**REDEMPTION ISLAND**

ARRGH! You be fixin’ to experience a raucous voyage on the high seas on the notorious pirate ship JIGSAW. For some reason, every time the JIGSAW comes into port, there is no crew left, so Cap’n Tor’ture goes on the hunt for new victims (errr…crew members). Economic times being what they are, you have signed your name in blood on the Manifest for this voyage to Redemption Island seeking treasure while trying to avoid treachery. Mystery be at every turn and Death may be right behind – so sail with caution and keep both eyes open (if you still have them both). If you be lucky, you will share in the treasure chest bounty. If you be not – say hello to Davy Jones…

**ASSIGNMENT** – dress accordingly for your assigned part, some props will be provided, but it is more fun if you surprise us with something original. Decorate your treasure chest PRIOR to the date of the play – be creative – treasure chest blanks and glue will be provided in CA. Study your part enough to get the gist of your character, so you can do your best to perform your part. HAVE FUN!!

**Characters:**

**Cap’n Tor’ture** - Abandoned as a child in a small boat sent out to sea, you were rescued by the pirate ship JIGSAW’S crew many years ago. You grew up rough and tough and eventually became the captain of the only place you ever would call home. Quite the scallywag, you dominate over your crew with an iron fist. Often queried as to why your crew comes up missing time after time, you ignore the question and only scowl.

**Skull and Crossbones** – Traveling musicians on land and Brothers to the end, you struck out seeking adventure on the high-seas. You dream of seeing new and exotic places and seeking treasures beyond compare. Known to frequently “tip the grog”, but all in good fun.

**Polly**  - Cap’n Tor’ture’s only and constant companion. If he had any real emotions, he would say he loved you, but that is not in his nature. However, he takes good care of you and takes you everywhere. Consequently, you have quite a good command of language and are quite the chatter-box.

**Brandy** – You’re a fine girl and will make someone a good wife someday. You pine over your lost love and carry the locket that he gave you. You have waited so long and finally have decided to go and find him, so you stow away on the JIGSAW in hopes of finding your true love.

**Old Crusty** - With age, comes experience. You are VERY experienced, and Cap’n Tor’ture is secretly hoping that your knowledge will finally get him to Redemption Island. Many times he has tried and many times he has failed. So, he has kidnapped you and is forcing you on this journey because he believes that you may hold the key to success and fortune.

**Pharmacia, the Sea Witch** – Potions and elixirs are your specialty. You lurk beneath the waves, seeking revenge on those who walk the land.

**Cutlass** - Master of Swords, you have defeated every foe with ruthless abandon. Nothing and No-one intimidates you. You have signed on to this voyage with fearless confidence that you will be the first JIGSAW crewmember to return home alive.

**Rodentia Agitatus Trespassus, aka R.A.T** – Un-beknownced to Cap’n Tor’ture, you have been on every voyage with him and know all of his secrets. This makes you the best Narrator for our tail (tale).

 **ACT 1**

**R.A.T.** - We open our story as the new crew loads supplies on the JIGSAW in anticipation of the voyage…

**Skull** – Heave-Ho, Crossbones! We need to get this cargo loaded before dark. We leave tomorrow at sunrise. I’ll check off the list as you go.

**Crossbones** – What do you mean – “check off the list”! I’m not loading all this shit myself – get your back into it and help me, you lazy SOB!

**Old Crusty** – Now mateys, that’s no way to start out. If we are to make it to Hell and back, we have to work together. Cap’n Tor’ture is up to no good, so we got to watch each other’s back. You finish loading the supplies and I’ll check off the list: a crate of citrus to stave off the scurvy; put those chickens down below (we’ll need those eggs and protein); a keg o’rum to keep us warm at night, you know; those bags of rice will have to stay dry, so stow them carefully near the galley; finally, there is this big box that is marked “DO NOT OPEN” – that goes to the Cap’ns quarters.

**Skull** – Crusty, do you know how to get to Redemption Island?

**Old Crusty** – The Cap’n seems to thinks I do – but tell truth, I have been close but never really made it myself. Barely got out of there with my life and vowed I’d never go back again. But with a gun to me head and a knife to me back, I guess I have no choice in the matter. So now, my goal is to get there and back alive. Mighty strange and scary tales have come off the JIGSAW, so like I says - watch yer backs.

**Crossbones** – I’m hopin’ that we make it to Redemption Island and find some booty (both the gold kind and the female kind). I’ve heard tales down at the Jolly Roger of all kinds of treasure and pleasure that Redemption Island has to offer. I guess that’s why we take the risks and face the danger, in hopes that we can cash in on the reward.

**R.A.T.** – These guys are clueless – they can’t even imagine the horror that awaits them. I have seen crews come and go and in my opinion, Davey Jones will be greeting them all pretty soon! Here comes another victim up the gangplank, now….

**Crossbones** - Ahoy, matey! Who goes there?

**Cutlass** (dragging a large sea chest) - I goes by the moniker Cutlass. Who be you?

**Crossbones** - I am Crossbones and this is my brother, Skull. The old salty dog over there goes by Old Crusty. What be in the trunk?

**Cutlass** – We be sailin’ some dangerous waters, so I brought my best swords and knives and some other essential items. Intending to kick some ass if I need to.

**Skull** – We already loaded the provisions, so why not use some of that macho energy to rig the sails and swab the deck – we leave at sunrise. Crossbones and I have to go down to the hold and secure the supplies. See you at first light.

**R.A.T.** – The sun will be up soon. Here comes the Cap’n - I’m going to stay hidden near this bilge-pump.

**Cap’n Tor’ture** – Get up, you scallywags! We got work to do! There be no slackin’ on the JIGSAW. Pull up the gangplank! Rudder out of port and head for the high seas. Hoist the main and catch the wind. Redemption Island is our target – keep yer wits about ye – thar be many dangers along the way. Puts yer backs into it! If I sees you slackin’, I will deal severely with ye.

**Polly** – Arghhh SEVERELY!

**R.A.T.** – I HATE that damn bird!

**Polly** – Pretty lady! Pretty lady!

**Cap’n Tor’ture -**  I know you are a pretty bird, but you are not a lady bird. Are you losin’ your sense of gender? You be a boy bird, for sure – so quit yer nonsense!

**Polly** - Pretty lady! Pretty lady! Looking Glass! Looking Glass!

**Cap’n Tor’ture** – Shut the hell up – or I may just clip yer manhood! I’m puttin’ you on yer perch in me cabin to cool off. (Goes to his cabin). Shiver me timbers! Who are you?

**Brandy** – Kind sir – my name is Brandy. Perhaps you remember me from the Jolly Roger. I heard that you were sailing and I knew that you would never agree to take me along, so I stowed away. Please forgive me, but I have to search for my only true love. All I have is this locket, but that does not keep me warm at night. I will work hard and earn my keep.

**Cap’n Tor’ture** – A woman on a ship! Thar is no more sinister bad luck than that! I should make you walk the plank, you stupid wench!

 **ACT 2**

**Old Crusty** – Cap’n! Cap’n! MIGHTY big storm is almost upon us – looks to be hurricane force winds. We need to batten down the hatches and ride this out -hurry!

**Cap’n Tor’ture** – I TOLD you women is bad luck! You get below, I will deal with you later.

**R.A.T.** – The storm hit with a vengeance. The JIGSAW was caught in a maelstrom and battered and beaten severely - swirling and pitching violently. Water came over the sides and the crew diligently manned the bilge pump to keep afloat. The main mast snapped in half and tore a hole through the deck. By the time the storm subsided, the JIGSAW was a shadow of herself, limping in the water, barely sea-worthy and certainly not fit to complete a long and perilous journey. The sun returned, but hopes were dashed and the crew contemplated their next move – when all of a sudden the waters beneath them turned an inky black and churned as if it was boiling. Out of the water rose an un-godly sight – the Sea-Witch had come to visit.

**Polly** – Sea-Witch! See Bitch!

**Sea Witch** – Shut that bird up or I will have him for my dinner! You have come to my waters uninvited and unwelcome. I hope that you are prepared to pay the price – or die. Who be the Captain of this poor excuse for a vessel?

**Cap’n Tor’ture** – It be me – Cap’n Tor’ture.

**Sea Witch** – I have heard of you! Unlucky at love and even more unlucky on your voyages. Davey Jones tells me that you have sent him many a visitor. It seems today is another one of your unlucky days. Unless you can pay my toll in silver, you all will die.

**Cap’n Tor’ture –** My lady – we are just starting out on our journey and have yet to collect our treasure, but if you are willing to wait until we return from Redemption Island we will have plenty of treasure with which we can pay you. If you kill us now, you will surely get nothing.

**Sea Witch** – Redemption Island? Hah! Even the best of sailors have tried and failed. What makes you think you and your pathetic crew can succeed where so many others have failed? However, you do make a point – something is better than nothing and either way, you all die. I will require a down-payment though and I will accept nothing less than silver.

**Brandy** – I stowed away on this ship to search for true love and my actions have brought many hardships to this crew. Will you accept this locket as down-payment? The braided chain is made of the finest silver from the North of Spain.

**Sea Witch** – What is this writing on the locket?

**Brandy** – It is the name of the sailor that I love – Paul Evermore. If you would be so kind to return the locket to me after we bring the treasure to you, I would be forever grateful. It has great sentimental value.

**Sea Witch** – Not so fast, girlie – I haven’t said that I would accept this small token as a down-payment. As I see it, I am in the bargaining position to call the shots here. I think I deserve a little more collateral. It is lonely down in the depths of the sea and I require some companionship. Would you consider staying with me until your partners in crime return? If so, drink this potion and you will be able to live under the sea and keep me company.

**Brandy** – Since I either go beneath the sea with you and live, or walk the plank into the sea and die. I choose life. (Turns to the crew) Please don’t forget to come back for me. (She drinks the potion and sinks beneath the waves with the Sea Witch).

**R.A.T.** – Brandy sacrificed herself for the good of the crew and they vowed to do right by her. The sea churned again and the ship began to repair itself until it became sea-worthy again. The Sea Witch knew that only a capable ship could complete the journey so she could get her payment. Once the repairs were completed, we re-set our course toward Redemption Island.

**Polly** – Bye-Bye Pretty Lady! Bye, Bye Pretty Lady! Bye, Bye Sea Bitch!

 **ACT 3**

**Old Crusty** – Heads up, mateys! We be coming into dangerous waters.

**Cap’n Tor’ture -** Cutlass, Skull, Crossbones – man yer’stations!

**Cutlass –** There be rocks and boulders up ahead.

**Skull -** Those aren’t rocks, they are giant snapping turtles. Keep away from them – they’ve been known to ram into the sides of ships and bash holes as big as elephants.

**Crossbones** – To port, to port! God damn it – to port! That one just missed us – we were almost broadsided. I think the worst is behind us now.

**Cutlass -** The hell you say! There be serpents ahead! I’m goin’ below to get my weapons – we’ll be needin’ them. (Comes back with sword in hand) Come here you SOB, I’ve got a present for ye. (Slashes at the serpent’s head – he kills the serpent, but in the course of doing so, he falls overboard…) AAARGH!!!!

**Old Crusty –** Man overboard, man overboard. Toss him a line!

**Skull –** (tosses a line) Grab on Cutlass – we’ll pull you in. (Cutlass grabs on and Skull and Crossbones start to pull him back – but they find the task more difficult than expected)

**Cutlass** – Something has a grip on me leg – pull harder! (They finally get him back over the rail, but attached to his leg is a HUGE Crab)

**Skull –** We be eatin’ good tonight!

**Crossbones** – Not me, can’t eat no fish with legs or I’d look like a lobster myself!

**Skull** – More for me then!

**Polly** – Land-ho! Land-ho!

**Cap’n Tor’ture -**  The bird be right – land ahead. But don’t lose ‘yer focus – these be the most treacherous waters yet. Keep ‘yer eyes peeled.

**Old Crusty** - The Cap’n is right – this be where I almost met my maker. We were so close to Redemption Island. We started celebrating and we heard music coming from inside the ship. I went down to the hold and found it filled with RATS. SINGING RATS! When I raced back up to the deck, I found none of my fellow crew in sight…just a bloody deck and that pulsating music.

**R.A.T.** – My brothers meant no harm, they only wanted to welcome you to the Island. It has been so long since we had any humans on our Island and we need to re-populate. We miss the scraps and the pollution that only you can produce. We need garbage to rummage through and sewers to bathe in and roofs to scale.

**Polly –** Roof Rats! Roof Rats! Brandy! Brandy!

**Cap’n Tor’ture** – No time for requests! If not the rats, what DID kill Old Crusty’s crewmates?

**R.A.T.** – I honestly do not know for all of my brothers were in the hold and saw nothing.

**Pharmacia** – (gazing into a large pearl) I see that Cap’n Tor’ture and his crew have reached the shallow waters near Redemption Island. I never thought that I would see the day! No matter, I will dispatch with them as I have done with so many others so many times before.

**Brandy –** What do you mean? Why don’t you help them instead of hurt them?

**Pharmacia -** I have a deal with Davey Jones. We hate those damn rats and their music. We have no power on Redemption Island, so our only way of ridding ourselves of them is to starve them. If humans make it to Redemption Island, our plan will be thwarted. So, he sets up obstacles for the sailors along the way and I occasionally have to deal with those few who get past his arsenal. Today, I will unleash the Crapper! I will take this excrement of the giant squid and toss in a drop of the most deadly anemone venom. Now to bring it to life with a shock from the electric eel….Aha!

**R.A.T. –** The waters swirled around the JigSaw and a large, dark cloud engulfed the deck. A putrid smell permeated the air (rather pleasant to me, but it made the others wretch).

**Brandy –** (looking into the pearl) No, Pharmacia! (She grabs the electric eel and plunges it into Pharmacia, killing her). I have been watching you all this time Pharmacia and have learned a bit of your craft. I think I can save them. (she takes her silver locket from around the neck of the dead Pharmacia and dips it into the Crapper potion – rendering it inert). The purity of love overcomes evil.

**Polly** – All gone, All gone (the cloud lifts and the water stops swirling – their passage to Redemption Island is clear). Land Ho! Land Ho!

**R.A.T.** – Brothers – I am home! (Music comes from the shore)

**Cutlass, Skull, Crossbones -** Time to party!

**Cap’n Torture** – You go on ahead. Polly and I will take the dingy and try to find Brandy. Somehow, I feel there is unfinished business with her. A good Captain does not strand his crew – we made a deal with Pharmacia and I intend to keep it.

 **ACT 4**

**Polly** – My love! My love!

**Old Crusty** – Look there, Cap’n – no need to go lookin’ for somebody that is right behind you! Brandy – how did you manage to escape the Sea Witch?

**Brandy -** Let’s just say….she was shocked. I took the time to gather all of her potions and ingredients and most importantly, her recipes. With all that magic at your disposal, you can get around quite quickly and go just about anywhere. But, I wanted to come back here and beg you to take me on the remainder of your journeys in hopes of finding my love, Paul.

**Polly –** Evermore! Evermore!

**Cap’n Tor’ture –** This is not time to (badly) quote Poe! We should be celebrating.

**Brandy –** No, wait – Evermore was my true love’s last name. I wish this bird could explain to me how he knew that.

**Old Crusty** – Why don’t you try giving him one of those potions to see if you can get him to talk more like a human?

**Brandy –** Good idea – there is a potion recipe in the book named “Humanize” – maybe that will work. It calls for a bit of Spanish silver – thank goodness for my locket. There we go all complete. Come here Polly, will you take a drink?

**Polly** – (Drinks the potion and magically turns into a man) Brandy! I have waited all these years to see you again and to hold you in my arms. It was stupid of me to leave you and go back out to sea so many years ago. Our vessel ran into that nasty Sea Bitch and she turned me into a squawking parrot. Since then, I have been sailing with the Cap’n. When we first met, he asked me my name – but of course being a parrot – I couldn’t communicate very well. All I could say was Paul E. – but he heard it as “Polly” and my fate was sealed. I always hoped we would travel back to the Jolly Roger. When we finally did, I couldn’t speak to you or hold you or kiss you – it was so frustrating.

**Cap’n Tor’ture** – All’s well that ends well. I hear the Roof Rats rockin’ on the beach, so I suggest we join up with our crew and get our party on.

**R.A.T. –** When we got to shore, there was a feast of all feasts (a good start on the garbage production project). Also, the rats had our treasure already dug up and ready for us all. Redemption Island became our home and the rats became our friends.