

THE PINAFORE PIRATES

or

The Magniloquent Seven

**A New Operetta
in the style of
Gilbert & Sullivan**

With Book, Music & Lyrics

by

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DRAMATIS PERSONAE

Daisy	<i>(Daughter of Buttercup)</i>
The Pirate Queen	
Iolanthe	<i>(Queen of the Fairies)</i>
Princess Ida	
Nanette	<i>(An uncoordinated fairy)</i>
Christopher	<i>(Daisy's beau)</i>
Sam O'Nella	<i>(The Pirate's Cook)</i>
The Mikado	
The Duke of Plaza-Toro	<i>(From the Gondoliers)</i>
The Sorcerer	<i>(John Wellington Wells)</i>
Admiral Sir Joseph Porter	<i>(From HMS Pinafore)</i>
Major-General Stanley	<i>(From the Pirates of Penzance)</i>

Chorus of:-

Islanders*

Female Pirates*

Fairies*

Policemen

**= with speaking parts*

NB in the List of Songs

"The Seven" = Iolanthe, Princess Ida, The Mikado, The Duke of Plaza Toro,
The Sorcerer, The Admiral and The Major-General

The Lady Pirates Basic Costume

Traditional Pirate gear, except that, being ladies, they display their fishnet-clad legs, their footwear being either ankle-boots, or thigh-length pirate boots, or any other suitable shoe. They can have belts with scabbards either for daggers or swords, though they don't necessarily have to wear these till Act 2, Scene 2.

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Scene One - The Quayside of Paragonia

(Ship's rigging seen in the background. The odd cask, barrel, bollard and fishing net.)

Song One - Opening Chorus - Paragonia

(As the music starts - for the first sixteen bars - THE ISLANDERS are happily milling about.)

Islanders: This is our island, the island of Paragonia.
Each day on our island,
We sing this merry roundelay:-
"Tra, la, la, la, la,
Tra, la, la, la, la, la."
With song and dance and many a romance -
Heaven on earth is Parago-ni-ay!

Men: The maidens frolic.
Women: Their swains are bucolic.
Men: No melancholic notion ever crosses our brow.
Women: What, never?
Men: No, never!
Women: What, never?
Men: Well, hardly ever...

All: Here on our island the food grows in abundance.
The soil is so fertile,
Mother Nature's uninhibited.
That's why we're singing:-
"Tra, la, la, la, la, la, la."
The water's sweet and the weather's a treat.
Paragonia's better than Utopia Limited!

[Music] Paragonia! [Music] Paragonia!
[Music] Paragonia! [Music] Paragonia!

Sing we then this roundelay,
Then shout Hip! Hooray!
Hip, hip, hip hooray
For Parago-ni-ay! **[End of song]**

(Enter Daisy)

Daisy: Shame on you! How can you be so happy on today of all days?
A Man: 'Cos the ship done set sail, that's why.
Daisy: The ship? It's not just any old ship. You all know who it belongs to.
An Islander: You mean - the Pirates?
Islanders: **(Shout)** The Pirates!
Daisy: Of course I mean the Pirates.
Islanders: **(Shout)** The Pirates!

Daisy: They invade Paragonia every three months, and all you can do is go on about how peaceful and happy you are, when you should be fighting for your existence.

A Woman: Regular little spitfire is Daisy.

Another: Just like her mother. **(All Agree)**

Daisy: Yes, I *am* like my mother. And my father too. I'm Daisy Corcoran, and proud of it...

Song Two - Daughter of Buttercup

Daisy: My mother was Buttercup, sweet little Buttercup,
And she sold provisions to seamen.
Ale and tobacco to many a Jack - oh!
How she loved her able he-men!

Islanders: Oh! How she loved her able he-men!

Daisy: She married the Captain of a very fine ship.
A worthy fellow called Corcoran.
But an accident of birth caused the Captain to slip.
And Corcoran became an also-ran!

Islanders: Yes, Corcoran became an also-ran!

Daisy: But fate's cruel uppercut didn't stop Buttercup,
For they were so happy together.
Went into partnership, but then their charter ship
Foundered and sank in foul weather.

Islanders: It foundered and sank in foul weather.

Daisy: They strapped their baby to the broken mast,
And cast her overboard.
And through the cruel sea she passed
While the hurricane roared.
She was washed up on the shores of Paragonia,
And as you can see, she's made her home here,

Islanders: Yes, she has made her home here!

So Daisy's her mother's pup, daughter of Buttercup,
Is there a lovelier orphan?

A prettier maiden your eyes never laid on -
The daughter of Buttercup and Corc'ran.

Daisy: True to her ways, she christened me Daisy,
The orphan of Buttercup and Corc'ran! **[End of song]**

Daisy: Well, if you won't do something about it, I will.

A Man: Something about what?

Daisy: What do you think?

A Woman: She must mean - the Pirates!

The Islanders: **(Shout)** The Pirates!

Daisy: Yes - the Pirates!

The Islanders: **(Shout)** The Pirates!

Daisy: I wish you'd stop doing that. As you know, every time they raid our shores, they demand free provisions for their next voyage. And to make sure we obey, they take a hostage with them.

A Man: Aye, and we all know who the hostage was they sailed with this morning.

A Woman: Christopher.

Daisy: **(Hand to brow, tragic)** Christopher!

A Woman: Her beau, a handsome, young fellow called Christopher.

Daisy: **(Hand to brow, tragic)** Christopher!

An Islander: I wish you'd stop doing that.

Daisy: My poor Christopher is even now a prisoner of that cut-throat band of Pirates...

The Islanders: **(Shout)** The Pirates!

Daisy: ... and to make matters worse, the Pirates are all - women!

The Islanders: **(Shout)** Women Pirates!

Daisy: So, I repeat, what are you going to do about it?

A Woman: What can we do?

A Man: We're powerless.

Daisy: Then if you won't help yourselves, I will I shall leave these shores to seek help from anyone, man or woman, who will be bold enough to face up to the Pirates.

The Islanders: **(Shout)** The Pirates!

Daisy: That's all you can do, shout about it. I intend to put an end to their rampaging ways, once and for all. Bid me farewell. When the Pi... the Ladies of the Sea return in three months time, they will find a nasty shock awaiting them! **(She exits)**

A Man: She certainly is a spirited young woman!

Song Three - Reprise - Daughter of Buttercup

All: Her thoughts she won't cover up,
 Daughter of Buttercup,
 And we wish her luck with her ventures.
 If she's successful, we won't find it stressful -
 When those pirates are sick to their dentures! **(End of song)**

Scene Two - The Pirate Ship

(The Female Pirates enter, “Yo-ho-ho”-ing and doing piratical things, during the musical introduction.

Song Four - Pinafore Pirates

Pirates: Ploughing through the foaming waters,
Sailing the deep blue sea,
All of us are well-bred daughters,
Ready for larceny!
There's many a ship we've plundered,
For thund'ring good are we!
We're the pick of the bunch
And we pack a punch
With our pinafore piracy!

Why should pirates be male,
Having all the fun?
After all, a female's
As good as anyone!
So hoist our pirate flag,
And splice the main brace after.
It's not the Skull and Crossbones.
It's the Fishnet and the garter!

Ploughing through the foaming waters,
Sailing the deep blue sea,
All of us are well-bred daughters,
Ready for larceny!
So heave-ho! me beauties,
For beauties all are we.
We're the pick of the bunch
And we pack a punch
With our pinafore piracy! **(End of Song)**

(Enter The Pirate Queen)

Queen: Ah, ladies! That was remarkably well sung, though the crescendos could have been more dynamic.

A Pirate: It's our leader.

Another: The Pirate Queen!

All: The Pirate Queen!

Queen: I can see by your high spirits that you enjoyed your trip ashore in Paragonia. I hope everyone returned safely.

A Pirate: All present and correct, ma'am. Though Pirates Susan was rather reluctant to rejoin us.

Queen: Pirate Susan, what is the meaning of this?

Susan: I met this handsome young man. I disarmed him of his arms, then he disarmed me with his charms.

Queen: Must I remind you all of your solemn Pirate's Oath? For seven years, while we sail the seven seas, we renounce all amorous dalliance, and forswear the company of men, except for purely practical purposes.

A Pirate: But that oath is so unfair.

Another: And so long!

Queen: Nevertheless, I bid you all swear it again!

All: For seven years, while we sail the seven seas, we renounce all amorous dalliance, and forswear the company of men, except for purely practical purposes.

Queen: Good.

Susan: Not so good. Another four years to go.

Queen: Silence when you speak to me! Am I not your Queen, who has led you from success to success?

All: You are!

Queen: When the seas are smooth, have I not joined in your revels?

All: You have!

Queen: And when the seas are rough, have I not repaired your mascara?

All: You have!

Queen: Then let's have no more squabbling.

A Pirate: Our Queen is right.

Another: Our Queen is always right.

All: Hurrah for our Pirate Queen!

Song Five - The Pirate Queen

Queen: O, have you ever seen a greater Pirate Queen?
I can confidently state that one there has never been!
Hurrah! Hurrah! I hear your voices ring.
For better than any Pirate King
Is a Pirate Queen!

Pirates: Yes, better than any Pirate King
Is a Pirate Queen.

(Then, while the Queen sings her verse loudly, the Pirates softly sing:-)

Pirates: Ploughing through the foaming waters,
Sailing the deep blue sea,
All of us are well-bred daughters,
Ready for larceny!
There's many a ship we've plundered,
For thund'ring good are we!
We're the pick of the bunch
And we pack a punch
With our pinafore piracy!
(Queen & Pirates repeat last three lines. End of song.)

Queen: Our first morning at sea, ladies. A fair wind, and fine prospects. And talking of fine prospects, Pirate Cynthia, bring up our hostage!

Cynthia: With pleasure! **(She exits)**

A Pirate: What about the oath, Captain?

Queen: It doesn't say anything about looking on with approval. Ah, here comes the young man now. **(Cynthia brings on Christopher, a handsome young beau. The Pirates communally sigh.)** Welcome to our ship. I trust you slept well.

Christopher: Not a wink. The bunk was most uncomfortable, the ship was heaving, and so was I.

Queen: I apologise for the sea discommoding you. As for your bunk, we are a pirate ship, and do not indulge in luxuries. Besides which, you are our hostage, and if I choose, I could make life even more uncomfortable for you.

A Pirate: Best keep in the Cap'n's good books.

Another: Aye! You'll be put to work soon enough, cleaning...

Another: Polishing...

Another: Swilling out...

Another: So best take it in good heart.

Christopher: How can I, when my heart is broken?

Queen: Broken?

Pirates: Broken? Ah... **(a sigh)**

Queen: Are we to take it that you are crossed in love?

Christopher: No. Quite the reverse. There is no finer girl in the world than my Daisy.

Queen: Then what seems to be your problem?

Christopher: The problem is I'm here, and she's there. That rather spoils our togetherness.

Queen: Young man - I don't believe we know your name?