON  |  |
| It hurts if that is what you're asking.   | JONES   |  |
| I don't doubt that. Nor do I understa   | NELSON and it?  |  |
| Well you are a bit daft so that's quite   | JONES e possible.   |  |
| Why did you save me?  | NELSON  |  |
| I didn't.   | JONES   |  |
| There's a bullet lodged in your ches to be in mine?   | NELSON t? You know that. Of course you know that. But it's <i>meant</i> |  |

| JONES    |  |
|----------|--|
| JONES    |  |
| uhlesome |  |

Everyone is worth saving. Even troublesome little shrimp.

NELSON

I'm not certain how I feel about that.

**JONES** 

You don't like *shrimp*? I thought it was a rather clever name-

**NELSON** 

I meant "everyone is worth saving." I want to believe that's true. But there are people who make such a conviction impossible.

**JONES** 

People like my sister?

**NELSON** 

People like me...You saved my life today. And I am bothered.

**JONES** 

Don't be.

**NELSON** 

How can I not!? You're dying!

**JONES** 

So are you?

**NELSON** 

What's the plan then?

**JONES** 

There isn't one.

**NELSON** 

Then think of something! Say anything! Try everything, like you always do!...Jones? Jo!?

No answer. JONES lies motionless on the metal floor.

NELSON (CONT'D)

Hey! You can't fall asleep, that's not fair! I have no idea what I'm doing, please!

A beat passes as a dark chill rushes through the air. All is quiet for a moment. Then a familiar purple glow haunts the stage. THE MAGE Enters.

THE MAGE

Such is the consequence of man. Never listens. Never learns.

**NELSON** 

You again?

THE MAGE

I told you I would return Nelson Bagley. When you had failed.

| But I haven't failedHave I?   | NELSON  |
|---|---|
| The wind has returned me here. So   | THE MAGE it is true.  |
| Well, I did my best.  | NELSON  |
| You did not.  | THE MAGE  |
| Alright. I <i>tried</i> my best.  | NELSON  |
| It is all a man may do.   | THE MAGE  |
| So what now?  | NELSON  |
| Now there is nothing.   | THE MAGE  |
| But there can't be nothing?   | NELSON  |
| There is.   | THE MAGE  |
| Then why are you here? Come to last thing I need at the moment.           | NELSON augh at my inadequacies because, to be honest, that is the                   |
| SOMETHING   | THE MAGE  |
| Is that a good thing? To be frank, y you're saying-                       | NELSON ou speak in riddles so often, I nearly never know what it is                 |
| Are you haunted?  | THE MAGE  |
| You see what I mean?  | NELSON  |
| The curse sows about, swiftly throu Images in your skull. The past return | THE MAGE agh the skin. Pollutes the heart. Yearns for the brain. rns for vengeance. |

 $MARION\ Enters,\ tormenting\ NELSON.$ 

| Do you remember our mother?  | MARION   |
|--|--|
| Marion?  | NELSON   |
| Sometimes if I wear her shoes and                                      | MARION robes, I can almost see her face.   |
| Keep her away from me spirit! Hav                                      | NELSON ve you not tormented my mind enough!?   |
| I have no power here. Tis one's own                                    | THE MAGE ns fears that illustrate such pained illusions.                                     |
| You never let me leave the house!                                      | MARION Are you even listening to me?   |
| Pictures companion the changing.                                       | THE MAGE   |
| I just wanted to see the countryside                                   | MARION! Is that so much to ask?  |
| Get out of my head.  | NELSON   |
| I myself saw flashes of youth amid phantom of a boy. The court jester. | THE MAGE st the evolution. Magic creeps in, and likewise, the Mocked. Scorned and poisonous. |
| Go away!   | NELSON   |
| I'm dying Nelson, but do not believ                                    | MARION re that makes me naïve!   |
| I'm not-   | NELSON   |
| The slow dance of automation which                                     | THE MAGE ch takes its toll. Brandishes you. Disgusts the world.                              |
| You're going to leave me here, I kn                                    | MARION<br>ow it!   |
| Stop it, just stop!  | NELSON   |
| MARION fades away like raining mist. Beat.                             |  |
| I'm going insane.  | NELSON (CONT'D)  |

| It won't be long now. The curse near   | THE MAGE rs your heart.                                      |
|--|--|
| Why must you call it that? A curse   | NELSON when it is not?                                       |
| So are your own words. Do you det  | THE MAGE ny it?  |
| No!No I do not deny it. But such I am no more.   | NELSON were the words of a man from ignorance. A man of whom |
| Beat. The MAGE stands taller.  |  |
| Find the compass at your hand.   | THE MAGE   |
| Outreaching his arm, The MAGE locks hands with NELSON at the elbow. A light mist of purple drips upward of their arms. |  |
| You have done well Nelson Bagley   | THE MAGE (CONT'D) of Devonshire.                             |
| Just Nelson is fine.   | NELSON   |
| Perhaps there is time for you yet to   | THE MAGE awaken.   |
| ROSE, from offstage:   |  |
| Didn't you hear me?  | ROSE   |
| What?  | NELSON   |
| I said wake up!  | THE MAGE   |
| SCENE 6  |  |
| In a thrusdamara flach   | NELSON and the MAGE disappear IONES awakens from             |

In a thunderous flash, NELSON and the MAGE disappear. JONES awakens from the floor with a start as ROSE Enters.

**ROSE** 

You're looking worse for wear.

**JONES** 

I could say the same to you. There's a hole where your face used to be.

## ROSE

Do not assume this frees you from scorn. Soon all of Bartieheire will know what you've done.

#### **JONES**

What I've done? Half the city is in ruins because of you! People are starving and dying! Burned in a fire that will never be put out!

ROSE

It's for the best.

**JONES** 

Best for who? For all those people you've killed or for yourself?

ROSE

All I ever did was try to help you! To help all of you!

JONES

You cannot heal where there is nothing to cure.

ROSE

Everyone is suffering! They are all miserable and I am miserable! Even you cannot deny that!

**JONES** 

Their suffering has no correlation to who they are! It is you who denies them of their happiness!

ROSE

And it is you who fuels their hopeful ignorance! What will become of them when their hero is slaughtered before their very eyes!

**JONES** 

Killing me may satisfy your lust for death but it will not turn the turn in your favor. I am not my people.

ROSE

We shall see. The reaper comes more swiftly than you might think.

**JONES** 

What happened to you? What happened to my sister? Why could we not be normal and fight without the threat of death, what have I ever done so wrong to you?

Long Beat.

ROSE

Father thought you were beautiful. He loved what you were. Autonomous. Shiny metal and brass cogs. Not me though, I was only human. Hardly enough for him.

**JONES** 

That's not true-

#### **ROSE**

It wasn't fair how he treated you. The way he cared, so much!...I thought were a late flower in bloom. That in time the sheen would surface and he would love me, equally as so. But it didn't...I took my dagger, the one he'd promised to me and I sliced the skin from my hand, digging for something that was never there...It was easy. Like carving into the sand...You should have seen father's face when I showed him. He was frightened of me...Sad. (#16 THE LAST ROSE OF SUMMER/ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE)

**JONES** 

You never told me that.

ROSE

It's funny. All our life, this was all I'd ever wanted. Now I have it...And I just want it to go away.

'TIS THE LAST ROSE OF SUMMER LEFT BLOOMING ALONE, ALL HER LOVELY COMPANIONS ARE FADED AND GONE. NO FLOWER OF HER KINDRED, NO ROSE BUD IS NIGH, TO REFLECT BACK HER BLUSHES, AND GIVE SIGH FOR SIGH.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Your death is going to be beautiful. Poetic even...I'm sorry it must be this way.

**JONES** 

You do what you must.

THE SISTERS

SO SOON MAY I FOLLOW
WHEN FRIENDSHIPS DECAY,
AND FROM LOVE'S SHINING CIRCLE
THE GEMS DROP AWAY!
WHEN TRUE HEARTS LIE WITHERED
AND FOND ONES ARE FLOWN
OH! WHO WOULD INHABIT
THIS BLEAK WORLD ALONE?

ROSE Exits

**JONES** 

ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE, ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE.

JONES (CONT'D)

ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE. ANOIS AR THEACHT AN TSAMHRAIDH!

ALL

ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE, ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE, ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE, ANOIS AR THEACHT AN TSAMHRAIDH'

LOWER VOICE ANOIS AR THEACHT AN TSAMHRAIDH!

**JONES** 

'SÉ DO BHEATHA A BHEAN BA LÉANMHAR, B' É ÁR GCREACH TÚ BHEITH I NGÉIBHINN, DO DHÚICHE BHREÁ I SEILIBH MEIRLEACH... IS TÚ DÍOLTA LEIS NA GALLAIBH!

ALL

ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE, ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE, ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE, ANOIS AR THEACHT AN TSAMHRAIDH!

**JONES** 

TÁ GRÁINNE MHAOL AG TEACHT THAR SÁILE, ÓGLAIGH ARMTHA LÉI MAR GHARDA, GAEIL IAD FÉIN IS NÍ GAILL NÁ SPÁINNIGH... IS CUIRFIDH SIAD RUAIG AR GHALLAIBH! A BHUÍ LE RÍ NA BHFEART GO BHFEICEANN

MUNA MBÍONN BEO INA DHIAIDH ACH SEACHTAIN, GRÁINNE MHAOL IS MÍLE GAISCÍOCH... AG FÓGAIRT FÁIN AR GHALLAIBH!

ALL

ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE, ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE, ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE,

**JONES** 

ANOIS AR THEACHT AN TSAMHRAIDH!

ALI

ANOIS AR THEACHT AN TSAMHRAIDH! ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE, ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE, ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE, ANOIS AR THEACHT AN TSAMHRAIDH!

ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE, ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE, ÓRÓ 'SÉ DO BHEATHA 'BHAILE, ANOIS AR THEACHT AN TSAMHRAIDH!

The tune ends in the town square of all Bartieheire. Drums pound as Autonomous and human crowds alike have gathered before the hanging place in which JONES is forced to kneel to.

ROSE

Let hope die with you.

ROSE raises her sword above her head. As she slices down however, something interrupts her strike. JONES looks up to see NELSON standing above her, now fully Autonomous. He holds up a wooden shield, severely damaged by ROSE's heavy blow.

**NELSON** 

Hi.

**ROSE** 

You're alive?

**NELSON** 

Unfortunately. Whoa!

ROSE begins to attack NELSON who runs with the shield from her.

NELSON (CONT'D)

Perhaps we can take a brief pause? I hadn't thought this far ahead!

ROSE

Hold still!

**JONES** 

Focus!

**NELSON** 

I'm trying!

**JONES** 

Where are the others?

**NELSON** 

I thought they were with you?

As if on cue, an obnoxious train whistle bellows. There are brief seconds for all to react before what remains of an old locomotion comes barreling through the city square. It slides dangerously before hideously screeching to a halt!

From Offstage:

**WILEY** 

Bombs away!

CAPTAIN, LOUIE, KANAKA, and WILEY emerge from the wreckage, as well as crowds of other automatons. A battle ensues as dozens of armed militia guards storm the grounds.

WILEY (CONT'D)

That's right, burn! The lot of yas!

WILEY continues to throw explosives giddily as LOUIE and KANAKA circle around a group of guards.

LOUIE

You take the one's on the left. I'll get em on the right.

KANAKA

Got it!...Which one's left again?

**LOUIE** 

That way!

KANAKA aims his pistol to the right, hitting nothing!

LOUIE (CONT'D)

You're other left!

KANAKA

I told you, I was confused!

The two Exit as the sword battle between ROSE and NELSON barges the stage. JONES gives directionals from the ground.

**JONES** 

Center! Parry! Schivar di vita!

**NELSON** 

What does that even mean?

**JONES** 

Whatever you want! In-the-Round!

ROSE

Don't help him!

**NELSON** 

Please help me!

CAPTAIN Enters the fight.

**CAPTAIN** 

(To Nelson)

Mind if I cut in?

ROSE

Finally! I was starting to get bored with such a lousy opponent.

**NELSON** 

Hey!

**CAPTAIN** 

Don't take it to heart boy! Enjoy the fun!

| NI<br>What fun? I'm not having any fun!                | ELSON  |
|--|--|
| CA<br>(stumbling)<br>Really? I'm quite extatic myself. | APTAIN   |
| NI Are you drunk?                                      | ELSON  |
| I may have had a cup of ale on the dera                | APTAIN iled train ride over.                               |
| NI Oh this is bad. This is really, <i>really</i> bad   | ELSON<br>!   |
| Perhaps it would go over better if you v               | APTAIN<br>would help me!                                   |
| The fight ventures offstage                            | as YUSSLER Enters frazzled followed!                       |
| You're an animal!                                      | USSLER   |
| LOUIE Enters, holding a n                              | nouse outstretched in her hand.                            |
| L(<br>Animal? I'm sorry, I thought you said I          | OUIE<br>was an amateur!                                    |
| Get away from me with that thing?                      | USSLER   |
| LO Why? It's just a disease harboring verm             | OUIE<br>in!  |
| No no no no!   | USSLER   |
| As they cross to Exit, JONE Claude on the ground.      | ES Enters, still clutching her side. She spots Jean-       |
|  | ONES ne next time you decide to commit an act of arson ask |
| WILEY Enters, now covered in ash.                      |  |
| Paghrwghra!  | ILEY   |
| You alright Wild?                                      | ONES   |

| Set off me dynamite whilst was in m   | WILEY ne pocket?                              |  |
|---|---|--|
| Are you hurt?   | JONES   |  |
| Not at all! It made the most beautifu   | WILEY l sound, so I did it again!             |  |
| As WILEY Exits, KANAKA rushes on in his place.  |   |  |
| Hey, have you seen William?   | KANAKA  |  |
| They've been forced back into the fa  | JONES actory.                                 |  |
| Well who's helpin em?   | KANAKA  |  |
| Us I suppose.   | JONES   |  |
| The two Exit as we return travel back to the Rose Garden Factory where ROSE and YUSSLER hold CAPTAIN and NELSON |   |  |
| Walk!   | YUSSLER                                       |  |
| I am walking, take it easy!   | NELSON  |  |
| Shall we kill them now?   | YUSSLER                                       |  |
| Patience Cranston. It's not a party w   | ROSE ithout everyone invited.                 |  |
| JONES, KANAKA, and LOUIE Enter, their weapons drawn.  |   |  |
| We're not late, are we?   | JONES   |  |
| You see? Same sense of humor. Imp   | ROSE peccable timing sister. How's your side? |  |
| How's your face?  | JONES   |  |
| The rest of you may go. This is between   | ROSE veen us.                                 |  |
| We're not leaving.  | LOUIE   |  |

| It wasn't a request.  | ROSE  |
|---|---|
| Oh leave them be. Unless you're a   | JONES afraid to fight me in front of an audience?   |
| Not at all. In fact, you're right. It formuch more enjoyable seeing the d | ROSE teels much more appropriate to do so publicly. I'll find it devastation in their eyes when I kill you. |
| 10 paces then?  | JONES   |
| Are you certain this is wise?   | YUSSLER   |
| You're already injured?   | KANAKA  |
| ROSE<br>I'll handle it.   | JONES<br>I'll handle it.  |
| Then it's decided. Back to back the                                       | YUSSLER<br>en.  |
| She's going to get herself killed.  | CAPTAIN   |
|   | in the center of the room, hand ready at their pistols. The form a circle around them.                      |
| On my mark. 10. 9.  | YUSSLER   |
| I can't watch.  | NELSON  |
| 8. 7.   | YUSSLER   |
| Who idea was this?  | LOUIE   |
| 6. 5  | YUSSLER   |
| Ready yourselves.   | CAPTAIN   |
| 4. 3. 2-  | YUSSLER   |
| Before he reaches one   | e, WILEY storms into the room completely out of breathe!  |

| Wild! What are you doing?   | CAPTAIN   |
|---|---|
|   | WILEY entaliating)  |
| The- Wha- Bom- In th- Agh-  |   |
| What the hell is he saying?   | ROSE  |
| The- pro-lbm-   | WILEY   |
| The what?   | JONES   |
| (wheezin  | WILEY<br>ng)  |
| Problem.  |   |
| What problem?   | LOUIE   |
| Suddenly, the whole room shakes knocking everyone off their feet. Explosions rumble in the distance as the building begins to collapse around them. |   |
| I may have lit one too many explosi   | WILEY ives.   |
| You idiot! You've killed us all!  | NELSON  |
| Not yet he hasn't. Everyone to the d  | CAPTAIN<br>oor!   |
| Another explosion sounds and more pillars crumble just beside them.   |   |
| Quickly!  | CAPTAIN (CONT'D)  |
| Magic. I have to go back for the ma   | ROSE gic.   |
| There isn't time!   | YUSSLER   |
| But I need it!  | ROSE  |
|   | ut the room as it fills with a heavy smoke. As the company hanging beam begins to shrink over the entrence. |

| (To Wile Help me with this!   | NELSON<br>y)       |
|---|--------------------|
| I've got it.  | WILEY              |
| I'm going back.   | ROSE               |
| Forget it! Come with me, now!   | JONES              |
| You don't understand-   | ROSE               |
| I do, but we have to go!  | JONES              |
| Josephine!  | CAPTAIN            |
| I'll meet you all out there!  | ROSE               |
| Jo!   | CAPTAIN            |
| Don't you dare go back in there! Ro   | JONES<br>ose! Hey! |
| Before JONES can catch her, ROSE runs back towards the factory center.  |                    |
| To me! Now!   | CAPTAIN            |
| But she's gone back-  | JONES              |
| CAPTAIN begins pulling JONES onward towards the beam where NELSON and WILEY continue to struggle under it's weight. They manage to keep it above enough time for them to escape. The beam hits floor with a thunderous crack as another explosion sounds in the distance. Beat. |                    |
| Is everyone alright?  | CAPTAIN            |
| Eh. Nothing a little grog can't fix.  | WILEY              |
| No. No more grog.   | CAPTAIN            |

LOUIE steps towards KANAKA. Seeing a gash across his head, she hands him a loose towel

**LOUIE** 

Here. You're bleeding.

KANAKA

Am I?

**LOUIE** 

From a bit of shrapnel no doubt. I could fix you up though.

The remaining crew begin to rest and survey the damage around them. JONES however, doesn't move of which NELSON notices before approaching her.

**JONES** 

I lost the magic.

**NELSON** 

Couldn't be helped.

**JONES** 

But I've broken our deal?

**NELSON** 

Yes, well- Should have anticipated that. You are a no good pirate after all.

**JONES** 

That I am.

Beat.

**NELSON** 

Are you alright?

**JONES** 

Ask me tomorrow?

**NELSON** 

Rose made her choice. This end is to her fault alone.

**JONES** 

I know that.

**NELSON** 

And yet you are still sad? After all that's been done?

**JONES** 

She was still my sister.

Beat. NELSON sits beside her, talking out his sketchpad which has been charred by the recent fires.

### **NELSON**

Marion used to say I was fool for carrying this around wherever I'd went. Suppose she was right in the end. But good things can come from the bad. Now they'll be new airships to see. New adventures to be had.

**JONES** 

In America?

**NELSON** 

Good God no. I hear they're on the brink of some sort of Depression. I think it best to wait a few years. Let their financial troubles run it's course before moving forward. And you?

**JONES** 

I don't know. My sister is dead. Bartieheire is on fire. Our ship is in ruins, and my sister.

**NELSON** 

One day at a time Jones.

**JONES** 

One day at a time. (#14 The Parting Glass)

ALL

NA NA NA, NA NA NA NA NA NA, NA NA NA

NA NA

NA, NA

NA NA

NA NA

NA NA

LOUIE

OF ALL THE MONEY THAT E'ER I HAD

 $\mathsf{ALL}$ 

I SPENT IT IN GOOD COMPANY

**CAPTAIN** 

AND ALL THE HARM I'VE EVER DONE

ALL

ALAS, IT WAS TO NONE BUT ME

KANAKA AND LOUIE

AND ALL I'VE DONE FOR WANT OF WIT

KANAKA (CONT'D)

TO MEMORY NOW

ALL

I CAN'T RECALL

WILEY

SO FILL TO ME THE PARTING GLASS

ALL

**GOOD NIGHT** 

**JONES** 

AND JOY BE TO YOU ALL

**ALL** 

NA NA NA, NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA

**NELSON** 

OF ALL THE COMRADES THAT E'ER I HAD

ALL

THEY'RE SORRY FOR MY GOING AWAY AND ALL THE SWEETHEARTS THAT E'ER I HAD

**NELSON** 

THEY'D WISH ME ONE MORE

ALL

DAY TO STAY
BUT SINCE IT FELL INTO MY LOT
THAT I SHOULD RISE AND YOU SHOULD NOT
I'LL GENTLY RISE AND SOFTLY CALL
GOOD NIGHT AND JOY BE TO YOU ALL
SO FILL TO ME THE PARTING GLASS
AND DRINK A HEALTH WHATE'ER BEFALLS
THEN GENTLY RISE AND SOFTLY CALL
GOOD NIGHT AND JOY BE TO YOU ALL
SO FILL TO ME THE PARTING GLASS
AND DRINK A HEALTH WHATE'ER BEFALLS
THEN GENTLY RISE AND SOFTLY CALL
GOOD NIGHT AND JOY BE TO YOU ALL
GOOD NIGHT AND JOY BE TO YOU ALL

#### NELSON AND JONES GOOD NIGHT AND JOY BE TO YOU ALL

The crew stands atop the hill, watching the once great factory of Bartieheire burn and fall to the ground. It's comforting in a way. For great destruction may bring about overwhelming peace.

BLACKOUT. END OF PLAY

## Down Among The Dead Men

















### Roll The WoodPile Down











# Hanging Johnny/The Maid of Amsterdam







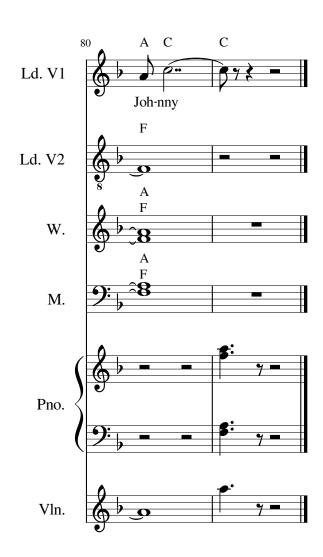












## South Australia







Pno.

Con. BD











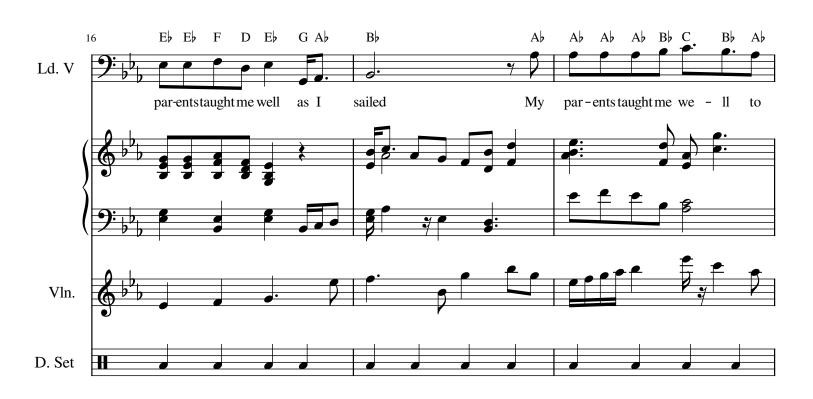


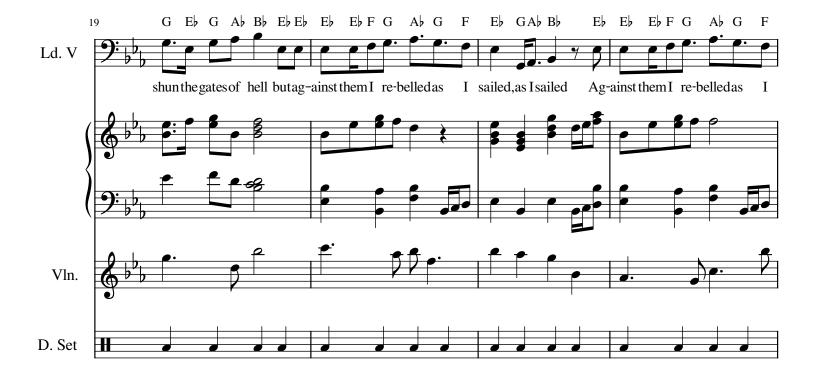


## Captain Kidd







































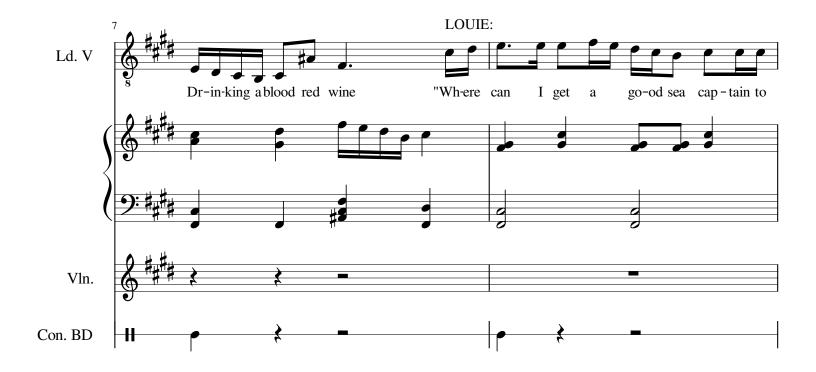


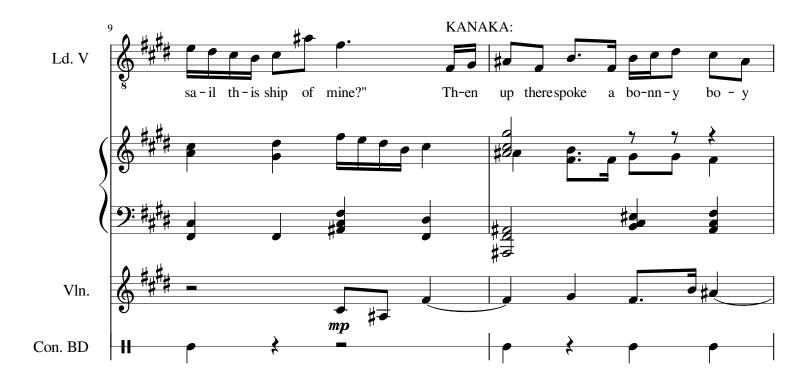


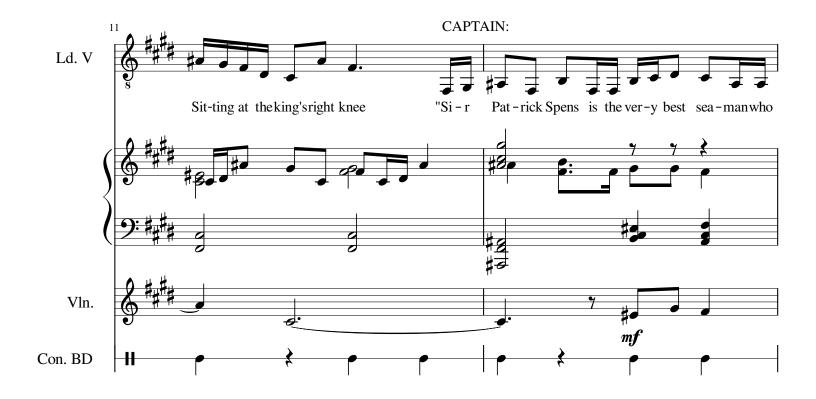
## Sir Patrick Spens

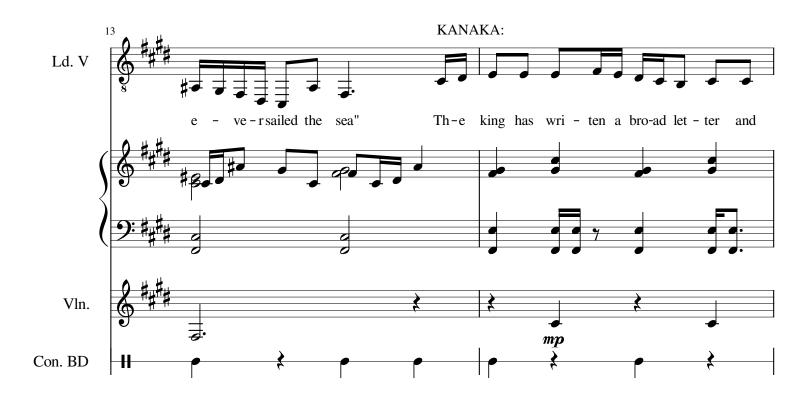


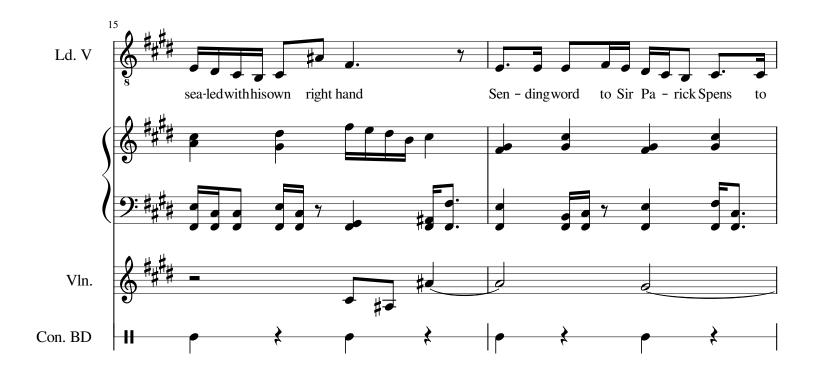












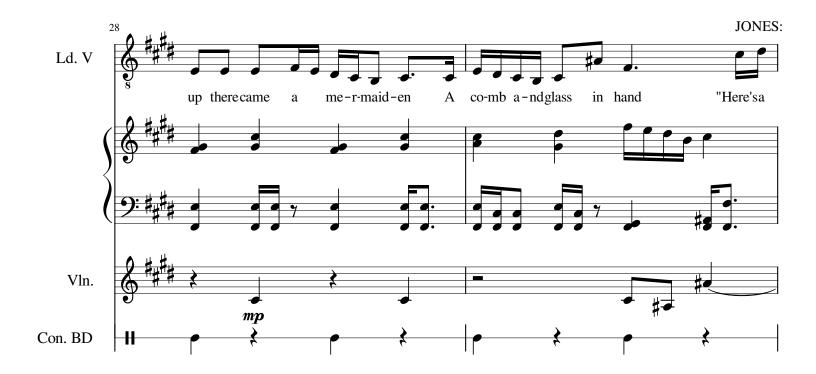






























































## One More Day





Con. BD

























## 9. Bully in the Alley

Tori Cavallo































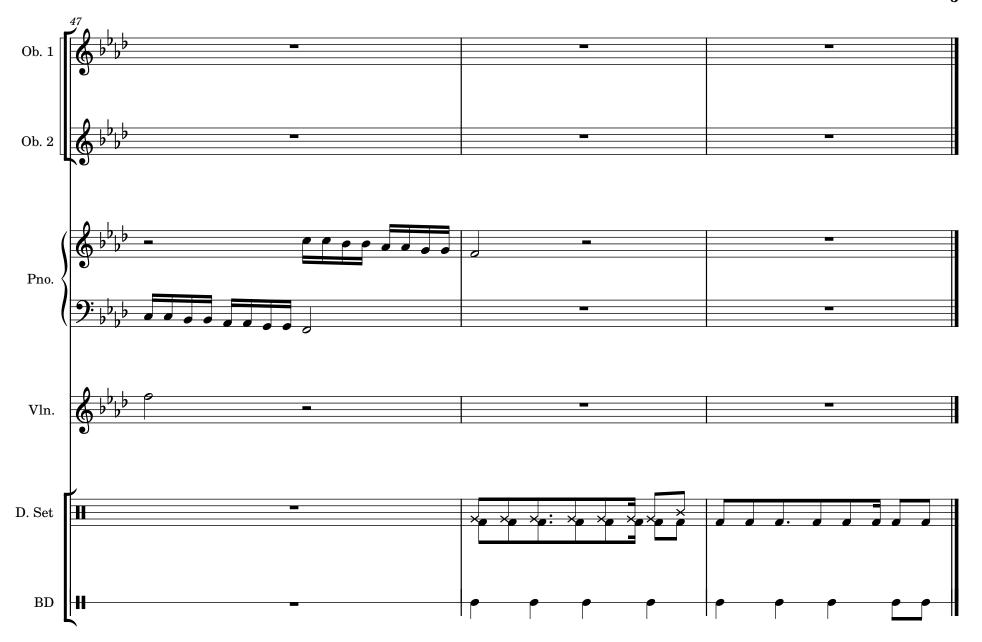
## Bonny Boat/Drop of Nelson's Blood











## Byker Hill









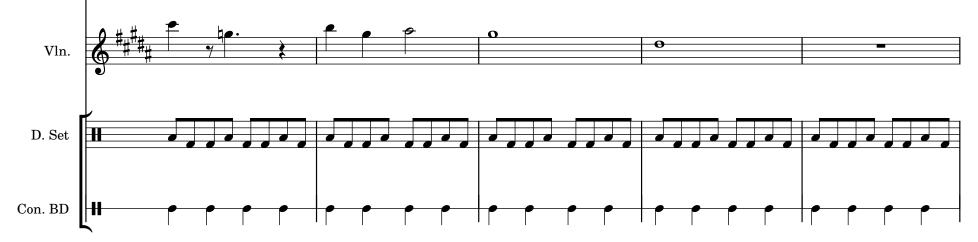














Con. BD

## The Last Rose of Summer/Oro' se do bheatha bhaile



























## The Parting Glass

Finally The End

Tori Cavallo









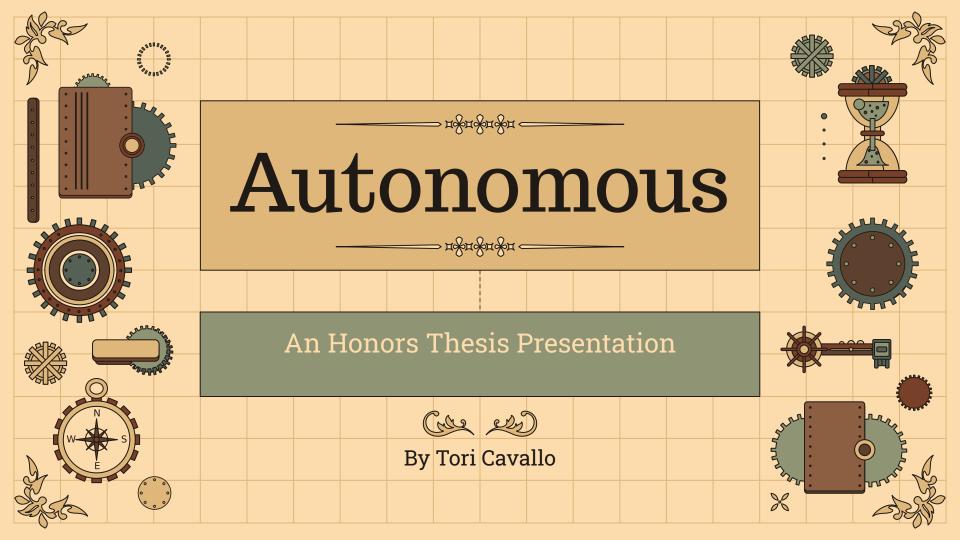


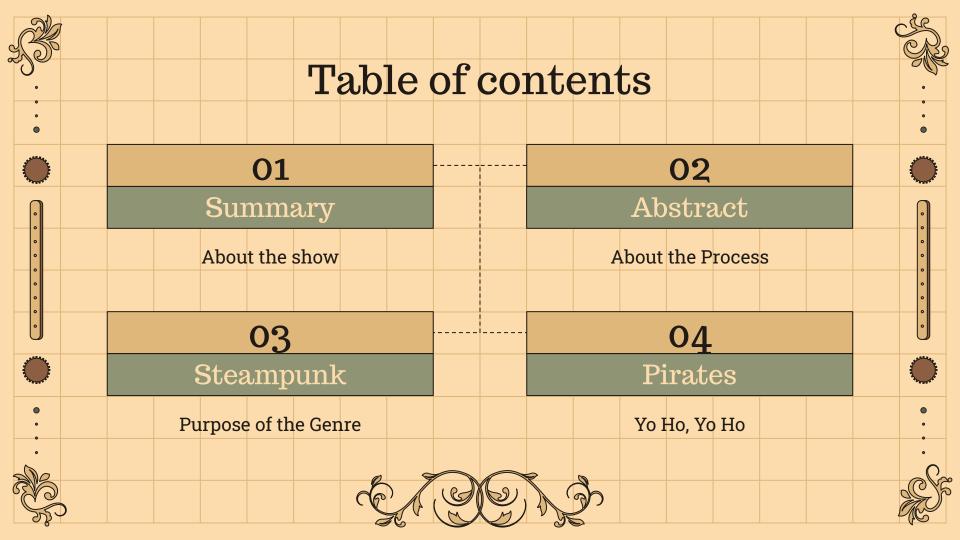


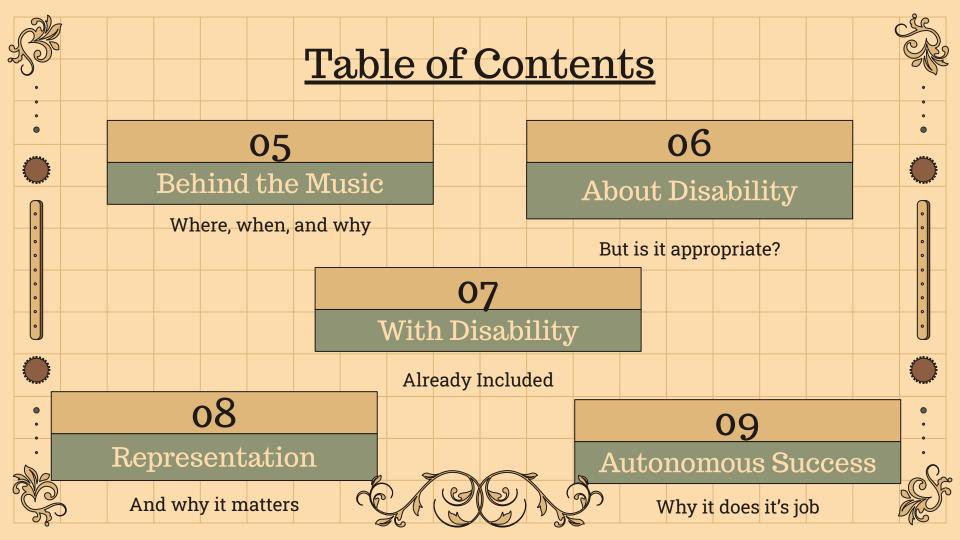
















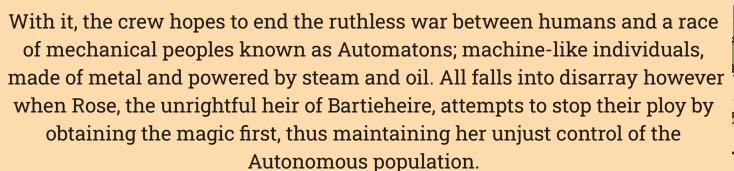
#### A Summary



To the unsuspecting eye, Nelson Bagley is an upstanding Victorian fellow.



However, after being discovered by a crew of questionable pirates as a successful pickpocket, Nelson is tempted by the promise of good coin and worthwhile adventure to assist in their quest to discover the long-lost magic of the Great Mage of the Kingdom of Bartieheire.





20

Featuring renowned Celtic songs and shanties from the land and sea,
AUTONOMOUS is a story of unheard voices; exploring the promise of hope,
the crazed mind of a pirate, and the ideal that limitation does not define
who we are.







## Autonomous





### By Formal Definition:

a: undertaken or carried on without outside control : SELF-CONTAINED

**b**: existing or capable of existing independently

**c**: responding, reacting, or developing independently of the whole







## Autonomous





#### By My Definition:



Within context of the disabled community, these definitions gain a whole new meaning

AS A WHOLE
SELF-CONTAINED
INDEPENDANT

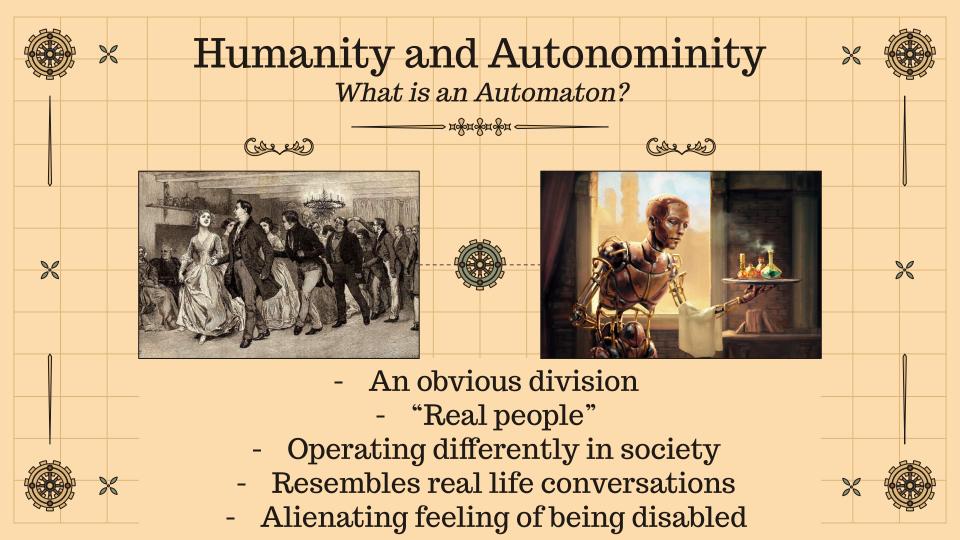
The stereotype that ALL disabled individuals being completely dependant on the able-bodied is FALSE

The assumption of INABILITY
The assumption of LAZINESS
The assumption of CODEPENDENCY
The assumption of FRAGILITY
The assumption of INFANTILISM



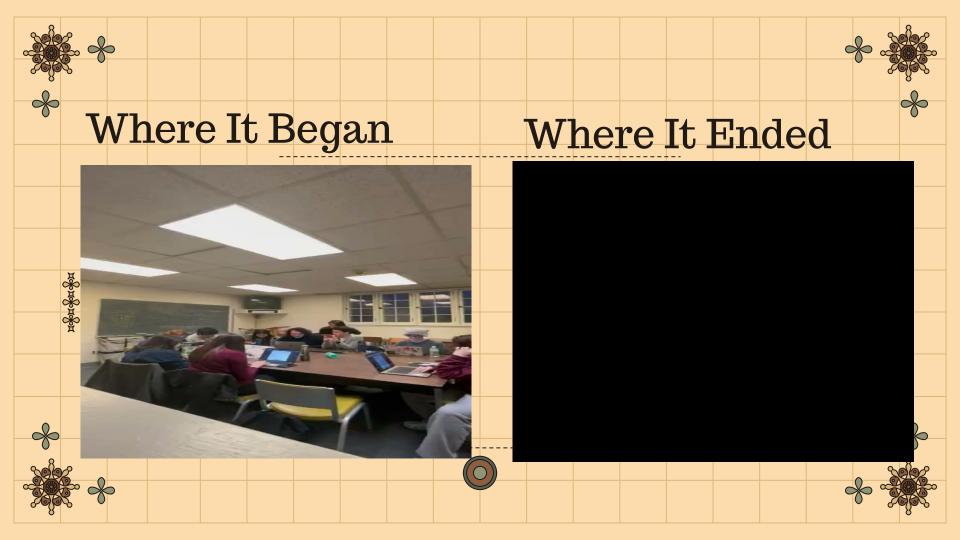




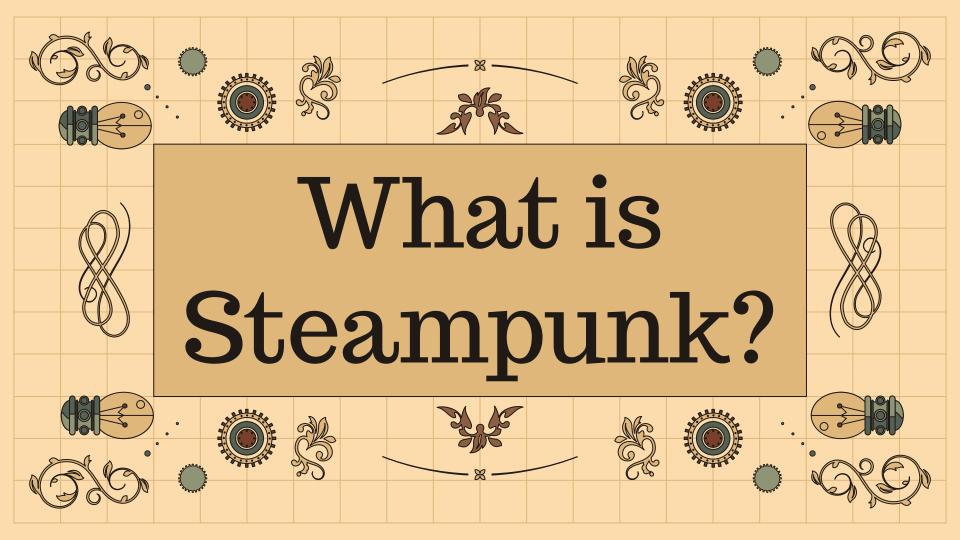


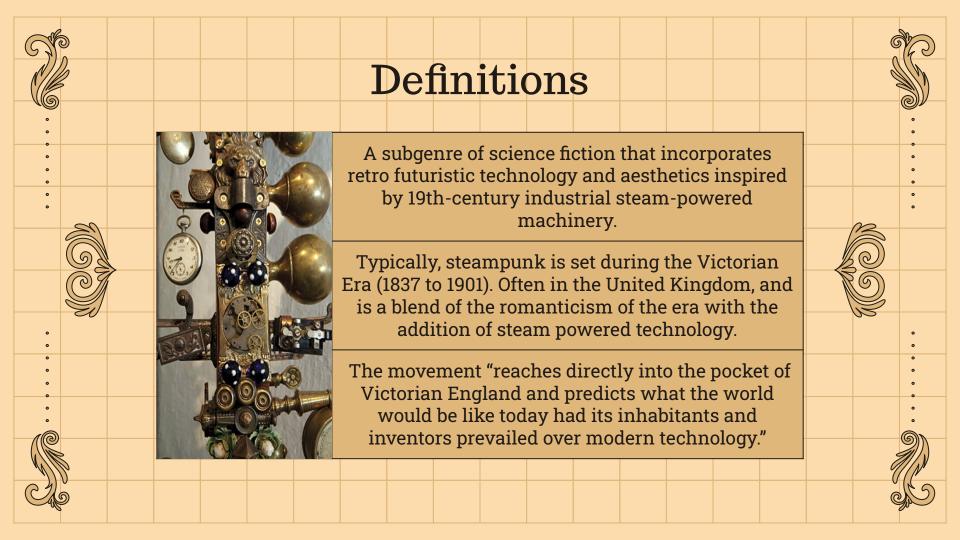


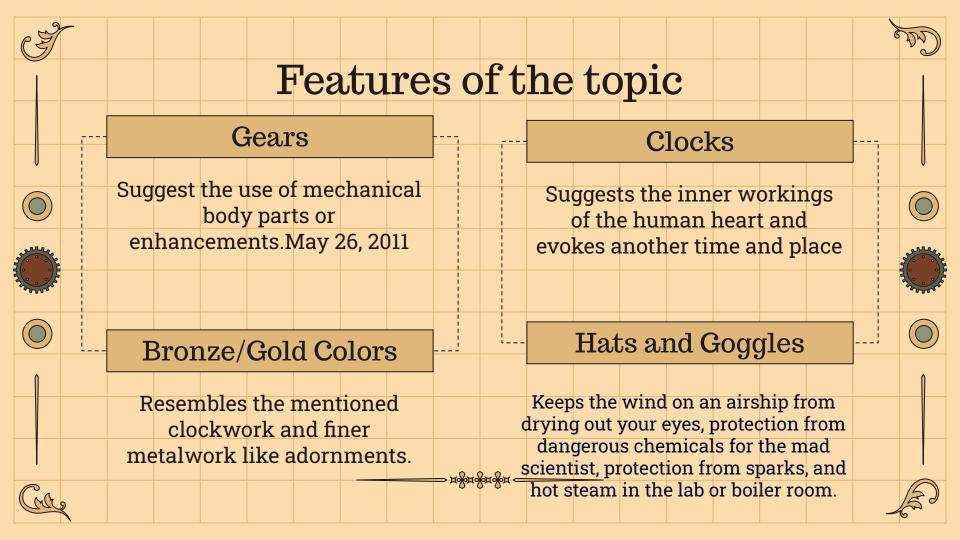


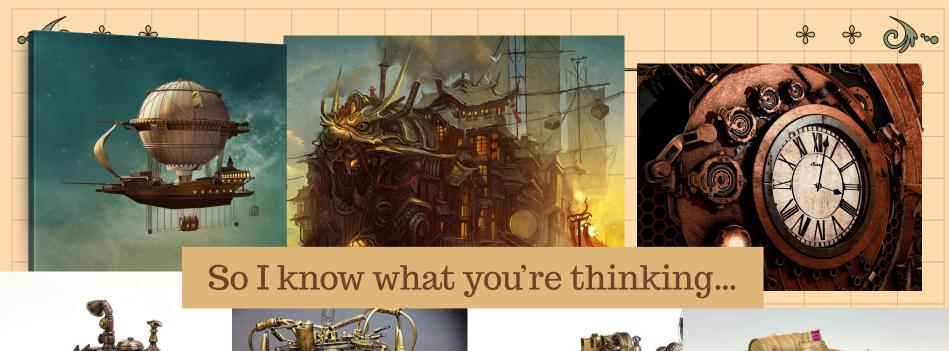








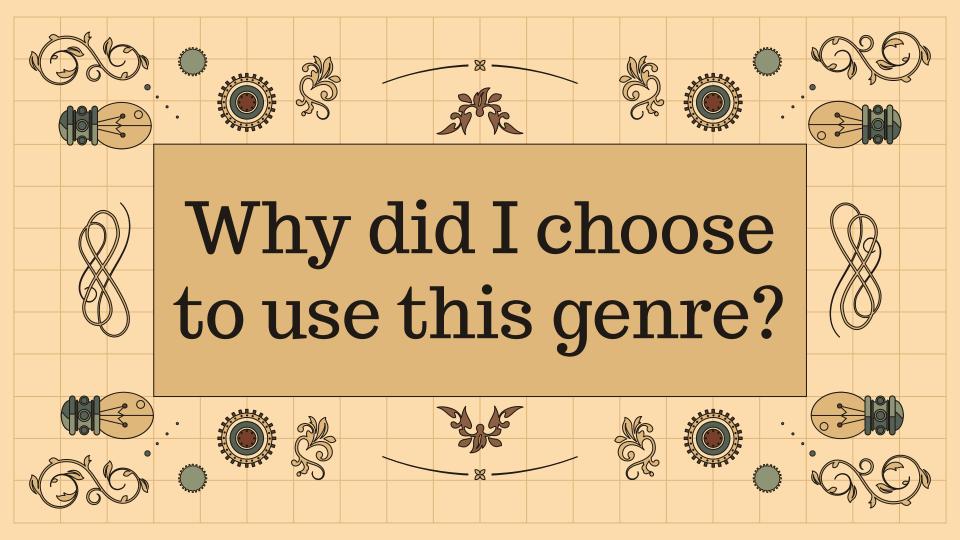




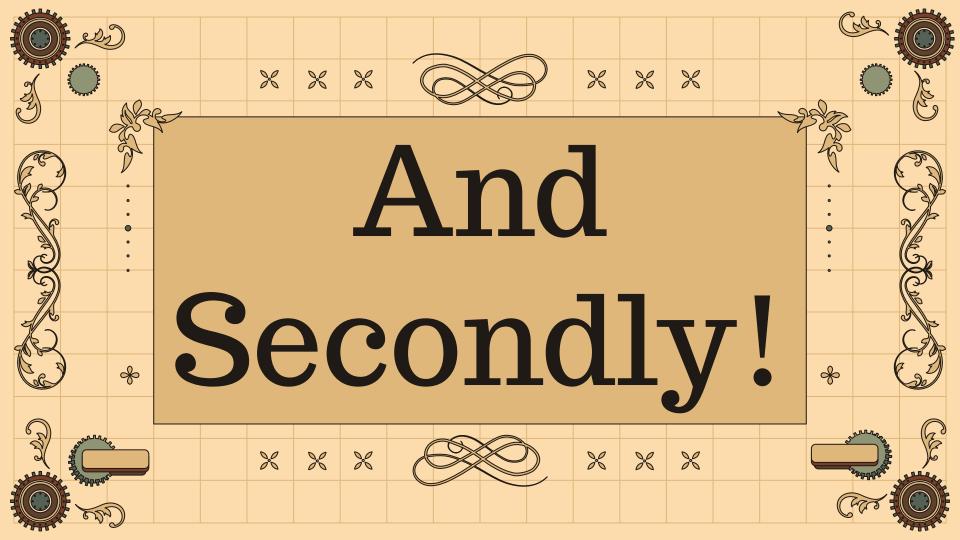














# Disability in Victorian England





Victorians, if you would believe it, had strong opinions about people of the disabled community



For example, a religious pamphlet from 1848 stated, "Some boys laugh at poor cripples when they see them in the street. Sometimes we meet a man with only one eye, or one arm, or one leg, or who has a humpback. How ought we to feel when we see them? We ought to pity them."



{ Burned in a fire that will never be put out }



A combination of fear, pity, discomfort and an idea of divine judgement.





#### Other Important Facts

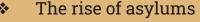












- Reformers claimed that an asylum would be a safe place where 'lunatics' could be cured and 'idiots' taught
- The Industrial Revolution
- Had a dramatic impact on the English landscape.
- Towns, factories, railways and mills quickly replaced the ancient fields and villages.



- The Guild of the Brave Poor Things
- a social club for people with disabilities.
- Guild members received a bright red membership card emblazoned with the logo - a crutch crossed with a sword – and the motto "Laetus Sorte Mea", which translated from Latin as "happy in my lot".

















# ARRGG!









#### What Lead to a Life of Piracy?





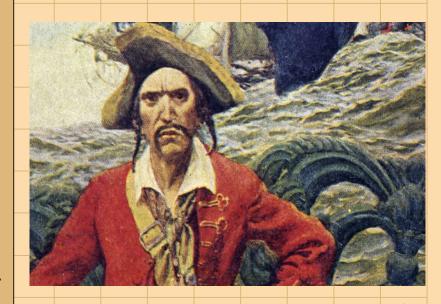


Poor urban areas Search of ways to make money

London:
high unemployment
crowding
poverty

Farmers forced off their lands
Small business forced out by larger
corporations

Offered a quick path to vast riches and higher status













#### Outcasts of the Sea









#### i-need-that-seat:

#### iapollogise:

I love pirates because they have no concept on albeism. oh you have no leg? here have a peg leg. no hand?? well guess we gotta put a hook on that, give those sons of the a surprise. Blind in one eye, put an eyepatch on no one cares, youre deaf??? go man the canons you glorious bastard. They dont care if youre disabled bcus as long as you can feel bit up they literally dont

I never thought about it this way. This is beautiful.

The personification of evil

Disability Insurance:

Organized pools of money

Remain a member of the crew: Cooking/Deck Cleaning







#### Real Life Inspirations





#### <u>Captain Kidd</u>

Scottish Privateer

defending American and English trade routes with the West Indies

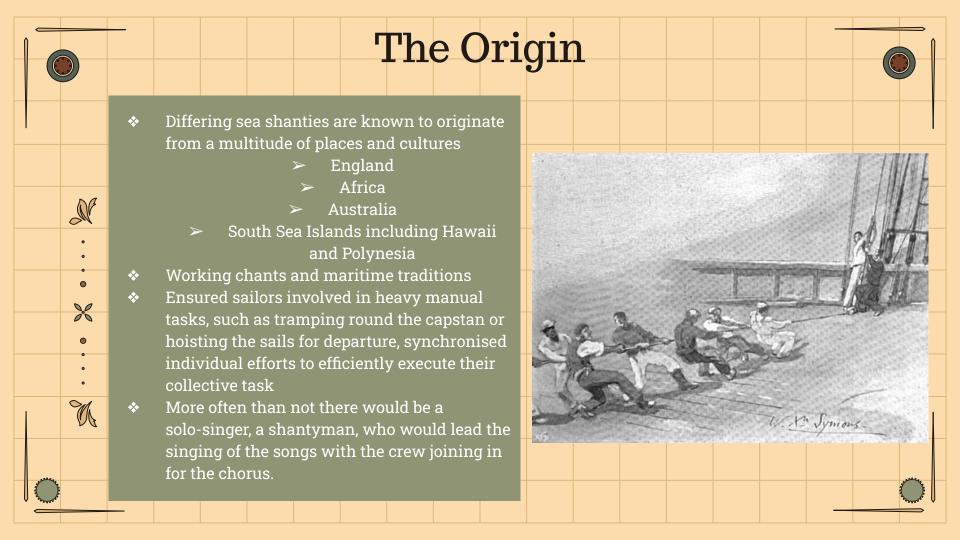
Mission was to rid the sea of pirates

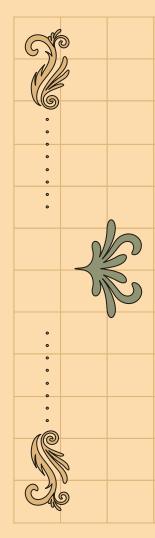
Would also take every opportunity to capture any enemy ships that had valuable cargo.

His crew forced him to turn pirate himself

He was later arrested via a rigged trial and found guilty of the murder of one of his crew and guilty of multiple acts of piracy.

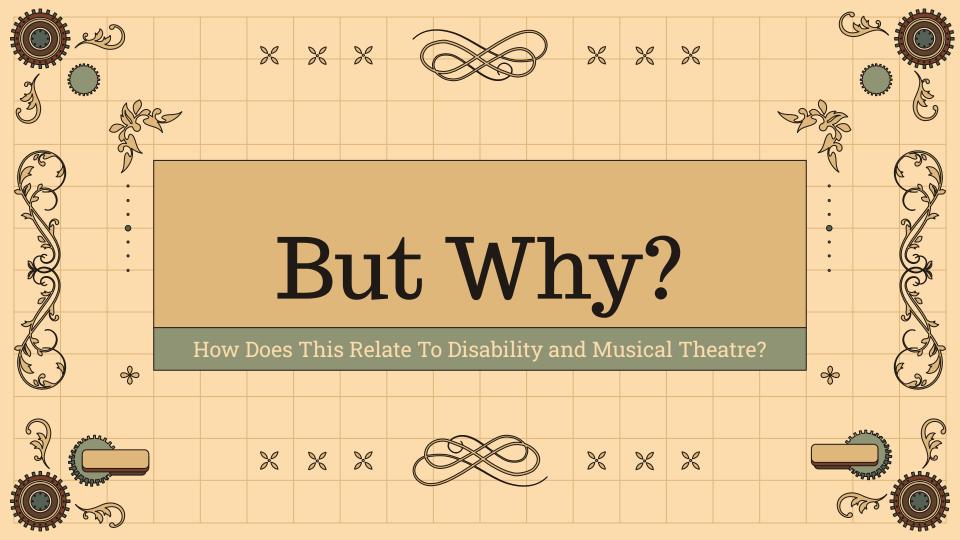






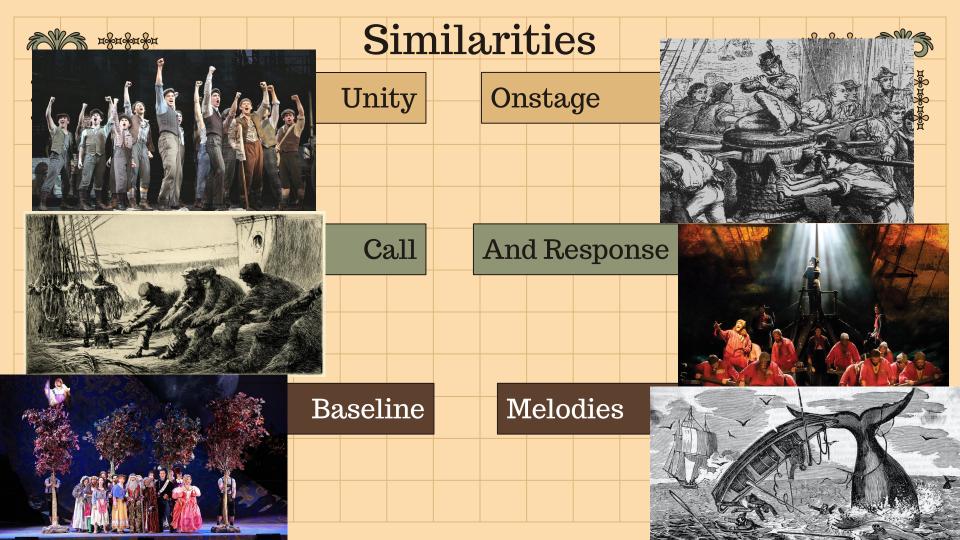
## Types of Sea Shanties

| Short Haul/Short Drag     | Simple songs sung when only a few pulls were needed   |   |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| Windlass/Capstan Shanties | Which synchronized footsteps in jobs such as hoisting anchor  |   |
| Halyard Shanties          | For jobs such as hoisting sail,<br>in which a pull-and-relax<br>rhythm was required   | ( |
| Whaling Shanties          | They were singalong songs, measured to the rhythm of working men, exhorting them to climb rigging, haul ropes, scrub decks, chase whales. |   |
|                           |   |   |









#### Some fun Sea Shanty Facts





#### **Drop of Nelson's Blood**

Another Name For Rum

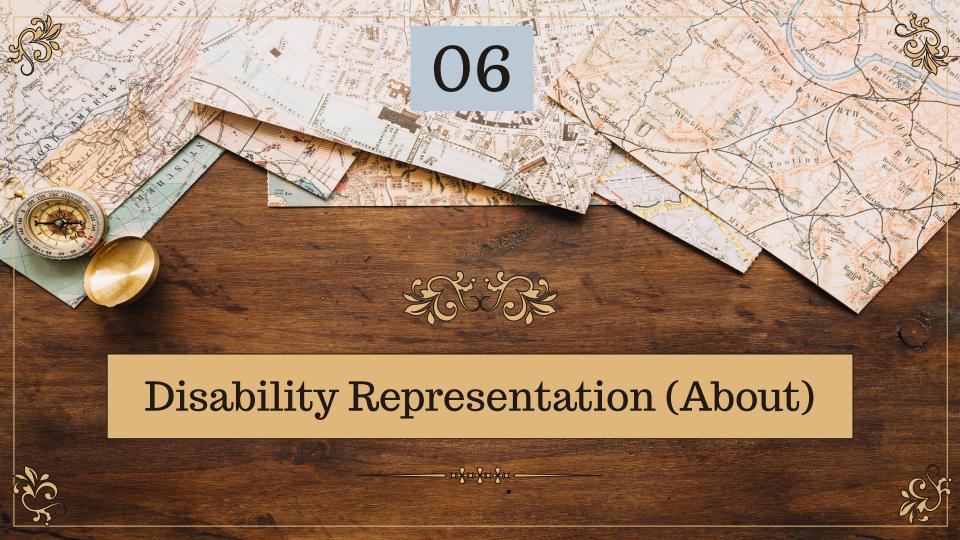
Legend: Admiral Nelson

Died in the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805

His body was preserved in a cask of Spirits

Holes drilled into the sides and the liquid drained

Did they accidentally drink it? Probably, but who can say for sure















They're INACCURATE!





- Michael Arden wore prosthetics and makeup to portray Quasimodo
- Michelle Federer is NOT a wheelchair user → when Nessa stands from her wheelchair, the audience applauds, where they subconsciously award her for curing her disability
- Alex Sharp, who originated the role for Christopher is Not Autistic

But is that even important?









# Are They Effective?

### 1. Hunchback 2018

5th Avenue Theatre Seattle Joshua Castille as Quasimodo and E.J. Cardona as the Voice of Quasimodo

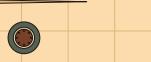
Finally brought a disabled actor to the role Effectively showcased the character's inner voice

00

It is worth stating that Castille is still an able-bodied person thus the portrayal is not completely accurate

HOWEVER
I love this production and it's a win in my opinion





### Are They Effective?





### 2. Spring Awakening

2015 Revival

Deaf West

"Total access to theater—bringing classic and contemporary theater works to deaf audiences by incorporating ASL, and heightening or enhancing the theatrical experience for hearing audiences through this same device"

First Wheelchair User Performer to ever appear on Broadway

LET'S BE HONEST

It shouldn't have taken until 2015 to put disabled actors onstage

Let's Be So Honest



## Are They Effective?



#### 3. Oklahoma

2015 Revival

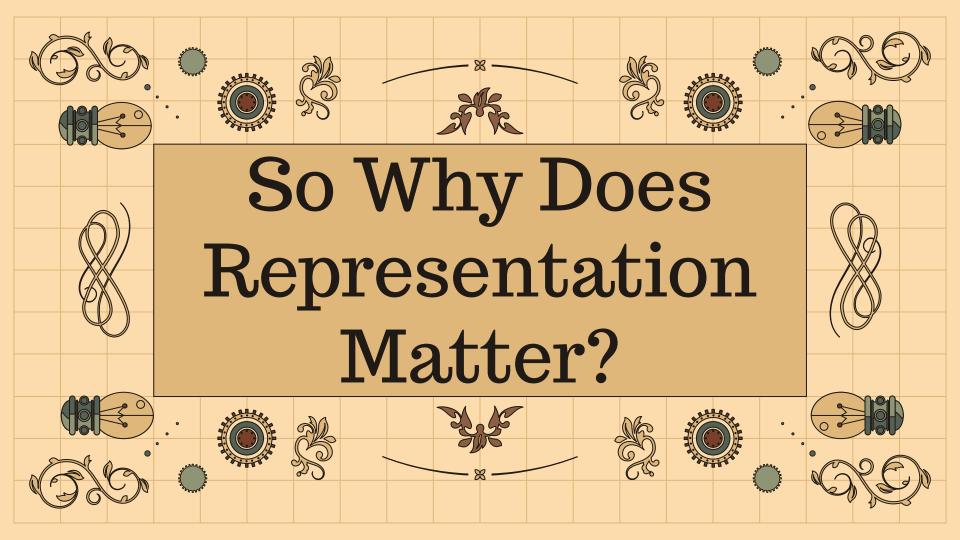
Advocated for the ability to have disabled actors on stage and in roles that may not have originally been intended for someone like

#### DID YOU KNOW

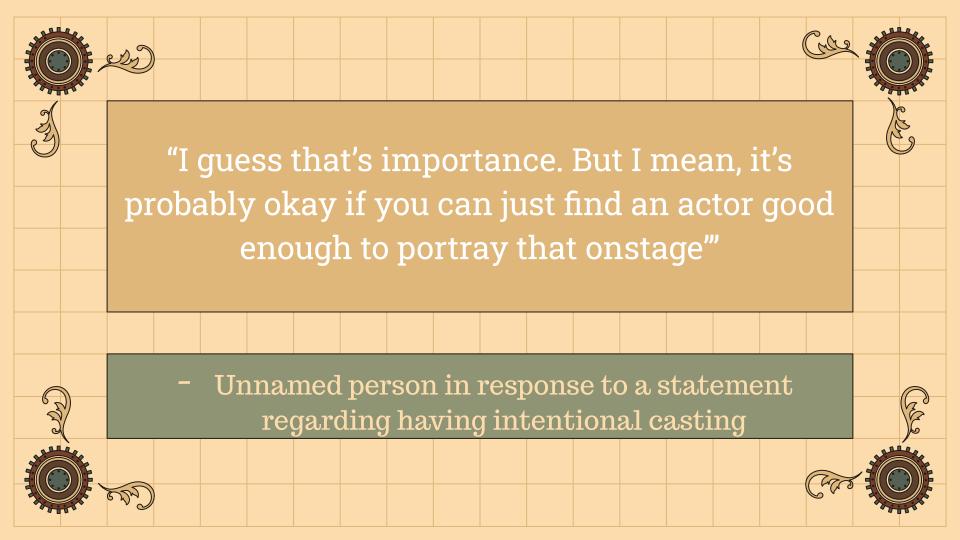
At said Tony Awards in which Stroker was a nominated/winner that evening, there was no ramp that "had been built to connect the audience seating area to the main stage...she had to wait in the wings on stage in case she won in her individual category. Then when "Oklahoma!" won Best Revival of a Musical, Stroker could not join the rest of the cast and crew on stage to accept the award"

Showcases the inaccessibility of Broadway theatre and their spaces

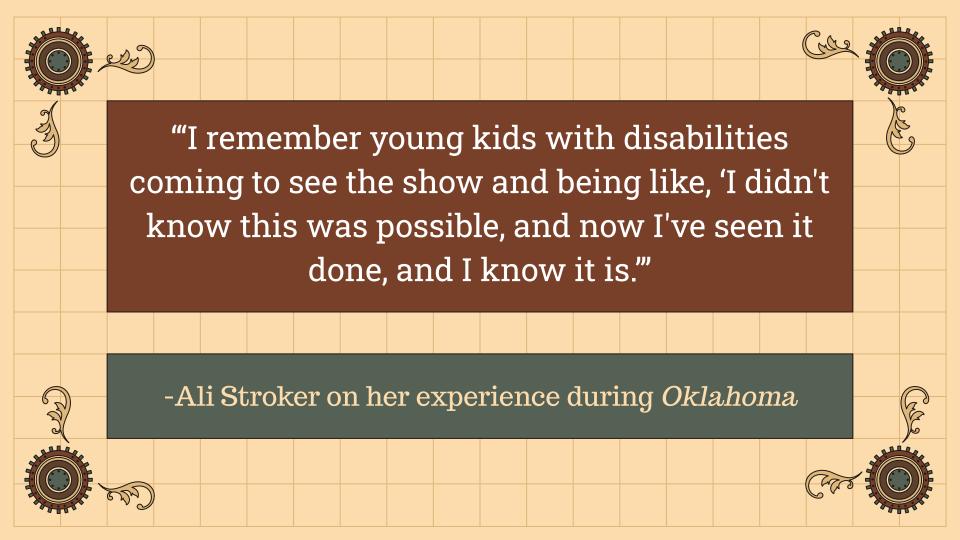


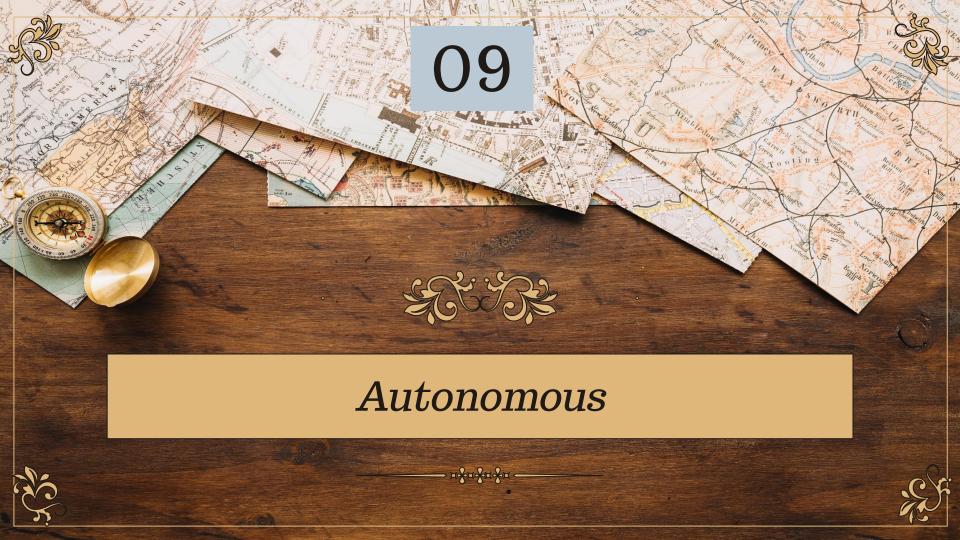


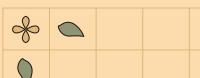












# Original Drafts











In its early drafts, the characters were assigned to a specific type of disability Captain: Prosthesis User

Jones: Neurodiversity

Nelson: Heart Conditions

Louie: Deaf/Hard of Hearing

Kanaka: Wheelchair/Mobility Device User

Wiley: Blind/Hard of seeing

Rose: Unspecified/Internalized Ableism

Yussler: Instigator









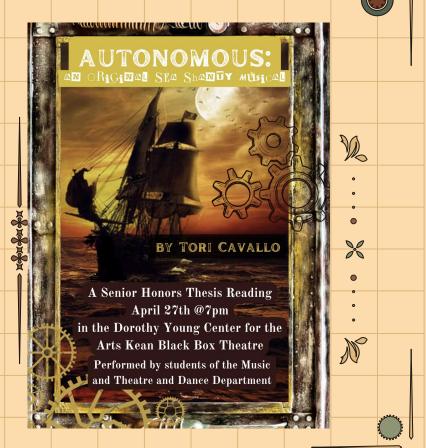
### **Newer Renditions**

Less strict on assigning specific roles

Let it come from the actor/Casting

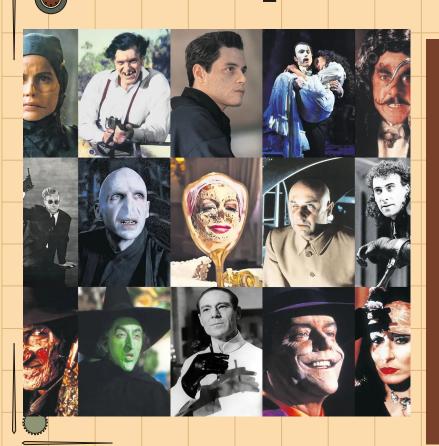
Self-Identify with of the characters

Ideal Casting/Creative Team



### Imperfection As The Ideal





Disability as The Villain

Explored Rose's Character Journey

TW:

Self-Mutilation to achieve the ideal image of her father

Internalized Ableism

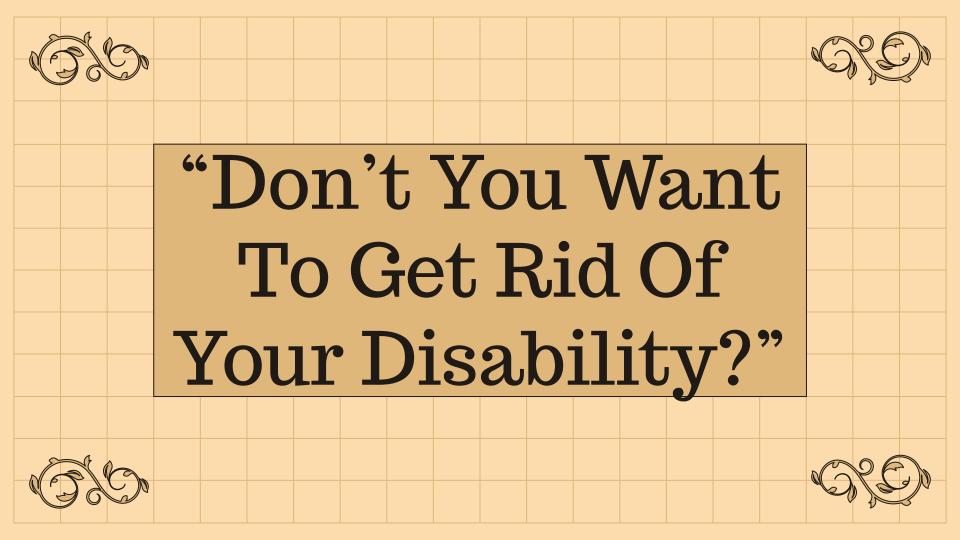
"I'm Broken and Need to be Fixed"

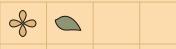
"I'm asking for too Much"

"People Will Think I'm Incompetent"

"I'm Not Good Enough"

"I'm a Burden"



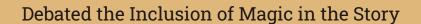


### The Cure: Magic









Explores the Topic of Curing Disability Rather
Than Embracing It

Perpetuates the idea that having a disability is shameful

Cure for ABLEISM!

 $\textbf{Magic} \rightarrow \textbf{A ignorant and blissful obsession}$ 

Nelson versus Rose

