



Pirates of the Caribbean – At World's End



Based on the characters created by Ted Elliot, Terry Rossio, Stuart Beattie and Jay Wolpert.

Written by Ted Elliot and Terry Rossio.

Based on Walt Disney's *Pirates of the Caribbean*.

Produced by Jerry Bruckheimer.

Directed by Gore Verbinski.

Character description

Captain Jack Sparrow: The central character. He is a very cunning man who always manages to escape from difficult situations. At the beginning of the book, he is rescued from the land of the dead by Elizabeth and her friends. He is the captain of the *Black Pearl*.

Captain Barbossa: A pirate who is always fighting Sparrow over who is the captain of the *Pearl*, making deals and breaking his promises. He wants to make Calypso a goddess again so that she will make him the greatest pirate.

Elizabeth Swann: The daughter of Governor Swann who has joined the band of pirates. She is in love with Will Turner. She is a strong woman who can fight well. She is made captain of the *Empress* and a Pirate Lord when Sao Feng dies.

Will Turner: The son of Bootstrap Bill, a prisoner on the *Flying Dutchman*. He wants to free his father and marry Elizabeth. He becomes captain of the *Dutchman* in the end.

Lord Beckett: The commander of the East India Trading Company, who wants to kill all pirates. He controls the *Dutchman*, the most powerful ship in the sea, because he has Davy Jones's heart.

Davy Jones: A squid-like monster who was once a man. He is the captain of the *Dutchman*. Calypso, the goddess of the sea, was his lover. After the pirates turned her into a

woman, he cut out his heart, stopped taking dead souls to the other world and became committed to hunting pirates.

Tia Dalma: A mysterious woman who can see into the future and bring people back from the dead. She is really Calypso in human form.

Sao Feng: A very important Pirate Lord of Singapore. He helps Barbossa, Elizabeth and Will find their way to the land of the dead to rescue Jack Sparrow. He believes that Elizabeth is the goddess Calypso in human shape.

Bootstrap Bill: Will Turner's father. He is very loyal to the *Dutchman's* crew and even attacks his own son when he jumps on board to help Jack.

Summary

The letter: The book starts with a letter from Admiral Brutton which outlines what has happened in the past to all the characters we are going to meet in the book, and which states that Jack Sparrow, a pirate, is a very dangerous man.

Chapters 1–3: Three pirate ships are attacked by the *Flying Dutchman* and many pirates are killed. The *Dutchman's* captain is Davy Jones. In the past he cut out his heart and put it in a box. Whoever has this box controls the *Dutchman*, the most powerful ship on the sea. Lord Cutler Beckett of the East India Trading Company now has the box. He comes on board the *Dutchman*, takes control, and sets sail to hunt pirates. Meanwhile, Elizabeth Swann, who was responsible for Jack Sparrow's death, and Captain Barbossa are looking for help from the Pirate Lord in Singapore. They meet the Lord, Sao Feng, who is holding Elizabeth's lover, Will Turner, prisoner. Barbossa says that they all must call a meeting of the Brethren Court, a group of the nine most powerful pirates in the world, to fight Lord Beckett. Barbossa and Will then tell Feng that they must first rescue Jack Sparrow from Davy Jones's locker (the world of the dead) because he is one of the nine Pirate Lords. Then they are attacked by some East India Company agents.

Chapters 4–5: The pirates escape. Sao Feng makes an agreement with Will who offers to bring Jack Sparrow back from the dead, and give him to Sao Feng so Feng can make an agreement with Beckett. Sao Feng gives Will the maps of the world of the dead. Will, Elizabeth, Barbossa, Jack Sparrow's pirates and some Chinese pirates set sail on the *Hai Peng*. Suddenly the ship goes over a waterfall into the land of the dead, where Jack Sparrow is on the *Black*



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Pearl. The group tries to convince him that they need his help. He reluctantly agrees and they all set sail on the *Pearl* to find their way back to the land of the living.

Chapters 6–8: Jack and Barbossa have a fight about who is the captain of the *Pearl*. Then, they see a lot of bodies in the water. Tia Dalma says that Davy Jones used to take these bodies to the other world, but now there was no one to do it. Elizabeth sees her father in a boat and tries, unsuccessfully, to help him onto the *Pearl*. Jack realizes that to escape from the land of the dead they must turn the ship upside down. Barbossa and Jack go onto to an island to find water and leave the ship with Will. They are captured by Chinese pirates and taken back to the *Pearl*. Sao Feng is on the *Pearl* and has made Will the captain. Lord Beckett's ship, the *Endeavour*, arrives and Jack is taken prisoner. Beckett offers Jack a job. Jack says he will hand over the pirates to Beckett at the Brethren meeting if Beckett tells Jones to set him free. Sao Feng then betrays Will and takes over the *Pearl*, but the East India Company takes it back. Barbossa suggests the pirates ask Calypso, the goddess of the sea, for help. He believes she has been turned into a normal woman. Sao Feng thinks that Elizabeth is that woman and takes her onto his ship, the *Empress*.

Chapters 9–10: The *Endeavour* is attacked by the *Pearl* and to get back on the *Pearl*, Jack fires himself from a cannon. Once back on his ship, he puts Will in the ship's prison. On the *Empress*, Elizabeth is talking to Sao Feng. Then, the *Empress* is attacked by the *Dutchman*. Sao Feng is killed, but before he dies he makes Elizabeth captain of the *Empress*. The *Dutchman*'s sailors and Admiral Norrington come onto the *Empress*. Norrington, an old love of Elizabeth's, is amazed to see her because he thought she was dead. Elizabeth goes with the pirates to the prison. There, she talks to Bootstrap Bill, Will Turner's father, imprisoned in the form of a piece of wood. The *Endeavour* is following a trail of dead bodies left in the water by Will on the *Pearl*. Will tells Jack he cannot save his father because to do so he would have to kill Davy Jones, which would mean he would become captain of the *Dutchman*. Jack suggests that he himself should kill Davy Jones and that would solve all their problems. Meanwhile, Norrington is planning Elizabeth's escape from the *Dutchman* because he still loves her. Elizabeth and her pirates crawl along the rope that ties the *Empress* to the *Dutchman*. Norrington fights the *Dutchman*'s sailors and is killed by Bootstrap Bill. The *Empress* escapes.

Chapters 11–12: Nine Pirate Lords from all over the world meet at Shipwreck Cove (Elizabeth has replaced Sao Feng). Barbossa says that their only chance of fighting the *Dutchman* is to free the goddess Calypso from her human body, but Elizabeth thinks the best idea is to fight. The pirates consult the Keeper of the Pirate Law for a solution. The pirates have to have a king before they can fight so they vote. Elizabeth is voted king. Elizabeth, Jack and Barbossa confront Lord Beckett, Davy Jones and Will Turner. Then Elizabeth decides that Jack should go on the *Dutchman* and Will should go on the *Pearl*. She knows Jack has a plan to kill Davy Jones, become captain of the *Dutchman* and free Will's father, Bootstrap. His plan will also enable her to be with Will. Barbossa, still wanting to free Calypso, takes Elizabeth's Piece of Eight (a special coin that Pirate Lords possess) and puts it in a bowl along with the other eight and Calypso appears. She then disappears into the sea and causes a storm. The pirates have to fight. As the battle rages, Will and Elizabeth are married. Then, Will stabs Davy Jones, and Jones stabs him. As Will is dying Jack uses Will's hand to pierce the heart. Will is now captain of the *Dutchman*. He spends one day with Elizabeth before returning to spend ten years on the *Dutchman*.

Background and themes

Adventure: The book is full of exciting battles, strange monsters, different worlds, and there is even a goddess.

Betrayal: Nearly all the characters in the book are trying to get something for themselves. They promise things, then break their promises, and cheat others. Nobody can trust anybody.

Love: The main love story is that between Will and Elizabeth, and there is a minor one between Davy Jones and Calypso.

Discussion activities

Before reading

- 1 Discuss:** Put students in small groups and ask them to talk about what they know about pirates. Ask them to consider the following questions: *When did pirates live? Where did they live? What did they do? What type of people were they? What type of clothes / food / drink / pet animals do you think of when thinking about pirates? Would you like to meet a pirate?*



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Chapters 1–3

While reading (At the end of p. 1.)

- 2 **Write:** Tell the students to write the answers to these questions: *When did Captain Jack Sparrow make an agreement with Davy Jones? What did Davy Jones give to Jack Sparrow? Who stole the Pearl? Who did James Norrington want to marry? What happened to Norrington when he didn't catch Sparrow? Where was Bootstrap Bill a prisoner? What destroyed the Pearl? Who brought Barbossa back from the dead?*

After reading

- 3 **Pair work:** Write the following words on the board: *piano, the future, wooden, gate, silver coin, Davy Jones's locker.* Ask the students to talk and write in pairs to say how these words were used in Chapters 1–3.

Chapters 4–5

While reading (p. 13, after “He was dead and it was not a good feeling.”)

- 4 **Group work:** Put the students in groups of four. Tell two of the group that they believe that people go to the land of the dead when they die; the other two students believe that people don't. Give them five minutes to think of their arguments. Then they have a discussion.

After reading

- 5 **Write and guess:** Put students in pairs and ask them to choose a short paragraph from Chapters 4–5. Tell them to write it again, making five changes to words in the text. Students then read out their paragraphs to the other students, who have to identify the mistakes.

Chapters 6–8

While reading (At the end of p. 16.)

- 6 **Role play:** Put the students in pairs to role play a conversation between Elizabeth and Will. Will is unhappy because he saw Elizabeth kiss Jack and thinks she loves him. Elizabeth tells Will he is silly and that Jack is a horrible man. See the Discussion activities key for a possible start to the conversation.

After reading

- 7 **Research:** Tell the students that Calypso was important in Greek mythology. Ask them to look for information on the Internet about her and another Greek god or goddess. The students then give an oral presentation about what they have found.

Chapters 9–10

While reading (p. 28, after “He made me captain.”)

- 8 **Discuss:** Elizabeth is a female captain and is now a Pirate Lord. Put the students in small groups to discuss if they think that she will be a good or bad pirate captain. Then ask students to think of a list of other jobs and get them to discuss if they think men or women are better at doing any of them or if there is no difference.

After reading

- 9 **Write:** Ask the students to imagine that they are Elizabeth on the *Empress*. Tell them to write a note to Will, telling him about life on the ship and what happened with Sao Feng.

Chapters 11–12

Before reading

- 10 **Predict:** Put the students in pairs and ask them to predict the answers to these questions: *Will Jack Sparrow die again? Will Calypso become a goddess? Will the pirates win against the East India Company? Will Bootstrap Bill kill his son Will? Will Barbossa steal the Pearl from Jack?*

After reading

- 11 **Write and guess:** Write *Barbossa wanted to free Bootstrap.* on the board. Elicit which word is wrong from the students (Calypso not Bootstrap). Now students choose a sentence from Chapters 11–12 and rewrite it changing one word. Students mingle, reading out their sentences and the other students have to identify and correct the mistake.
- 12 **Game:** Tell the students that there are twelve words in Chapters 11–12 that are parts of the body. Put the students in small groups and tell them they have up to three minutes to find the words. If a group finds all the words before three minutes they win. Otherwise, the team with the most words wins. See Discussion activities key for the list of words.
- 13 **Research and write:** Divide the students into three groups and ask each group to look for information on the Internet about one of the three *Pirates of the Caribbean* movies. Tell them to write a brief summary of the movie. Then put the students in groups of three (one from each of the original groups) and ask them to read out their summaries to each other. Then tell them to discuss which of the movies they think is the best and why.
- 14 **Discuss:** Put the students in groups and ask them to discuss the following questions about the book. *Did you like the story? Which of the people did you like the best and why? Did you think the book was easy or difficult to understand? Which of the pirates did you think was the most dangerous and why? Would you like to be a pirate and why? Did you think the women in the story were strong or weak? Have you read any other pirate books or seen any other pirate movies?*

Vocabulary activities

For the Word List and vocabulary activities, go to www.penguinreaders.com.