



Dramaturge Presentation

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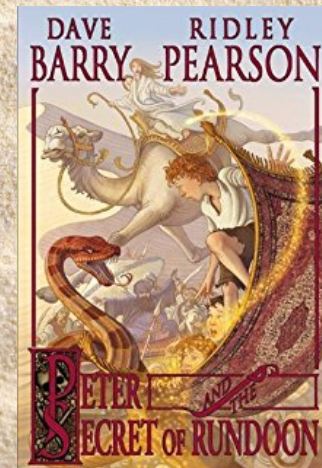
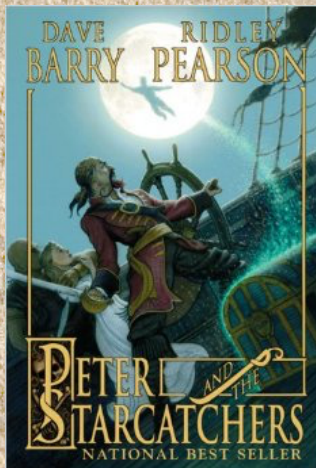
Peter and the Starcatcher

SCAD Performing Arts

2017

The Play: Basic Facts

- Written by Rick Elice
- Directed by Tony-Award nominees Alex Timbers and Roger Rees
- Performed at:
 - La Jolla Playhouse
 - Off-Broadway
 - Broadway: Brooks-Atkinson
 - Tour and Las Vegas
 - Now performed everywhere
- Adapted from the book series, *Peter and the Starcatchers*, written by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson






Now for the show and its
historical context!

Keep an eye out for Peter's red feather— important fun facts will be beside them!



Victorian Society

➤ Monarch: Queen Victoria

 **Fun Fact:** 1885 was a “crucial year in the reign of Her Majesty” because Victoria was growing old and sick. Her people were realizing her time on the throne was ending, so when her name was mentioned anywhere, anytime, it was respectable to say, “God save Her”.

➤ A time of high propriety, social class, industrial inventions

➤ Everything a person owned reflected social class and income

➤ The beginnings of modern technological appliances were established



Social Class

➤ Upper Class

- Very wealthy, owned much land, had many servants, usually were some sort of nobility, inherited all money



(Like Leonard Aster, knighted by the Queen)

➤ Middle Class

- Could afford a decent home (nicely-sized manor), maybe a few servants, had high-paying jobs

➤ Working Class

- Lived poorly, worked poorly-paying jobs, children worked at very young age



Orphans

- Didn't earn a place in society at all! (Unless you were adopted before you were an adult, which was 17. So every orphan prayed to be adopted before 17!)
- Food, clothing, shelters and education provided until 17 yrs
- Most orphanages were filthy, unpleasant and cramped
- There was a real St. Norbert's Orphanage in Russia, in which orphans drank from the nearby river—the plumbing was dumped in the river, so essentially, the real St. Norbert's orphans often drank their own waste. So their health would have been horrendous.
- Many endured abuse/neglect
- Many were pulled from workhouses



Workhouses

- Housed working class—and children—with no income or home
- Housed mentally ill, sick, elderly, unmarried mothers, orphaned
- Children at the age of 3 began working simple tasks around the workhouse
- Children under 9 worked 48 hours/week
- All others worked 12 hours a day, 7 days a week
- Provided with beds, meals, clothes, free medical care, free education, little pay
- Families/friends split up; not allowed to speak to each other
- Education didn't include reading and writing!
- Food was horrendous
- Children were overworked and often injured due to new equipment/technology



This began the start of Child Labor Laws




Life and Culture: Dwellings

- **Upper Class:** manors, 10 rooms
 - Living/lounge room
 - Approx. four plus guest bed chambers
 - Gallery/music room
 - Drawing room/parlor
 - Nursery
 - Privy
 - Servants quarters/kitchen
- **Middle Class:** wealthy homes
 - Living/lounge room
 - Approx. four bed chambers
 - Music room/parlor
 - Privy
 - Kitchen
- **Working Class:** working homes
 - Rows and rows or all in one home
 - One floor
 - Living room
 - Bed chamber or two
 - Possibly privy



Life and Culture:

Technology

- Time of the Industrial Revolution
- Running water now on bottom floor and basement!
- One bathroom with plumbing required in each home
- Fireplaces still the most convenient form of heat
- Food cooked over cast iron stoves, heated in ovens
- Oil lamps replaced with gas lighting
 -  (1st gas light bulb created in 1890!)
- Post office system gaining popularity
- Telegraph system improved
- Electrical lines now on middle class streets

Life and Culture:

Education and Religion

Education

- Boys (sometimes middle class girls) had schooling in single room schoolhouse
 - Upper class girls didn't attend school—were meant to sit around the house and entertain
- Lower class children couldn't afford school
- Ages 3-12. After 12, could either continue school or start work


Religion

- Religion wasn't as essential as it used to be
- Doubt in the country
- England was no longer run solely by religion

Life and Culture:

Transportation and Entertainment

Transportation

- **Upper/Middle Class:** Horses, horse-drawn carriages, public transportation
 -  **Carrier:** a carriage driver that drove you wherever, and you paid when you arrived (like a modern taxi)
- **Working Class:** walked everywhere


Entertainment

Spent time with family in living room

- Playing piano – classical (and ragtime!)
- Singing
- Dancing
- Telling stories
- Reading books—most common were Shakespeare, Medieval lit., & etiquette books

 **Etiquette books:** Books on etiquette owned by every upper/middle class woman. Equivalent to our glossy magazines we buy at CVS today

Family

- Family was very important
 - All about reputation—the bigger the family, and the more often your family was over to visit, the better your reputation in town
 - Most admirable family picture: Mother, Father, children, aunt and uncle, pet
 - Children spent little time with parents until teenage years (marriage age)
 - All children had governess
-  Since Molly has no mother, Mrs. Bumbrake would have been more of a mother figure to her. Lord Aster's refusal to take Molly with him on the Wasp was a big deal—would likely have been the first time Molly would have truly been able to spend time with her father




Life and Culture:

Food

- Upper and Middle Class:
 - Fresh meats, cheeses, fruit, cakes

- Working Class:

- Bread and dripping

 **Dripping:** Fat that dripped off of meat
You would dip your bread in the “dripping”
and that would be your meal

- Fish and chips

- **Not** how we eat it today: Worst parts of the fish, mixed together with pieces of greasy potatoes, wrapped in newspaper in drenched in vinegar

 **Sticky Pudding:** popular for its convenience and sweet taste—easy to make, easy to keep! Eaten by all classes.




Sea Life

Sailors / Seamen

- Most seamen went to sea during childhood
- Once age 15, and passed inspection, served at sea for 10 years
- After 10 years, inspected/rated based on physical height, weight, abilities, medical fitness
- The Queen's Royal Navy would pull from England's best sailors




This is the
REAL
Robert
Falcon
Scott!

Famous Royal
Navy officer who
led an expedition
to Antarctica!

Life and Culture:

Boats

- Steamboat growing popular
- Paddle wheelers and other steamboats gaining popularity
- Sailing ships/barges still major form of transportation

On the ship:

- Deck division:
 - Captain
 - Ship's Master (Boatswain)
 - First mate
 - 5-20 seamen
 - Cabin boy

- Wages: 15 shillings/week (\$12)



Life and Culture:

Daily Life/Duties

- Woke with the dawn
- Day divided into watches—4 hrs at a time
- Maintained the ship
 - Rigging repair
 - Mast oiling
 - Pumping
 - Pumping: emptying water out of the bottom of the deck
 - Flax sails maintenance
 - Gunning (for military)
 - Gunning: loading, preparing, and taking inventory of weapons
- Went to bed when it grew dark




Life and Culture:

Food and Clothing

Food

- Captains fed and provided for crew per year—went into harbor each year and bought food by the barrel
- Beef, pork, bread, beans, cheese, flour, butter, vinegar, whiskey, fish

Clothing

- Bought slops or made clothes
 -  Making clothes was one of the first things learned on the first ten years on the ship
- Slop clothing: Check shirt, frock, trousers, cloth jacket, stockings—made from blankets/mattresses

Life and Culture: Entertainment

➤ *Winter and Fall:*

- Went out on frozen water, targeting game (birds, fish)
- Card games indoors
- Played instruments

➤ *Spring and Summer:*

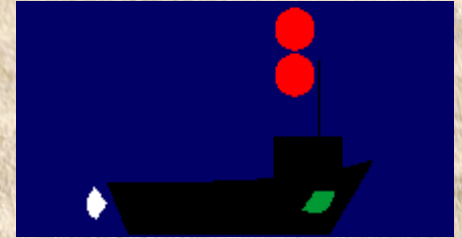
- Threw a yearly ball, inviting ladies from nearest town
 -  This was an annual event every sailor—and every lady who lived by the harbor—looked forward to all year

Ship Signals

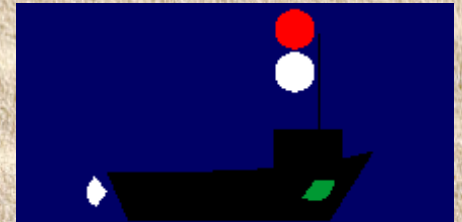


These are the signals for modern ships that are used with lights. In the Victorian era, these signals would have been used with flags.

➤ Red/Red/Red – “Captain is Dead”



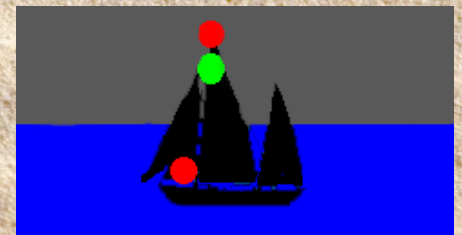
➤ Red/White – “Fishing at Night”



➤ Red/White/Red – “Restricted Ability Ahead”



➤ Green to Green/Red to Red – “Go Ahead”

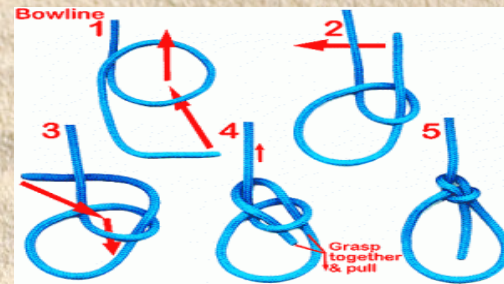


Knots

- The term: Defined the speed at which the ship was sailing
- Types of (actual) knots:

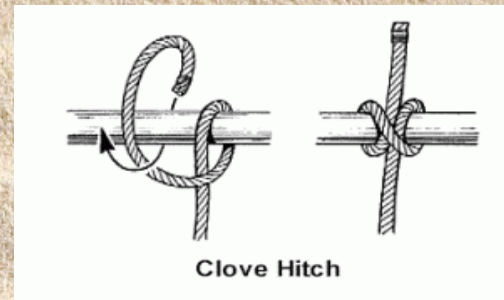
- **Bowline**

- Tie to a post



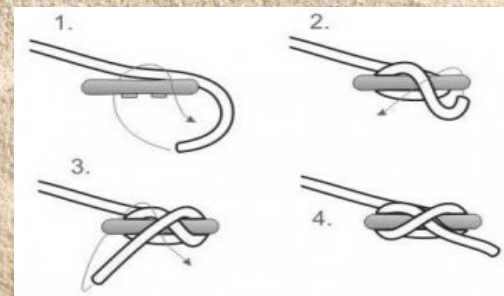
- **Clove Hitch**

- Hanging fenders over the side



- **Cleat Hitch**

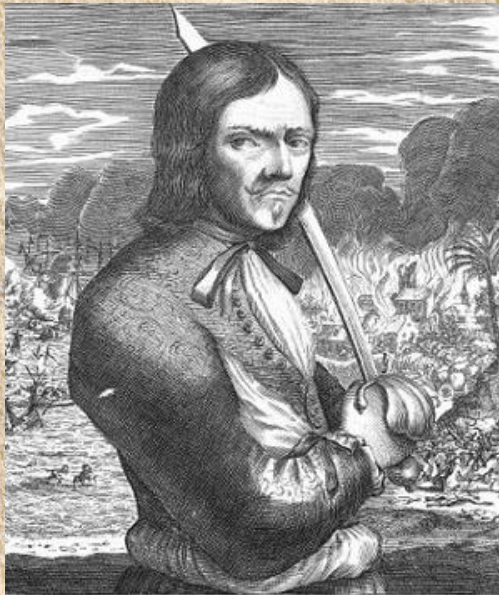
- Secures a rope to a cleat



Pirates


Definitions throughout the years:

- 1600s: “Someone who robs and plunders on the sea”
- 1800s: “Outlaws who are unwilling to be registered or corrupted by either money or office”
- 1900s: Outlaws who didn’t want to conform to society




Pirates: Origin

➤ Large quantities of valuable cargoes shipped to Europe in 1600s—outlaws were waiting

 Cargo from the New World were being shipped to Europe—a group of outlaws overheard about it, waited in the middle of the ocean—and when the sailors neared, the outlaws fought them, stole their ship and made off with the cargo (aka: treasure). Thus began the age of piracy!

➤ Golden age: 1650s-1720s


➤ Royal Navy was well-aware of pirates by 1880s

 So the fact that Black Stache is the “prince of darkness” and “most feared pirate on the seven seas” doesn’t say a lot...since there were practically no pirates left anymore...



Life and Culture:

Codes and Rules

- Codes were made by each captain—different code for each crew
- General code: Parlay/Pirate's Code
- The code entitled one to vote for officers, bear arms, and share in claimed goods, or “treasure”
 - No stealing from another pirate
 - No females on board
 - No breaking the code
- New pirates swore to follow code by swearing on significant ship item (such as a trusty sword or favorite cannon)
- Common punishment for breaking code: hacking to death
 -  “Walking the plank” was *not* actually a thing! ^^
- Common pay: 5 shares of treasure

Pirates Code: Just in case you want to check it out!

- I. Every Man Shall obey civil Command; the Captain shall have one full Share and a half of all Prizes; the Master, Carpenter, Boatswain and Gunner shall have one Share and quarter.
- II. If any Man shall offer to run away, or keep any Secret from the Company, he shall be marooned with one Bottle of Powder, one Bottle of Water, one small Arm, and Shot.
- III. If any Man shall steal any Thing in the Company, or game, to the Value of a Piece of Eight, he shall be marooned or shot.
- IV. If any time we shall meet another Marooner that Man shall sign his Articles without the Consent of our Company, shall suffer such Punishment as the Captain and Company shall think fit.
- V. That Man that shall strike another whilst these Articles are in force, shall receive Moses' Law (that is, 40 Stripes lacking one) on the bare Back.
- VI. That Man that shall snap his Arms, or smoke Tobacco in the Hold, without a Cap to his Pipe, or carry a Candle lighted without a Lanthorn, shall suffer the same Punishment as in the former Article.
- VII. That Man shall not keep his Arms clean, fit for an Engagement, or neglect his Business, shall be cut off from his Share, and suffer such other Punishment as the Captain and the Company shall think fit.
- VIII. If any Man shall lose a Joint in time of an Engagement, shall have 400 Pieces of Eight ; if a Limb, 800.
- IX. If at any time you meet with a prudent Woman, that Man that offers to meddle with her, without her Consent, shall suffer present Death.

Life and Culture:

Daily Tasks/Crew

- Woke with the dawn
- Crew completed daily tasks. Each member had specific tasks:
 - Captain
 - Quarter Master – represented crew’s interests (Capn’s equal)
 - Sailing Master – navigation
 - Boatswain – inspection of ship/observance of deck activities
 - Carpenter/Surgeon – maintenance (and the ship’s “doctor”!)
 - Master Gunner – loading/maintenance of weapons and powder
 - Mates – apprentices to everyone above, deck activities (Smee)
 - ABS – backbone – read skies/winds, know rigging/sails
 - Rigger – furl/release sails
 - Cabin boy – servant
 - Swab/Swabbie – swab the deck – hardly even a rank
- Kept watch at night in 4 hr shifts – ABS (Able-Bodied Sailor)

Life and Culture:

Fashion

- Pirates were a very colorful people!
- Velvet waistcoats, big hats, feathers
- Jackets covered in tar underneath
 - 🔴 They drenched jackets in tar and when it dried, it made strong armor
- Braided beards/mustaches (like Jack Sparrow!)
- Tied hair with ribbons
 - 🔴 The pirates didn't consider this "feminine". It was more about the idea of having the richest material they'd stolen worn about their person in as many ways as possible, to show the wealth they'd gained for themselves.



Life and Culture:

Sailing in Style

- The kind of ship was important
- Most common: Galleon or “junk ship”
 - Galleon: Very fancy ship with several masts
 - Junk ship: Small ship used for carrying waste items (like Jack Sparrow’s ship in the beginning of Pirates of the Caribbean!)
 - Pirate flag: black with skull and cross bones—Jolly Roger



Peter Pan references



If you have any questions about these—or anything else—please feel free to ask me!

- “An awfully big adventure”
- “Mother” and “stories”
- The lullaby “On the wings of a dove”
- “Nana”
- “Get the hook”
- “Stars in the sky” (Second star)
- “Tic toc”
- “You’re going to remember”
- “I’m the leader”
- Echoing
- “Peter” “Pan”
- “Crocodile tears”
- “Mrs. Gremplin’s ugly”
- Fruit cake
- The kiss
- “Zarboff would kill for even a *thimble* of starstuff”
- “Clap if you believe”
- “It’s supposed to hurt; that’s how you know it meant something”
- “Afraid of his own shadow”
- Tinker Bell as a bird– “Wendybird”
- “Jolly Roger”
- Tink pulling Molly’s hair
- Peter’s “visitation” – kiss conversation—1st “magical” visitation
- Prentiss bites Stache’s hand
- “To have faith is to have wings”
- Crow