



TREASURE ISLAND by Robert Louis Stevenson

Adapted by John-Robert Partridge

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CHARACTERS

Jim Hawkins

Mrs Hawkins

Long John Silver

Parrot

Blind Pew

Billy Bones

Black Dog

Captain Smollett

Squire Trelawney

Dr Livesey

Ben Gunn

George Merry

Israel Hands

Dick

Job Anderson

TREASURE ISLAND

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Prologue

A group of pirates including CAPTAIN FLINT are seen dragging a chest and burying it in the sand whilst singing.

Pirates

Fifteen men on the dead man's chest, Yo-ho-ho and a bottle of rum!
Drink and the devil had done for the rest, Yo-ho-ho and a bottle of rum!
With a yo-heave-ho! And a fare-you-well! And a sullen plunge In the sullen swell
Ten fathoms deep on the road to hell Yo-ho-ho and a bottle Of rum

Scene 1 – The Admiral Benbow Inn

Jim Hawkins

I go back many years to start my tale but I remember it as if it were yesterday. My poor father had recently passed away. And My mother and I continued to keep our inn.

The Admiral Benbow. We entertained many a sailor. But none stranger than the man who started my adventure. Captain Billy Bones. I still recall the awful tune he used to croak

Billy Bones

Rum lad! This is a handy cove and a pleasant sittiated grog-shop.

Jim Hawkins

Excuse me sir?

Billy Bones

It's a nice place. Much company, mate?

Jim Hawkins

No sir, very little company

Billy Bones

Well, then, this is the berth for me. I'm a plain man; rum and bacon and eggs is what I want

Jim Hawkins

Yes sir

Billy Bones

Captain! They call me Captain Billy Bones

Jim Hawkins

Yes Captain

Billy Bones

What's your name lad?

Jim Hawkins

Jim Hawkins sir

Billy Bones

Pleasure to meet you Jim lad!

Jim Hawkins

I will take your chest to your quarters

Billy Bones

Belay that mate I will stow me own chest. And payment, take this. Tell me when I have worked through that!

Jim Hawkins

Thank you sir

Billy Bones

Jim lad I would asks a favour off you. I will give you a silver fourpenny on the first of every month if you would keep a weather eye open for a sea faring man with one leg

Jim Hawkins

Yes sir

Jim Hawkins

The Captain has stayed month after month and we have never seen a farthing more in rent from him.

Billy Bones

What! don't you trust an old pira... sailor's word. I'm good for that money, it's just a matter of tying up a few old friends...sorry, loose ends. You know, business deals; nothing illegal mind, all above board. After spending years at sea I've managed to put a few daboons away, offshore banking and all that, and it's just a matter of finding it

Jim Hawkins

In the evenings he would sit by the fire drinking far more rum than was good for him, singing his terrible songs and filling the parlour with his dreadful stories of

Billy Bones

Tortuga

Jim Hawkins

And....

Billy Bones

Walking the plank

Jim Hawkins

and

Billy Bones

Treasure!

Mrs Hawkins yawns

Billy Bones

Excuse me? Am I boring you?

Mrs Hawkins

Me? Oh, good heavens, no, I'm riveted

Billy Bones

Now don't get an ol' seaman wrong, I ain't afraid of no danger or adventure. I've sailed with Flint, the great Cap'n Flint, the pirate. And I was there when Flint died. Stretched out he was like a corpse, barely breathing, the fever workin' at his brain. He turned to me and said, Billy, my boy, you're the only one out of them lot I ever trusted. And then he began to sing: Seven men on a dead man's chest, yo ho ho and a bottle of rum. Why isn't anyone else singing?

Mrs Hawkins

We weren't all blessed with your beautiful singing voice, you know.

Billy Bones

Jim lad more rum!

Jim Hawkins

We have none left Captain, you have drunk the barrel

Billy Bones

Why is the rum always gone!

Mrs Hawkins

Billy Bones!

Billy Bones

Captain Billy Bones

Mrs Hawkins

That's enough out of you. I don't want you filling my Jim's head with your far-fetched pirate stories. Now be off with you!

Billy Bones

I'm going for some fresh air Jim!

Billy Bones exits

Mrs Hawkins

That's all he does Jim, look at him! Drinks our ale and upsets our customers its no wonder business is so quiet lately. I wouldn't mind so much but he just sits upstairs looking out to sea.

Mrs Hawkins exits. Enter Blackdog a buccaneer

Blackdog

Innkeeper! Innkeeper!!

Jim Hawkins

What's your pleasure sir?

Blackdog

I seek an old sea faring mate lad, Billy Bones!

Jim Hawkins

Captain!

Blackdog

Aye lad

Jim Hawkins

The Captain is at our inn sir!

Blackdog

Ah that's good lad, I've been searching for him for ever so long. Is he here now?

Jim Hawkins

He's out walking sir?

Blackdog

Which way, boy? Which way is he gone?

Jim Hawkins

He walks to the cliffs sir. You could wait here for his return

Blackdog

I'll do that lad! I'll do just that and you can wait with me!

*Suddenley we hear the familiar song 'fifteen men on a dead mans chest from The Captain'
Enter Billy Bones*

Billy Bones

Forgot my effects

Blackdog

Captain Billy Bones!!!

Billy Bones

Black Dog!

Blackdog

Aye Bill come to see his old shipmate Billy. Ah, Bill, Bill, we have seen a sight of times, us two!

Billy Bones

Now, look here, you've run me down; here I am; well, then, speak up; what is it?

Blackdog

Captain, come sit and share a drink with an old sailor mate. Rum lad! And be quick about it!

Jim pours the rum for them both and takes it to them sitting at a table

Blackdog

Thank ye lad! Now be off with you! And let two old soles have a yarn about the sea

Jim Hawkins

Yes sir!

Jim goes to clean and tidy whilst listening to the conversation between the two pirates

Blackdog

Well Bill, its taken me five years to track you down. Funny how you disappeared when Captain Flint died

Billy Bones

My work was done under Flint so there seemed little reason to remain

Blackdog

We is shipmates Bill, means we look after one another and as tight as anything. So here's what I figure Billy. I figure that when Flint died the Treasure map disappeared. Now I don't suppose you happen to know who had taken it?

Billy Bones

I don't know about no Treasure Map Blackdog!

Blackdog

Listen here Bill, that gold aint yours nor nobodys. It belongs to all hands that sailed under Captain Flint and now I've founds you we will come to terms on this or else this matter will take the tiller!

Billy Bones

I'll have no more of your gabbling. You aint getting nothing and theres an end on it

Blackdog

You'll swing Bill I will see to it

Billy Bones

If it comes to swinging, swing all!!

A fight ensues. Billy beats Blackdog, pulls his pistol but it misfires. Blackdog sees his opportunity to escape and runs.

Billy Bones

A doctor lad, fetch a doctor

Billy Bones overcome with exhaustion, fright and too much rum collapses

Scene 2 – A Bedroom at the Admiral Benbow Inn

Dr Livesey attends to Billy Bones who is in his bed. The doctor moves to have a quiet word with Jim Hawkins

Dr Livesey

This fellow is a disgrace upon the house. The man has had a bad turn, but he will mend with rest

Mrs Hawkins

Oh dear oh dear, struck by a cutlass in my inn. Oh this used to be such a nice neighbourhood

Dr Livesey

It still is madam. He bears no cutlass wound a stroke is well befell him. Too much rum I wager

Billy Bones

Silence there between decks!

Dr Livesey

I have only one thing to say to you, sir, that if you keep on drinking rum, the world will soon be quit of a very dirty scoundrel! Now I'm telling you as a doctor and I am ordering you as a magistrate – no more rum! Good day Mam, good day Jim

Mrs Hawkins

Let me see you out Doctor

Mrs Hawkins and Dr Livesey exit

Billy Bones

Jim, you're the only one here that's worth anything, and you know I've been always good to you. Jim, you'll bring me one noggin of rum, now, won't you, matey?

Jim Hawkins

But Dr Livesey said...

Billy Bones

What does Doctor's know eh Jim? Doctors is all swabs and that doctor there, why, what do she know about seafaring men? Be a good mate Jim?

Jim Hawkins

Just one glass and no more!

Billy Bones

You're a good mate Jim. I can trust a good mate! That's what they're after Jim!

Jim Hawkins

Somebody wants your old sea chest?

Billy Bones

No lad, it's not the chest they want. It's what's inside it!

Jim opens the sea chest and pulls out a package tied with string

Billy Bones

That's what they're after lad! Now they have found me it won't be long before they come with the black spot. When that happens, hasten after that doctor and tell him to bring the revenue officers for they will catch all of Captain Flint's old crew

Jim Hawkins

The crew of Captain Flint?

Billy Bones

I was Flint's first mate aboard the Walrus. When Flint double-crossed the others, he gave me the map and made me swear to keep it from them. Don't let them get it Jim. Not Pew or Blackdog or the one-legged sailor. Promise you will keep it safe for me Jim, promise me that!

Jim Hawkins

I promise, Captain, I promise!

Billy Bones V/O

Keep a weather eye open for a sea-faring man with one leg

Enter a blind beggar man Blind Pew

Blind Pew

Will any kind friend inform a poor blind man, whereabouts he is?

Jim Hawkins

You are at the Admiral Benbow Inn, Black Hill Cove, good sir

Blind Pew

I hear a voice, a young voice. Young sir, will you give a poor blind man a hand and lead me in?

Jim Hawkins

Of course sir. Let go

Blind Pew

Now, boy, take me in to the captain.

Jim Hawkins

Sir, upon my word I dare not.

Blind Pew

Take me in straight. Come, now, march, lead me straight up to him

Jim takes Blind Pew to the Captain's room

Blind Pew

Billy Bones

Billy Bones

Pew! Blind Pew!

Blind Pew

Aye its me Bones! And I got a little present for you! Hold out your hand boy! Place this in the Captains left hand

Jim is forced to give Billy Bones the blackspot as he does Blind Pew exits

Billy Bones

The blackspot!

Blind Pew

You have six hours. Then we'll be back, and we'll be having what's rightfully ours.

Billy Bones

Six hours! We'll beat them yet. Jim! Jim, my boy!

Jim Hawkins

Captain! What's the matter?

Billy Bones

Jimmy boy, it's all over. I'm going to see Davy Jones. They've given me the Black Spot.

Jim Hawkins

What is it?

Billy Bones

It's a summons, my boy. In the days when Captain Flint ruled the seas, the Black Spot was his calling-card. If you were given the Black Spot, you was a dead man walking (dies). Keep your promise to me Jim. Jim! (dies) Don't let me down. Jim! Never forget.....(dies)