

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

# A Pirate Carol

Written by

Daniel Prillaman

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

(NOTE: All roles are and may be played by any ethnicity)

(OTHER NOTE: While this play is meant to fill a large cast, it may, by all means, be condensed to fit a smaller one. With the exceptions of Nobeard and Farley, all characters may be doubled or combined as the production needs)

INNOCENT CHILD: Any gender. A merry and innocent child.

PIRATE #1: Any gender. A narrator.

PIRATE #2: Any gender. A narrator.

PIRATE #3: Any gender. A narrator.

CAPTAIN ELENEZZOR SCOOPS NOBEARD: Female. The nicest pirate in all the land.

FRAN: Female. Nobeard's niece.

PIRATE GENTLEMAN #1: Male. A pirate gentleman.

PIRATE GENTLEMAN #2: Male. A pirate gentleman.

FARLEY: Male. A ghost. Nobeard's mean-spirited, former first mate.

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PAST: Female. A ghost. And a pirate cow.

YOUNG NOBEARD: Female. A younger Nobeard in a flashback.

YOUNG BULLY #1: Any gender. A young bully in a flashback.

YOUNG BULLY #2: Any gender. A young bully in a flashback.

YOUNG BULLY #3: Any gender. A young bully in a flashback.

YOUNG BULLY #4: Any gender. A young bully in a flashback.

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PRESENT: Female. A ghost. Also a pirate cow.

BOB SCRATCHIT: Male. A pirate clerk.

MRS. SCRATCHIT: Female. His wife.

SMALL JIM: Male. A small child with scurvy.

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SCRATCHIT FAMILY MEMBER #1: Any gender. A Scratchit family member.

SCRATCHIT FAMILY MEMBER #2: Any gender. A Scratchit family member.

SCRATCHIT FAMILY MEMBER #3: Any gender. A Scratchit family member.

SCRATCHIT FAMILY MEMBER #4: Any gender. A Scratchit family member.

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S YET TO COME: Male. A ghost. A pirate dragon.

PIRATES, PARTYGOERS, AND ENSEMBLE

SETTING:

The S.S. Friendship.

TIME:

Pirate Day's Eve.

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This play is dedicated to the memory of Robert Horton, a  
passionate community theatre volunteer, who originally  
commissioned it for Youth FACT at Fort Atkinson Community  
Theatre in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin.

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 1.

*It is Pirate Day's Eve.*

*An INNOCENT CHILD delivers the  
Preface to the audience.*

INNOCENT CHILD

We have endeavoured in this Piratery little play, to raise the Treasure of an idea, which shall not put our audience out of humour with themselves, with each other, with the season, or with us. May it sail your ships pleasantly, and no one wish to plunder it.

*On the majestic pirate ship  
(the S.S. Friendship) of  
CAPTAIN ELENEZZOR SCOOPS  
NOBEARD, EVERYONE sings a  
rollicking shanty (Fifteen  
Men) in celebration of the  
holiday season. They laugh and  
sing uproariously in genuine  
joy.*

*At the conclusion of the song,  
THREE PIRATES step forward to  
speak to the audience.*

PIRATE #1

Ahoy, there! Welcome to yas, yee landlubbers!

PIRATE #2

Tis a joy to see yas here on this fine...whatever time of day it be.

PIRATE #3

Arrrrr...

PIRATE #1

Hahar! Yas made it just in time for the Pirate Day's Eve celebration.

PIRATE #2

The greatest celebration and shanty singing shindig throughout all the Seven Seas!

PIRATE #3

...Arrrrr.

PIRATE #1

Haha! Arrrrr, indeed, Jonas. But! I'm sure all you fine folks are wondering why it is we're breaking the fourth wall and speaking directly to yas.

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 2.

PIRATE #2

It's cause we be the narrators.

PIRATE #3

Arrrrr.

PIRATE #1

And we have a fine story to be telling yas this whatever time of day it be.

PIRATE #2

Ah, tis true. It be a story...about the nicest pirate in the world. Captain Elenezzor Scoobs Nobeard.

*CAPTAIN ELENEZZOR SCOOBS  
NOBEARD appears.*

NOBEARD

A merry Pirate Day's Eve to all! I love yas, me pirate brethren and sisteren! What's mine is yours! Let us share in the plunder! Feast on the food and grog! And ask nicely whether or not it's okay to steal someone's treasure before we do so!

*EVERYONE cheers.*

PIRATE #1

She had a strange way of pirating, indeed, she did.

PIRATE #2

But if she wasn't loved by almost everyone under her charge!

PIRATE #3

Arrrrr.

*FRAN, NOBEARD'S niece,  
appears.*

FRAN

Auntie Nobeard!

NOBEARD

Ah! Me darling friend and niece, Fran! Give me a hug! What a blessing it is to see yas. A merry Pirate Day's Eve, me niece!

FRAN

And to yous as well, Auntie! Oh, what right have we to be so merry? Our spirits be high, our mugs be full, and our booty be as vast and infinite as the seas themselves.

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 3.

NOBEARD

Indeed, me dear niece. The gift of life and the freedom of the seas be things we should never take for granted. Always remember, dear Fran. Your fellow shipmates are not ya enemies, but fellow passengers to Davy Jones Locker. What truly matters in this life is kinship and love.

FRAN

I shall, Auntie! How right yas are!

*TWO PIRATE GENTLEMEN appear.*

PIRATE GENTLEMAN #1

Excuse us, Captain?

NOBEARD

Arrrrr, what be it, gentlemen?

PIRATE GENTLEMAN #2

Without meaning to trouble yas, we wanted to ask you for a moment of yer time.

NOBEARD

Gentlemen, gladly! A moment and more! Will I never take a moment to converse with a fellow pirate?

PIRATE GENTLEMAN #1

We thank you, Captain. We be raising a bit of plunder to provide for those less fortunate than we.

PIRATE GENTLEMAN #2

Would yas be willing to contribute any booty for the cause?

NOBEARD

Why, gentlemen, of course! A decrease in the surplus population is a tragedy when it comes to human life! Take half of me booty!

PIRATE GENTLEMAN #1

Half?!

PIRATE GENTLEMAN #2

But, Captain!

NOBEARD

No buts, gentleman! We have a duty to our fellow pirates, we do! And I won't take no for an answer.

PIRATE GENTLEMAN #1

Oh, thank you, Captain.

PIRATE GENTLEMAN #2

Poseidon bless yas!

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 4.

NOBEARD

And yas too, gentleman! A merry Pirate Day's Eve to yas! To everyone! Haharr!

EVERYONE

Haharr!

*EVERYONE cheers.*

PIRATE #1

Ahahaharr. Yes. Good ol' Nobeard truly was the nicest pirate the world had ever seen.

PIRATE #2

Twas impossible to be around her without breaking out into a smile as wide as a crab's legs.

PIRATE #3

Arrrr.

PIRATE #1

But a story isn't being a story without some form of conflict, now, is it?

PIRATE #2

No, indeed, Pirate #1. A story about a nice pirate ain't really that interesting unless there's somebody else in the story to provide a proper foil.

PIRATE #1

What's a foil?

PIRATE #3

(Pulling out some  
aluminum foil)

Arrrr.

PIRATE #2

Haha. Well said, Jonas. But foil in this sense means a character who contrasts with another, in order to highlight each character's different qualities.

PIRATE #1

Oh! So in this case...while Nobeard is nice?

PIRATE #2

Our next character isn't. He's mean. And he's been dead for the past seven years.

PIRATE #1

I see! A ghost.

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 5.

PIRATE #2

A spirit.

PIRATE #3

Arrrrr.

PIRATE #1

It all started when Nobeard was lying down to bed for the evening.

*NOBEARD lies down for bed in her chambers, the Captain's Cabin.*

PIRATE #2

And then, she heard a mysterious noise.

*A cows moos very loudly offstage.*

*NOBEARD sits up and looks around for a moment, confused.*

*Then she lies back down to sleep.*

PIRATE #1

And then, she heard an even stranger noise.

FARLEY

(Offstage, in a scary voice)

Noooooooooooooobeeeeard.

*NOBEARD sits up again, confused.*

NOBEARD

Hello?

FARLEY

(Offstage, in a scary voice, louder)

Noooooooooooooobeeeeard.

NOBEARD

Yes?

FARLEY

(Offstage, in a scary voice, even louder)

Nobeard!

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 6.

NOBEARD

...What?

*Suddenly, the door to the cabin flies open with a dramatic musical cue and the visage of the ghost of JACOB FARLEY appears. Amongst his ghostlike garb is a large amount of aluminum foil.*

FARLEY

I've come to haunt ya, Nobeard.

NOBEARD

No! Not you! It can't be!

FARLEY

It is I, Nobeard.

NOBEARD

Jacob Farley! My old shipmate and partner!

FARLEY

Yes! Look upon me now in fear, Nobeard. Tremble before my frightening visage!

*Small Beat.*

NOBEARD

Hiiiiiiii! It's been so long since I've seen ya, Farley!

FARLEY

What?

NOBEARD

(Moving towards

FARLEY)

Give us a hug! Oh, how I've missed ya!

FARLEY

What? No--no.

*FARLEY starts moving away.*

NOBEARD

It's so good to be seeing ya. How've ya been?

FARLEY

I'm--I'm dead. I am a scary ghost. You--fear me.

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 7.

NOBEARD

Oh, haha, there you go again with your scary pirate stuff.  
What a laugh.

(Catching FARLEY)

Give us a hug, now!

FARLEY

No! No! I hate hugs!

NOBEARD

Aww, hush. A hug is a circle of happiness between two  
friends.

FARLEY

Yuck! Get off me!

NOBEARD

(Letting go)

What brings you to me cabin on this dear Pirate Day's Eve,  
Farley?

FARLEY

I've come to correct the error of your ways, Nobeard.

NOBEARD

What'dya mean?

FARLEY

I mean the hugs! A pirate doesn't hug! You're too nice,  
Nobeard!

NOBEARD

Too nice? Ah, what be you talking about?

FARLEY

Nobeard. A pirate is supposed to be mean. Selfish. Impolite.  
You're giving pirates everywhere a bad name!

NOBEARD

But Farley...kindness is the greatest value a person can  
have.

FARLEY

But it be not a pirate value! Pirates are supposed to be  
mean to others. It be how the world works, Nobeard.

NOBEARD

Hmmm....I don't know...

FARLEY

Quiet! Hear me now!

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 8.

NOBEARD

Oh, I can hear you fine.

FARLEY

No, I--aargh.

NOBEARD

You look like ya need another hug.

FARLEY

NO! No hugs! No! Do not hug me!

(Brief Pause)

You will be haunted by three spirits. And they are going to teach ya how a pirate should actually behave! I don't want any of this stupid "kindness" from ya.

NOBEARD

But Farley--

FARLEY

No buts! You need to learn how to be a proper pirate, lest ya ruin piracy and Pirate Day forever!

NOBEARD

Ruin Pirate Day?

FARLEY

Forever!

*Beat.*

NOBEARD

But how could kindness ruin Pirate Day?

FARLEY

I'll show ya! Now pay attention!

*FARLEY claps.*

FARLEY

Come in!

*Another cow moos from offstage.*

NOBEARD

Is that a cow?

FARLEY

Hush!

(Shouting off)

Come on, now! We haven't got all night!

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 9.

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PAST  
(Offstage)

I'm coming! I'm coming.

FARLEY  
(To NOBEARD)

Behold in terror! The Pirate of Pirate Day's Past!

*THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S  
PAST appears. She is dressed  
as a cow. A pirate cow.*

*Beat.*

NOBEARD

So she's a cow?

FARLEY

What?!

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PAST

Yes! I be a cow. A pirate cow.

NOBEARD

That's awesome!

FARLEY

Why be ya dressed as a cow?!

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PAST

Well, you said we needed to teach her. To keep her from  
ruining Halloween.

FARLEY

Not Halloween! Pirate Day!

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PAST

Oh. Yarr, I guess that makes a little more sense.

FARLEY

Argggh.

NOBEARD

Give us a hug, Pirate Cow!

FARLEY

NO! NO HUGS! Nobeard!

NOBEARD

Arrrrr?

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 10.

FARLEY

(Pointing)

Outside! We're right behind yas!

NOBEARD

Haha, arrr right, Farley. But I want to talk more about this Pirate Cow. I smell a T-shirt idea.

*NOBEARD exits.*

*Beat.*

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PAST

So do I still get the twenty bucks then, or...?

FARLEY

AARRRRRGGGH! Out!

*THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PAST exits.*

*FARLEY exits.*

*The PIRATES speak to the audience as NOBEARD, FARLEY, and THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PAST walk towards the next scene.*

PIRATE #1

Hahaarrrr. So, Farley and Nobeard went along with the Pirate Cow.

PIRATE #2

Who shortly afterward introduced herself as the Pirate of Pirate Day's Past.

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PAST

By the way, I'm the Pirate of Pirate Day's Past.

NOBEARD

Oh, cool!

FARLEY

I hate my life. I mean...death. Ugh.

PIRATE #1

They walked for what felt like somewhere between 15-30 seconds.

PIRATE #2

And then they arrived by a small, dingy dinghy in a tiny, tiny lake. And inside, sat a young girl.

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 11.

PIRATE #3

Arrrrr.

*NOBEARD, FARLEY, and THE  
PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PAST  
arrive at the dinghy.*

*YOUNG NOBEARD sits inside the  
little boat.*

NOBEARD

Can it be? Why, that's me as a young lass, that is! And that's me first boat! Boaty!

FARLEY

Boaty?

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PAST

Aye. You and Boaty spent many a Pirate Day together, didn't you now?

NOBEARD

Indeed we did! Oh, the countless joyful memories that do be coming upon me now!

YOUNG NOBEARD

Oh, Boaty. How I love ya! I know this tiny, tiny lake we be sitting in ain't much, but soon we'll take to the seas with the rest of our pirate brethren and sisteren! Just as soon as I find us an oar!

NOBEARD

Haharr. How absurdly long it did take me to find that oar!

FARLEY

Oh, hush with all the happy! Watch this, Nobeard! You remember these kids, now, don't ya?

*FOUR YOUNG BULLIES enter,  
making their way toward YOUNG  
NOBEARD.*

NOBEARD

Oh! I do remember. They often bullied me as a child.

YOUNG BULLY #1

Aye! Look at Nobeard, laddies! Sitting all alone in her stupid, tiny boat!

YOUNG BULLY #2

Haharr! Her boat is so small, I bet she couldn't even fit a doubloon inside it!

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 12.

*THE BULLIES laugh.*

YOUNG NOBEARD

You all again? Don't you have anything to do besides bully the young likes of meself?

YOUNG BULLY #3

Not really. Making fun of you and your boat is about the only thing interesting to do around here after Pirate School.

YOUNG BULLY #4

Aye! And you're weird, so...aye.

YOUNG NOBEARD

Oh, my dear friends and pirate brethren. Waste not your tongues on such ill pleasantries and bullying. Tis not the season for mean-spiritedness. Tis never!

YOUNG BULLY #1

Haharr. Sure, Nobeard.

YOUNG BULLY #2

There she goes with her talk of not being mean to people again. Haha.

YOUNG BULLY #3

Don't you know that's what being a pirate is all about?

YOUNG BULLY #4

Aye! You're so weird, Nobeard!

*THE BULLIES laugh.*

NOBEARD

Ahh. How they would bully me year after year.

FARLEY

And yet ya never were mean back to them?

NOBEARD

Aye! Of course not! What good is done by meeting meanness with meanness!

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PAST

Ya know, that's not a bad point, I suppose.

FARLEY

Shut up, cow!

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PAST

Hey...mean.

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 13.

FARLEY

Watch now, Nobeard. Look how much better this situation could have been had ya simply been mean.

*THE BULLIES "reset," beginning their bullying of YOUNG NOBEARD from the top.*

YOUNG BULLY #1

Aye! Look at Nobeard, laddies! Sitting all alone in her stupid, tiny boat!

YOUNG BULLY #2

Haharr! Her boat is so small, I bet she couldn't even fit a doubloon inside it!

YOUNG NOBEARD

(Being "mean")

You watch what happens to ya when I shove doubloons down yer throat! At least I have a boat you stupid babies! I bet ya don't even know how to swim!

*Beat.*

*YOUNG BULLIES #1 and #2 start crying softly.*

YOUNG BULLY #3

Arrrrr. Nobeard. We had no idea that ya could be so mean.

YOUNG NOBEARD

That's because ya don't have brains, ya poop!

YOUNG BULLY #4

Will you hang out with us forever?! You're awesome and we love ya, Nobeard!

YOUNG NOBEARD

Arrrrr...aye, why not.

*THE BULLIES cheer.*

NOBEARD

Aye, but Farley! That's not what happened. That's not what happened at all!

*THE BULLIES "reset" a final time.*

YOUNG BULLY #4

Aye! You're so weird, Nobeard!

*THE BULLIES laugh.*

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 14.

YOUNG NOBEARD

You know what, laddies? I bet I know where this meanness might be coming from.

YOUNG BULLY #1

Hah. What'dya mean?

YOUNG NOBEARD

You want a turn to ride on Boaty?

YOUNG BULLY #2

What?

YOUNG NOBEARD

Do ya want a ride on me boat?

YOUNG BULLY #3

...Nobody's ever asked us that before.

YOUNG NOBEARD

Well, I'm asking ya now, sillies!

YOUNG BULLY #4

But...we...we don't know how to swim.

YOUNG NOBEARD

Whaaat? Well, that's all right! I can teach yas.

ALL BULLIES

Really?

YOUNG NOBEARD

Of course!

YOUNG BULLY #1

What kindness!

YOUNG BULLY #2

I truly do feel all warm and fuzzy inside.

YOUNG BULLY #3

Why have we never realized the power of kindness before?

YOUNG BULLY #4

Will you hang out with us forever?! You're awesome and we love ya, Nobeard!

YOUNG NOBEARD

Arrrrr...aye, why not. Group hug!

*THEY all hug.*

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 15.

NOBEARD

Aye. Now ain't that a happy ending?

FARLEY

No! It's miserable!

NOBEARD

But Farley! We actually achieved more or less the same outcome with those two scenarios. Why not choose the one that doesn't hurt anyone's feelings?

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PAST

Ya know, she keeps making really good points.

FARLEY

Shut up! Be gone with you, cow!

*Beat.*

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PAST

So no twenty bucks, then?

FARLEY

OUT!

*THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PAST exits.*

FARLEY

Aye, what a waste of time.

NOBEARD

Farley...that was kinda mean, sending her away like that.

FARLEY

Good! Maybe the next spirit will be more like me!

*FARLEY claps.*

FARLEY

Get in here now!

(To NOBEARD)

Now fear, Nobeard. Fear the Pirate of Pirate Day's Present!

*THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PRESENT enters. She is also dressed as a cow. A pirate cow.*

FARLEY

WHY ARE YOU DRESSED AS A COW?!

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 16.

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PRESENT  
Well, actually...pirates and cows go a long way back. Cows were often kept below deck for easy access to milk on long voyages. Not to mention the fact that pirates also kept cows as pets in many ports they frequently visited.

FARLEY

...Is that true?

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PRESENT  
Maybe. If everyone in the audience goes home and looks it up, then I've done me job.

*Small Beat.*

NOBEARD

I do like cows.

FARLEY

Quiet. Let's go.

*NOBEARD, FARLEY, and THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PRESENT begin walking once more, and the PIRATES return to speak to the audience.*

PIRATE #1

Aye, so in a state of general confusion about the precise relationship between cows and pirates, off they went.

PIRATE #2

They walked high and low, left to right, then low to high, and right to left.

PIRATE #1

They pretty much just walked in circles and looked important for a bit.

PIRATE #2

Aye, this just be time built in for the set change.

PIRATE #3

Arrrrr.

PIRATE #1

And so...once the change was done.

PIRATE #2

They had arrived back at Nobeard's trusty ship.

PIRATE #1 AND #2

The S.S. Friendship.

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 17.

*NOBEARD, FARLEY, and THE  
PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PRESENT  
arrive at the S.S. Friendship.*

*BOB SCRATCHIT, MRS. SCRATCHIT,  
SMALL JIM, FRAN, and the  
SCRATCHIT FAMILY all appear at  
a "party", drinking grog and  
celebrating the season. They  
seem to be playing charades  
amongst themselves.*

NOBEARD

Oh! Why, it's me ship! And me dear first mate, Bob  
Scratchit, and his family! And me niece, Fran!

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PRESENT

Aye. This be what Pirate Day looks like now.

*THE PARTYGOERS laugh.*

BOB SCRATCHIT

Haharr. Arrr right. Who's turn be it next?

FRAN

I do believe it be Small Jim's turn.

MRS. SCRATCHIT

Small Jim?

SMALL JIM

Aye, family! I do believe I can give it a go.

BOB SCRATCHIT

Are you sure, son?

SMALL JIM

Aye, father. I shan't let a spot of scurvy ruin this  
glorious mood! Let me take a turn.

BOB SCRATCHIT

Haharr. All right, then, son. Go on.

*SMALL JIM stands before  
everyone and begins to play.*

*He acts like a pirate.*

FRAN

A pirate!

SMALL JIM

Aye! Ya got it!

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 18.

*THE PARTYGOERS laugh.*

MRS. SCRATCHIT

A mighty good pirate, that was, son.

BOB SCRATCHIT

Indeed, son.

SMALL JIM

Oh, thank you, parents! I love yas!

BOB SCRATCHIT

Ah, what a blessed day this be.

*THE PARTYGOERS all sigh,  
content.*

*FARLEY speaks to NOBEARD.*

FARLEY

You see?! Look at all the happiness you've caused!

NOBEARD

Isn't it lovely?

FARLEY

No! Fix it!

NOBEARD

Fix it?

FARLEY

Aye! Be mean to somebody!

NOBEARD

But why? All that's going to do is cause unhappiness.

FARLEY

That's the point!

(Shoving NOBEARD into  
the party)

Now get in there!

BOB SCRATCHIT

Nobeard!

FRAN

Auntie!

MRS. SCRATCHIT

How are you doing this fine Pirate Day's Eve, Captain?

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 19.

NOBEARD

Oh, friends, I be doing just fine! I couldn't ask for anything more.

*FARLEY clears his throat.*

*NOBEARD looks back at him, and he makes a motion of, "be mean to them!"*

*NOBEARD turns back, and hesitatingly attempts.*

NOBEARD

I mean--um--I would be...doing a lot better if you--sillies...would let me play with yas.

*FARLEY facepalms in exasperation.*

BOB SCRATCHIT

Why, of course! Please join us!

MRS. SCRATCHIT

Small Jim was just taking a turn at the charades.

NOBEARD

Oh, pfft. Charades. That is--something I love very much.

FRAN

Go on, now, Jim. Give us another!

SMALL JIM

All right!

*SMALL JIM begins to act like NOBEARD.*

FRAN

Ooh! A pirate!

BOB SCRATCHIT

A different pirate!

MRS. SCRATCHIT

A pirate cow!

SCRATCHIT FAMILY MEMBER #1

A lad who's had too much grog!

SCRATCHIT FAMILY MEMBER #2

A lass who's had too much grog!

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A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 20.

Very small rocks! SCRATCHIT FAMILY MEMBER #3

Johnny Depp! SCRATCHIT FAMILY MEMBER #4

Wait! I know who it is... FRAN  
(Brief Dramatic Pause)  
It's Nooooobear.

Ya got it! SMALL JIM

*EVERYONE BUT FARLEY laughs.*

Haha, twas a brilliant impression, young lad. NOBEARD

Aye! Thank ya, Captain! SMALL JIM

And you be sure to keep eating those oranges to keep that NOBEARD  
scurvy at bay, you hear?

Aye aye, Captain! SMALL JIM

My friends! How I love ya so-- NOBEARD

*FARLEY has come over and is  
now dragging NOBEARD away from  
the party.*

Oh. It looks like I have to be going now. I'll see ya later. NOBEARD

Bye! THE PARTYGOERS

Bye! NOBEARD

*FARLEY stands, starting at  
NOBEARD.*

*Beat.*

I'm sorry, Farley. I don't think I really know how to be NOBEARD  
mean.

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 21.

FARLEY

Clearly.

NOBEARD

But where's the harm in that? I can't imagine a scenario where being mean is better.

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PRESENT

That really is a fair point. Whenever somebody's mean to me, my feelings really get hurt.

FARLEY

Nobody cares about you!

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S PRESENT

Wow. Like...right now, for example.

*THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S  
PRESENT begins to cry.*

NOBEARD

Nooo! Don't cry.

(Moving to give a hug)

Here, give us a hug. He didn't mean it.

FARLEY

Of course I did.

NOBEARD

There, there.

FARLEY

Stop hugging!!

NOBEARD

Would a song help you feel better?

FARLEY

No! No! That's enough. Get out of here! Go!

*FARLEY breaks up the hug and  
shooes away THE PIRATE OF  
PIRATE DAY'S PRESENT, who  
exits.*

NOBEARD

Now, what did ya go and do that for?

FARLEY

You listen to me, Nobeard. Pirates aren't supposed to be nice. It causes too many problems.

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 22.

NOBEARD

Like what?

FARLEY

You wanna know? I'll show ya what happens years from now.  
All because of this stupid happiness you've been spreading.  
People are miserable.

*FARLEY claps.*

FARLEY

Behold! The Pirate of Pirate Day's Yet to Come!

(Brief Pause)

And so help me, if ya be dressed as a cow...

*THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S YET TO COME enters. He is dressed as a dragon. A pirate dragon.*

*Beat.*

NOBEARD

Dragon!

FARLEY

What? Why? What? I--what? Never mind. No. Never mind.  
Whatever. I'm not even going to ask. Let's just go. Go now.  
Go.

*Shoved by FARLEY, the TRIO begin walking once more.*

*THE PIRATES speak to the audience.*

PIRATE #1

And so, on again they went.

PIRATE #2

And this time, they didn't have to walk far at all. Because  
the set do be staying the same.

PIRATE #1

We're just here to signify the passage of time.

PIRATE #2

Haharr, tis true.

PIRATE #3

Arrrr.

*NOBEARD, FARLEY, and THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S YET TO*

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 23.

*COME arrive at what seems to be a funeral.*

*VARIOUS PIRATES carry a coffin, singing Shanty #2 (Drunken Sailor) in a somber, respectful tone.*

NOBEARD

Oh no! Whose funeral be this?

THE PIRATE OF PIRATE DAY'S YET TO COME

It be yours, Nobeard.

NOBEARD

Gasp! Mine?

FARLEY

Hah! Now look! Look at the sadness your death has caused.

*The song finishes, and SMALL JIM gets up to speak.*

NOBEARD

Why, there be Small Jim! The scurvy did not overcome him!

SMALL JIM

Today...we have lost a great soul. Captain Nobeard has left us for Davy Jones Locker. But while her death is most sad, let us not dwell on the tragedy of her absence. Let us cherish the times together we spent. Let us remember her joy in full. We shall go forth and honor her memory, spreading her happiness and polite ways, as she would have wanted nothing else.

FARLEY

NOO!

NOBEARD

Oh, Jim. I'm tearing up, I am.

FARLEY

NO! NO! NO!

*FARLEY storms out into the funeral, speaking to SMALL JIM and everyone.*

FARLEY

Stop being happy!

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 24.

EVERYONE

Farley?

FARLEY

Nobeard is gone! She will no longer ruin the name of piracy for everyone! Why would ya now be kind to others?

SMALL JIM

Because she was always kind. Being mean to others would be a poor way to remember her.

FARLEY

Arrrrrggggh!

SMALL JIM

She was wise in all her ways.

FARLEY

Everyone stop! Stop! Stop it! Stop being nice! It's not what pirates are supposed to do! Pirates are scallywags! We're supposed to steal things and bully people. We're supposed to not brush our teeth and drink grog. We're supposed to live outside the law and be free. Why don't any of ya understand that?

NOBEARD

Farley. I have a question.

FARLEY

What?!

NOBEARD

Why can't ya be free and be nice? Why is being nice to people such a bad thing?

FARLEY

Because...

NOBEARD

Because why?

*FARLEY doesn't say anything.*

NOBEARD

You know, ya keep saying pirates are supposed to be mean. You keep saying being mean is better, but you're not really showing us how. Which either means this is really bad writing, or you're trying really hard to convince yourself of something.

FARLEY

Like what?

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 25.

NOBEARD

Like being mean is something you're supposed to do. What if being kind doesn't ruin Pirate Day? What if it makes for an even better one? You know what I think?

FARLEY

What?

NOBEARD

I think...

FARLEY

No.

NOBEARD

Somebody...

FARLEY

Noooo.

NOBEARD

Needs a hug.

FARLEY

NO!

NOBEARD

GROUP HUG!

FARLEY

NOOOOOO!!!

*The ENTIRE CAST hugs FARLEY.*

FARLEY

(While being hugged)

NOOOOOO!!! STOP IT! STOP HUGGING MEEEE!

*The hug continues, and the PIRATES step away to speak to the audience.*

PIRATE #1

And what happened then? Well, we pirates say...

PIRATE #2

That Farley's heart grew three sizes that day.

PIRATE #3

I think that be the wrong story.

*PIRATE #1 and #2 pause, looking at PIRATE #3.*

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 26.

PIRATE #3

Arrrrr.

*PIRATE #1 and #2 look to each other. Then shrug.*

PIRATE #1

Nevertheless. That final hug changed Farley.

PIRATE #2

He couldn't figure out why everyone insisted on being so kind. Even to somebody like him. And dead.

*The hug breaks up. FARLEY is emotional.*

FARLEY

I can't...I can't figure out why everyone insists on being so kind! Even to somebody like me. And dead.

NOBEARD

Why, Farley! Tis because you're a pirate brethren. Being a pirate is about family and love!

FARLEY

It's not about being mean?

NOBEARD

No! I suppose some folks think so, but it be a lot more fun without it!

FARLEY

I think...I understand now.

NOBEARD

Ya do?

FARLEY

I'm going to be nice!

*EVERYONE cheers.*

NOBEARD

Oh, why there ya go, Farley! I knew ya had it in ya!

FARLEY

I do be sorry, everyone.

NOBEARD

No need to be sorry! No need at all!

EVERYONE

No!

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

A Pirate Carol, Daniel Prillaman, 27.

NOBEARD

Farley. A merry Pirate Day to yas.

FARLEY

And a merry Pirate Day to yas as well! Let us drink and celebrate and sing! Pass the grog!

EVERYONE

Aye!

*EVERYONE breaks out into Shanty #3 (Drunken Sailor Reprise), this time in a quicker and more celebratory tempo.*

*After a brief moment, the PIRATES step forward again.*

PIRATE #1

Haharr. Well. That be the story.

PIRATE #2

We hope it spoke to yas, if only for a brief moment.

PIRATE #3

Arrrr.

PIRATE #1

Haha, well said, Jonas.

PIRATE #2

A merry Pirate Day to ya folks.

PIRATE #1

May your ships sail onward.

PIRATE #2

And may the joys of kinship never be lost on yas.

PIRATE #3

Arrrr.

EVERYONE

ARRRR!

END.