

The Treasure of the Pirate Ship



Makoenders

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Translated from the Dutch
by Wouter van Schie
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Characters

Captain Big Ear

Navigator (m/f)

Ella, female sailor, half of twins

Bella, female sailor, other half of twins

Police officer (m/f)

Otto, male sailor, half of twins

Arno, male sailor, half of twins

Cookie, the cook (m/f)

Carpenter (m/f)

Stowaway, Paula

Honey, wife of captain

Maffio/merman

Parrot (voice only)

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(The stage is a pirate ship. It has the name of 'PIRATES SHIP', and the letters of this name are separately attached to the sail. The ship has small windows, portholes, and blinds, mast, and crow's nest (where there 'really' is a 'crow'), a bird cage with a parrot you'll find hanging on the right side of the bow. There is a cabin 'downstairs'; the male sailors Otto and Arno, identical twins, are standing on the deck; they are kind of busy with ropes and sail stuff, performing the exact same activities; Cookie is on the port side (left), fishing in the ocean; the carpenter is filing his saw; the sailors are singing a sailor's song; there is a bunch of sailing gear on board)

SCENE ONE

(Sailors sing till the captain arrives on stage out of the cabin)

CAPTAIN: *(enters)* Woman! Woman! ...Honey, where are you?! ...Sailors, did anybody see my wife?

OTTO and ARNO: No, captain.

CAPTAIN: Maybe she's still swimming, or she's fighting with a shark ... *(looks over the parapet, points into the water)*. Look, there she goes! Hmmm... Let's weigh anchor and leave as soon as we can... Hahahaha!

OTTO and ARNO: *(looking very startled over the parapet)* But, captain, your wife...

CAPTAIN: Joking, sailors, I'm only joking...! Hahahaha!

HONEY: *(from behind the side wings, stage left)* Yoohoo, here I am ...

CAPTAIN: Beautiful. Sailors, hoist the sails! We're departing! *(At this very moment the sailors raise the anchor and hoist the sails)*

PARROT: Hoist the sails! We're departing!

CAPTAIN: *(to Cookie)* Morning, Cookie! ...What's for dinner today? *(Cookie lifts his fishing-rod, there's nothing on it)*

PARROT: What's for dinner today?

COOKIE: Not too much, yet, captain!

CAPTAIN: Hmm... Keep working on it, Cookie! Or else the sharks will get a cookie tonight! Hahaha!... ...Woman! *(puts his hand around his one big ear gesturing that he hears somebody coming; Arno and Otto both grab a broom and start sweeping)*

HONEY: *(from behind side wings)* Coming! *(she enters, with a towel around her wet hair)* Yes, o yes, I'm here... What's up?

CAPTAIN: Honey, I already heard you coming, even before you appeared...

HONEY: Yes, my dear, you've only got one, but it works fabulously ...

CAPTAIN: What did you say? ...O yes! O yes! Sure! ...Honey, show me your finger... *(Honey holds up her middle finger in the "I-hate-you"-way (flips him the finger), smiling triumphantly at the audience; the captain is immediately frightened)* ...No, no, that's not what I meant!

...Cannon balls! ...I meant your ring finger. Look at this! *(shows her a ring)* ...Part of the treasure... Honestly stolen, yesterday, from that African ship. The name of the ship, you won't believe it, is, by coincidence, 'African Treasure', hahahaha... Very appropriate, hahahaha! *(takes her ring finger and puts the ring on it)*

HONEY: O, dear! Thank you! ...It's beautiful! ...O, I love you so much! i love you! *(embraces him, but the captain holds off)*

CAPTAIN: Not here, where everybody is a witness, Honey, please...

HONEY: Okay, so you won't get a kiss... *(leaves from the deck, with the ring on her finger)*

CAPTAIN: Ella! Bella! ...Hey, where are those twins...?!

(Ella and Bella, twin sisters, one tall and slim, the other smaller and fatter, show their sleepy faces one after the other through a porthole; these girls don't do exactly the same things, contrary to Arno and Otto)

ELLA: The captain is calling us ...

BELLA: ...So, then we'd better show up...

CAPTAIN: Ella! Bella! *(they come on deck and salute the captain; Arno and Otto stop sweeping, they look at Ella and Bella)* Prepare my hammock!

ELLA and BELLA: Huh? ...Ay, ay, sir!

CAPTAIN: What 'ay ay? ...Get to work! Now!

ELLA and BELLA: Ayi, ay, sir!

CAPTAIN: What did I tell you to do, by all that's nasty. Do I have to have you keelhauded?!

PARROT: Keelhaul! Keelhaul!

ELLA and BELLA (*pointing in shock over the parapet into the water, shaking their heads to say 'No!'*) No, no, please, we can't swim!

CAPTAIN: Is that so? ...Well, hurry up, then! You bunch of losers!

(*Ella and Bella look at each other a little sluggish, nod affirmatively that they are a bunch of losers, and then leave the stage*)

CAPTAIN: Navigator!

NAVIGATOR: (*from behind the side wings*) I'm coming, tapcain! (*a moment later on stage*) ...I'm here, tapcain!

CAPTAIN: Captain, Cap-tain, you big fool!

NAVIGATOR: Yes sir, I am, that's for sure, I am a fig bool!, tapcain, eh... big fool, eh... captain...

CAPTAIN: (*at first with his hand on the side of his head where he has no ear, then with his hand behind his big ear*) What did you say? You called me tapcain again? Tapcain? It's cap-tain! Cap-tain! Captain!!! You stupid pig!

NAVIGATOR: (*calm*) O yes, my captain, I am a pupid stig! Sure!

CAPTAIN: Out of my sight! (*Navigator does so and leaves*) Come back immediately!

NAVIGATOR: But you told me ...

CAPTAIN: Do as I say!

NAVIGATOR: Yes, but I did ...

CAPTAIN: Okay, okay, well that's for the first time in your life... Attention! Push the right button: three knots to the right!

NAVIGATOR: (*looks at and touches three buttons on his jacket*) What do you mean, sir? Aren't we going straight?

CAPTAIN: (*boos*) Three knots to the right, you nincompoop!

NAVIGATOR: O, but I prefer daisies, sir, I like them better, tapca... eh... captain... ...Ay, ay, sir. I will steer...

(*So we see him turning the wheel. Ella and Bella come back with the hammock, and they take a long time to arrange it, hang it out and try it, and so on; Carpenter, Cookie, Otto, and Arno watch compassionately and shake their heads*)

NAVIGATOR: Oh!!! (*the wheel is suddenly lost, it's broken, Navigator has it in his hands, and the audience can see that he and other sailors move back and forth; Navigator wants to put the wheel back in place, but it won't work*)

NAVIGATOR: Parkenter, melp ee!!! Eh... Carpenter, help me!

CARPENTER: (*on*) What's up, Rudder boy?

NAVIGATOR: I... eh... I turned the wheel and then it came loose.

CARPENTER: In which direction did you move it?

NAVIGATOR: (*seriously*) To the right way ...

CARPENTER: Fine. That's clear then... As they say, the best navigators walk ashore... Eh..., let me handle this (*gets a hammer, saw, chisel, and screw driver, puts a pencil behind his ears, takes the folding rule or measury tape; puts back the wheel and blows on it two or three times*) Well, that's fixed, or your name isn't Bob.

NAVIGATOR: No, that's wrong.

CARPENTER: It fits, don't you see! ...Look, your wheel has been repaired, steer dear.

NAVIGATOR: No, it's wrong.

CARPENTER: What's wrong?

NAVIGATOR: My name is Pete.

CARPENTER: O, but my name is not Pete.

NAVIGATOR: What is it?

CARPENTER: Bob.

NAVIGATOR: O.
CARPENTER: P
NAVIGATOR: Q
CARPENTER: *(sings)* RSTUV
NAVIGATOR: *(sings)* WXYZ
CARPENTER: Yoho!

(Navigator makes the ship go straight ahead and wipes the sweat from his face; Carpenter starts sharpening his saw; Captain leaves, shaking his head; Navigator at the helm almost falls asleep, wakes up and is frightened because the ship is going into the wrong direction and he turns the wheel brutally, so everybody falls on deck; in the meantime Ella and Bella have been busy with the hammock, Cookie is fishing, and now Otto and Arno are leaving the stage)

(Ella and Bella call the Captain to inform him that the hammock is ready.)

BELLA: Sir!

CAPTAIN: *(from behind the side wings)* Cáptain!

BELLA: Sir Captain...

CAPTAIN: *(comes on stage)* Yes, what's up?

ELLA: Sir Captain, your hammock's up

CAPTAIN: Hmm... it's about time... *(goes to the hammock, steps into it, tries to lie down, but falls out immediately; Ella and Bella are watching; they are smiling, together with Cookie and Carpenter)* Oh deary deary us!!!

ELLA and BELLA: Oh, oh... the captain...

CAPTAIN: ...Come here! *(they approach carefully)* Grrrr... You bunch of guppies!

Tadpoles...! ...By all the biting sharks in the sea! You can't even hang a simple hammock!

You good-for-nothings... Losers! ...I want you out of my sight!!! ...I am the Captain of this

ship, and I must hang my hammock myself... It's unbelievable! Look, people... *(to the*

audience) ...I can at least tie some real seamen's knots in the rope ... *(Ella and Bella watch the captain tying up the hammocks ropes and see how he puts himself in it again; just like a few moments before, he falls down again, surprised, he shakes his head and his face shows anger; Ella, Bella, Cookie and Carpenter are laughing)*

CAPTAIN: *(screaming)* Honey?! *(Stowaway shows her face through the porthole for a moment)*

PARROT: *(also screaming)* Honey!

HONEY: *(from behind the curtains, left)* What's up?

CAPTAIN: I fell out of my hammock... I'm hurt! *(starts crying like a child)* And everybody's being unkind to me...

HONEY: *(comes on stage left; supports the crying captain and takes him away into the cabin stage left)* ...Come with me, baby... *(captain off, mooing, Honey is kind to him; Navigator off too, and also Ella and Bella leave the stage, taking the hammock with them)*

COOKIE: *(has caught something)* Aha! Got it! Yes! Let's see... Hmm, we eat smoked salmon today ... *(he shows the audience a big fish that has a cigarette in his mouth; Carpenter shows some interest, Cookie goes to the 'kitchen' stage right and starts to prepare the 'dinner'; he works with a knife, puts pepper and salt into the food, throws a fishbone into the sea, nips from a bottle of wine once in a while; Carpenter notices the smell and follow it to the pan)*

CARPENTER: That smells good, Cookie! *(sarcastically)* Looks like you're really a good cook... ...what you're not... So, come on, let's have a little break now. I'm taking a nap...

COOKIE: *(a little irritated)* Yes, me too, old chap...

CARPENTER: No, a náp.

COOKIE: Yes, cháp.

CARPENTER: O.

COOKIE: P!

CARPENTER: Q!
(both off stage, while ending the alphabet)

ARNO: (after checking that Carpenter and Cookie are gone) Otto?

OTTO: Yes, Arno?

ARNO: What's the situation with the treasure chest captured from the Africans?

OTTO: What do you mean? You know it's full of gold and jewelry. ...And it's all for the captain...

ARNO: Why, yes...

OTTO: Why, yes...

ARNO: And we don't get nothing... Nothing at all...

OTTO: Of course not... We get paid, you know, our salary, thirty bucks, the rest is for the captain. That's how it is in the pirate tales in young kids' books ...

ARNO: But, Otto...

OTTO: Yes, Arno...?

ARNO: This is not a young kids' book...

OTTO: No, this is a story for all ages in which everything is possible ...! Of course...!

ARNO: Exactly! So...

OTTO: So...?

ARNO: So, the treasure needs not only be for the captain...

OTTO: No, that's correct. Of course, it needs not be so... ...but I'm afraid it is...

ARNO: Of course, of course... hmm, now I'm starting to 'of course' as well... ...but...

(whispers something in Otto's ear; Otto's eyes start to shine, but then he looks afraid)

OTTO: But if we get caught...

ARNO: Then we've bad luck, and the captain will feed us to the sharks alive...

OTTO: (walks forward, looks over the parapet) ...Gosh... And we can't even swim...

ARNO: (looks over the parapet as well) Gosh.. yes... Believe me, our plan will succeed! I'm sure of it! (Ella and Bella coming on stage) Just don't tell anything to Bella and Ella...

OTTO: Of course not! That's why we are twins... And nothing to the captain either, I guess?

ARNO: No, of course not, you moron! (kicks Otto in the ass)

OTTO: Of course! That's what I say... Don't hurt me, please...

ARNO: Then it's okay... Now... ...I am getting excited... ...I've to pee into the sea... (Arno goes to the back of the stage, stands with his back to the audience and takes a leak, ending with a loud fart)

(Ella and Bella to Otto)

ELLA: What were you talking about?

OTTO: I'm not telling you anything! I'm not going to tell you that the treas... (puts his hand to his mouth)

ELLA: What did you say?

OTTO: Nothing, nothing at all...

BELLA: O yes, you said something!

OTTO: Of course, of course. But I won't tell you that...

(Bella and Ella grab Otto)

BELLA: 'Of course' you are going to tell us! And you will do it now! Or do you want another kick in the ass?

OTTO: No, no, please, don't! I will tell you... But don't tell Arno... because otherwise he will kick me in the ass...

ELLA: (threatening) Speak up! Talk! Now! (Arno farts again)

OTTO: (gestures Bella and Ella to come closer, they do so, but when their faces are very close, he suddenly yells) Booh!!! (Bella and Ella are startled and run away a little, Otto runs away too, Bella and Ella go after him; Otto hides behind Arno, his hand going to his nose, to show the audience it smells bad there...; Arno pulls up the zipper of his pants and turns around)

ARNO: (against the girls) What do you want from my little brother?

ELLA: He doesn't want to tell us what you were talking about just before!
BELLA: We want to know it as well! It's about the treasure, isn't it?
OTTO: (*nods anxiously 'yes'*) Yes, yes, eh... (*Arno looks mad. Then Otto shakes 'no' with his head*) O, no, no...
BELLA: (*to Ella*) You see?!
ARNO: What do you see that I don't see? The captain owns the treasure, and nobody is allowed to touch it! Is that clear? Nobody! (*winks at Otto*)
ELLA: Something wrong with your eye?
ARNO: O yes, that's right. There is some dust in my eye ...
ELLA: (*with genuine friendliness*) I will get it out for you (*removes the dust, and quickly gives a little kiss on Arno's cheek*)
ARNO: (*shy and full of surprise*) I'll be damned! (*Otto and Bella are looking at Ella and Arno; then they look at each other, a little in love*)
BELLA: Well, I'll be jiggered! (*looks over the sea*)
PARROT: Will I be jiggered too?
ELLA, ARNO and OTTO: Holy cow!
BELLA: Look, who's coming!
OTTO: (*looking shocked*) Help! The naval police ... Of course, of course... the naval police, just now, when we're having a treasure aboard, with gold and jewelry... O, my God...!
ARNO: O me, I have to pee! (*nervously*) O, me, I really have to pee ...
PARROT: I have to pee, too!
OTTO: (*at Arno*) Again? You just took a leak...
ARNO: Yes, yes, yes, but every time I see the naval police I have to pee, I can't help it... (*holds his crotch*)

CAPTAIN (*captain enters*) Men! I hear the naval police! (*looks out over the sea with his telescope and sees the naval police; Navigator comes on stage*)
ARNO: Quickly, scramble the letters!
BELLA: Scramble? Which letters?
ARNO: Don't you get it? On the board! Change the word into 'Practise'!
BELLA: I don't know what you mean...
ARNO: Not 'Pirate', but 'Practise', fast!
ELLA: (*understands it now and she changes the letters as quickly as she can; the audience sees 'PRATISE'*)
NAVIGATOR (*loud*) Lopice! Lopice! (*Stowaway opens the porthole and shows her head for a moment*)
CARPENTER: (*on stage, with a sleepy face*) ...Are we getting a ticket?
COOKIE: (*on stage, also with a sleepy face*) ...Is the fish well done already?
CAPTAIN: (*you can see he is angry*) Your warning comes a little late, Navigator! ...And it is 'police', po-lice!
NAVIGATOR: Yes, Tapcain, eh... Captain!

POLICE OFFICER: (*coming as much downstage as possible, maybe on a skateboard with mainsail*) Good morning, everybody! ...Can I ask you two questions?
CAPTAIN: About what, copp... I mean, officer?
OTTO: (*shy, nervous*) Not about the treas... (*Arno pokes his side*) ...eh charming red socks of Bella?
BELLA: (*lifts her pants or dress and puts one leg in the air and shows some red socks full of holes; she is flattered*) ...Do you think so? Thank you!
POLICE OFFICER: No, no... First question: you are not pirates, I guess? (*everybody shakes his head, Otto nods 'yes' at first, but Arno pokes his side and then he shakes his head as well*)
CARPENTER: Well, I'm a carpenter, but everybody else... (*points at the sailors*) ...they are pir...

POLICE OFFICER: ...Yes, a pear... (*points at Arno and Otto*) Yes, you both look very similar, you must be...

OTTO and ARNO: ...O yes, we are, we are twins indeed ...

POLICE OFFICER: I understand. (*against Bella en Ella*) But you two, you both clearly are nót!...

BELLA and ELLA: ...O yes, we are... We're twins too!

POLICE OFFICER: Really? (*shakes his head*) Well, okay, okay...

PARROT: Olé!

POLICE OFFICER: Huh?

PARROT: Huh? (*for a moment the police officer is annoyed by the parrot*)

POLICE OFFICER: Stupid animal!

PARROT: Stupid cop! (*police officer even more annoyed*)

POLICE OFFICER: What?

PARROT: What?

POLICE OFFICER: Whatever... Did you see a stowaway?

ELLA: A whát, officer?

CAPTAIN: A stowaway, men. That's somebody who sails along on your ship without paying. Then you will find him and you throw him over the parapet and feed him to the sharks! O yes! Hahahaha! (*they all laugh, Stowaway shows her frightened face for a moment, through the porthole*) No, mister officer, stowaways, we don't have any of them aboard...

POLICE OFFICER: All right then, okay.

PARROT: Olé! (*again the police officer is annoyed by the parrot*)

POLICE OFFICER: So now the second question... (*Bella puts her finger in the air, she wants attention*)

CAPTAIN: What do you want, Bella?

BELLA: Well, Sir Captain, mister Police officer said he would ask us two questions. He already asked if we were pirates ánd if we have some stowa-whatever on board...

CAPTAIN: Very good, Bella!

POLICE OFFICER: All right then. Thírd question. Do you have gold and jewelry on your ship?

NAVIGATOR: Jold and gewelry? O, no, sir, that we don't have! Honestly no!

POLICE OFFICER: Shall I step onto your boat and check it? (*takes a few steps to the pirate ship*)

CAPTAIN: But of course, mister officer, you're welcome! Please, step aboard...

POLICE OFFICER: Okay, well, it's all right then, I trust you ...

CAPTAIN: (*uses a handkerchief to sweep off the sweat form his face*) As you like it, mister officer, as you like....

OTTO: We don't have a treasure aboard, mister officer!

POLICE OFFICER: Huh?

PARROT: Huh?

POLICE OFFICER: I did not ask you about that, did I?

OTTO: No, no, of course, but I thought... mister officer will probably ask a fourth question and this one will be if we have some treasure from Africa on our ship, or something like that... But we haven't...

POLICE OFFICER: Hmm... All right then... Well, I have to go now... Listen carefully, my friends. If you might hear anything about some treasury from Africa ...

ARNO: ...Then we will immediately warn you, mister officer.

POLICE OFFICER: Very well! And if you meet some bandit form Italy...

BELLA: (*little scared*) ...Then we know where we can find you, mister officer! For sure...! (*police officer wants to leave, everybody relaxes, but suddenly he turns around and everybody is alert again*)

POLICE OFFICER: Something else..., why is the name of your ship 'Pratise Ship'?

CAPTAIN: I cannot read nor write. ...Bella! Answer the police officer!

BELLA: Well, we are a practice ship, officer. On this ship you can learn how to sail the ocean, we can 'practise', you see?

POLICE OFFICER: Aha! It's what I thought! So... ..didn't you go to school, when you were a child?

BELLA: Well, long ago, sir, a very long time ago, I went to school... for at least three days all together... After that I did not like it anymore and I went sailing ...

POLICE OFFICER: I understand, I understand completely. Because it must be 'Practise Ship', with a 'cee' in it... ..'cccccccc'!

ALL: (*in surprise*) Cccccccc... (*it sounds the same as the police officer's 'cccccc'*)

BELLA: I'm slightly daft, officer...

POLICE OFFICER: Well, I can see that... But when, after al these years, you are still working on a practise ship, there is no hope for any career anymore... ..Well, folks, my greetings! Goodbye!

(*police officer leaves, shaking his head; everybody relaxes, but the man is coming back again*) There is something else I have to tell you... The weather forecast, it's not too good... .. The weather calls for a thunderstorm ... You'd better watch out for it!

CAPTAIN: Thank you for warning us, officer... (*police officer is really leaving now*)

CAPTAIN: (*to all*) Men, that was really close! Cccccccc...! Come on, back to work again! (*Stowaway shows her head again through the porthole*)

NAVIGATOR: That was clery vose!

BELLA: Clery vose?

ELLA: Very close...

BELLA: Ooo... I see...

CARPENTER: O yes, Navigator has some speech problems, you know... You know that? (*he puts the letters of the word 'PRATISE' back into the correct order 'PIRATES'*)

CAPTAIN: Cookie, how's dinner? I'm hungry... And I hope the food is full of vitamines, otherwise we will all have scurvy again...

PARROT: I'm starving! ...I'm starving!

COOKIE: (*puts away his bottle*) The fi-hish ish in the p-pan, captain...

CAPTAIN: I need some real good food... But first I am taking a nap... Back to work, sailors!

Ella, Bella, rub the deck at starboard!

BELLA: Starboard, Sir Captain?

CAPTAIN: Yes, starboard! ...You are nót going to tell me that you don't know where that is? Didn't you learn that in school? What did you do those three days...? Not very much, I guess?

BELLA: Eh..., indeed, Sir Captain, I did not pay very much attention...

CAPTAIN: Starboard is on the right side...!

BELLA: Yes, thank you. O yes... But... Where is the right side exactly...?

CAPTAIN: It's the opposite from the left side; there, where it is port side, you noodle!

BELLA: Yes, I understand, Sir Captain, but... ..where might that be...?

CAPTAIN: Listen carefully, you fool, it's therrrrrrre, (*points to the right side*) ...In starrboard there is a rrrrrrr, of 'rrrrrrright side'... Get it? Now remember!

BELLA: Yes, Sir Captain!

CAPTAIN: Starrboard rrrright side... Now you know once and for all!

BELLA: (*a bit shy*) Yes..., but, Sir Captain...

CAPTAIN: What can there still be, Bella?

BELLA: Eh..., Sir Captain... in eh... porrrrrrrt side there is a rrrrrrr as well...

CAPTAIN: Grrrrrrrrrrrrrr! (*Honey calls the captain from behind the curtains, with 'Jooohoo...!', then the captain leaves the stage, shaking his head*) Honey! I'm on my way ... (*and he walks into the cabin, growling with pleasure*)

PARROT: Honey, I'm on my way!

COOKIE: I'll bring you some wine, ca-haptain, from what's left over! (*brings the half empty bottle into the cabin, we hear Honey giggling and a few seconds later we hear snoring sounds; then Cookie comes back on deck, but he is very tired and falls asleep, hanging over the parapet*)

ARNO: Well, now it is time for my nap as well! (*winks at Otto, only visible to the audience*)

OTTO: Yes, all right, it's okay... Of course I will help you with your nap... *(also winks at the audience, looks up in the air then)* Look! Dark clouds! It might be raining cats and dogs soon ... *(they are lying down, 'snoring' very loudly)*

CARPENTER: I think it's siesta time now... *(takes a nap on stage)*

NAVIGATOR: And I will continue navigating ... *(takes the wheel in his hand, but soon falls asleep)*

ELLA: *(yawning)* ...Navigating? Nappy taking, he means ... Let's drop anchor for our safety... *(they drop anchor)* Well, it's time for us as well...

BELLA: *(yawning)* ...for our afternoon nap *(they drop anchor and act as if they go to sleep; it is getting dark, the wind starts to blow, Arno and Otto stand up)*

ARNO: Come on, Otto, but be silent, or everybody wakes up ... Sstt!

OTTO: Yes, yes, I know... *(much louder)* Ssssstt!!! *(Arno gestures for him to calm down; they go for the treasure in the cabin, at this moment Ella and Bella 'wake up' and see Arno and Otto entering the cabin. They gesture 'Silence!' to each other, and they step cautiously into the same direction as Arno and Otto, but they return to their sleeping positions as soon as they see Arno and Otto coming out of the cabin with the treasure chest. Arno and Otto are dragging the chest to the kitchen and they hide it behind the stove, after which they go to sleep on the deck. Now Ella and Bella walk cautiously to the chest, but they notice that the porthole opens, and they pretend to sleep again)*

STOWAWAY: *(puts her head through the porthole, talks 'quietly' to the audience, she definitely has an African accent)* Hello kids ... Sssst! Don't tell anybody that I'm here, okay? ...Please? ...I am a stowaway, yes, I came aboard secretly, sneakily. I was in the harbour and then I was hidden all the time ... I saw the captain and his men stealing the treasure from that African ship, oh! There must be a fortune in gold, silver and jewelry aboard... And I will try to recapture it, take it back to Africa and give it to the poor people there. Then they will have some money to buy clothes and food... O me, what do I see? *(closes the porthole; turns to Maffio who comes running alongside the ship in a rowboat)*

MAFFIO: *(panting and gasping nervously, whispering to the audience)* Well thatte wasse some stronke, crispy rowinke ... Santa Lucia! Those pirates hadde the speedde, but I succeededde... Alle by meself I came rowink from the Afrikan shippe to thisse... ..Pirates Shippe. Now I needde to catche the treasure in a clever way somehowe ... Haha! Do notte telle anybody thatte I amme here, children!... *(goes aboard, attaches his little boat to the ship, looks a bit for the treasury but finds nothing, and says then)* ...I amme gettink hungry from thisse searchink, I amme goink to lookke in the kitchene... *(he finds the treasure chest, and pulls it cautiously over the deck to his little boat; Stowaway comes out of the porthole; accidentally they touch each other's back and they both are startled, they want to shout something, but they hold back since Otto and Arno, and Bella and Ella, make some noises in their 'sleep'; fast as lightning Maffio pulls a sail over the treasure chest)*

MAFFIO: *(whispering)* Who arre you? You do notte lookke like one pirate!

STOWAWAY: No, that's because I'm not a pirate. My name is Paula. I am a stowaway, I came along secretly. And who are you?

MAFFIO: I amme Maffio, *(with pride)* I amme one Italiano, I come from one leetel village inne Toscane, it isse very beautifulle. I want to build my ownne house therre ... because I going to marry my bigge love...

STOWAWAY: That will cost you a lot of money. Do you have that? *(steps behind Maffio and sits down on the treasure chest)*

MAFFIO: Not yette, not yette, but later I will, ...hahaha!

STOWAWAY: And where do you get your money from?

MAFFIO: Thatte is none of your businessse!

STOWAWAY: O, but I know what you're up to. You must be here for the African treasure!

MAFFIO: Yesse! I plannedde to steal the treasure when I was on the ocean. Butte there came thisse pirate shippe and snatched it, just before my eyes! I wasse in shockke! Then I followed thisse shippe carefully, waiting for one good moment to go aboard... I háve to have

the treasure! ...And I don't needde you to helpe me... I will let these boatte people know thatte you are here! *(wants to shout)*

STOWAWAY: ...Then they know immediately that you are here too...!

MAFFIO: Santa Lucia! arre right! That cannot happene!

STOWAWAY: So shut up, then! *(thinking for a little while, sitting on the treasure chest, still without knowing that it is the treasure)* You know, I guess we'd better work together ...

MAFFIO: We... together... No, I don't wante thatte! O, no! *(thinking)* ...I don't wante to... But I think I shall have to..., I guesse...

STOWAWAY: Come on, let's find the treasure chest and put it into your boat. Then we will divide it in an honest way ... *(winks at the audience)*

MAFFIO: Welle, all right thenne, you are goink to helpe me! Look! *(points at the treasure chest below Stowaway's bottom)*

STOWAWAY: *(sees it now)* O! You found it already! Exciting!
(as they drag the treasure chest to the rowboat, Ella and Bella wake up from their 'sleep'; they call Otto and Arno, who wake up slowly)

MAFFIO: Rapido! Hide the boxe! *(they hide it under some sails, just in time; Maffio whispers to Stowaway)* If you can.... *(now he speaks so softly that the audience is unable to hear it, only the few words given here)* ...then I will be backke... ...and I will misleade themme... and then you must grab the...*(Maffio steps into his rowboat and disappears, Stowaway returns behind the porthole)*

CURTAIN