

SMEE

Why didn't you say so? *Presto Scott!*

(SMEE lifts the Union Jack to reveal CAPTAIN SCOTT, trussed like a chicken with a gag in his mouth.)

ASTER

What? Robbie!

(to SMEE)

How dare you, sir? Release this man!

(Instead, SMEE strips ASTER of His Lordship's coat.)

SMEE

I'll take the key to that treasure trunk o' yours.

ASTER

You'll have to kill me first.

SMEE

(eyeing his two prisoners)

We were going to kill you second, but I'm flexible.

STACHE

(from off)

A-choo!

(Immediate terror.)

PIRATE ALF

He's coming aft!

SANCHEZ

In a nasty mood!

PIRATE BOY

A foul and nasty mood!

ASTER

What are you playing at?

SMEE

"Pirates," sir. *The Wasp* is now a pirate ship. Yer British crew's in chains below!

ASTER

There've been no pirates in these parts for a hundred years!

SMEE

We've been keeping a very low profile.

ASTER

And you're the Captain, I suppose?

SMEE

I, sir?

ASTER

Aye, sir. You, sir.

SMEE

No, sir. Not Smee, sir.

ASTER

Smee, sir?

SMEE

That's me, sir. But no Captain I, sir.

ASTER

You lie, sir.

SMEE

Oh no, sir. The devil himself's in charge hereabouts.

ASTER

The devil, you say.

SMEE

The Prince of Darkness. Our Satanic Supervisor. Foul and Nasty with the Cloven Hoof.

ASTER

And how would one identify him in a crowd?

#7 *Enter Stache*

SMEE

By his legendary cookie-duster, that's how!

ASTER

Whiskers?

SMEE

By his celebrated mouth-brow, that's how!

ASTER

Well, does he have a name?

SCENE EIGHT: The Neverland - Bilge Dungeon

(With the BOYS curled at her feet, MOLLY finishes her bedtime story.)

MOLLY

And, as the Princess slept, a thick forest grew up around the castle, keeping everybody out. Everybody but one man. Boys?

BOY

(nearly asleep)

The Prince, right?

MOLLY

The Prince, yes, very good. He chopped his way to Sleeping Beauty's room, saw his true love and kissed her, just once, sweetly on the lips.

TED

(in his sleep)

Mmm... pork.

MOLLY

And True Love's Kiss broke the spell, the Princess found her Prince, and they all lived happily ever -

#11 - Dodo in Distress

START *(Her amulet suddenly glows and rings.)*

The amulet again! Talk to me, Daddy!

(MOLLY leaves the sleeping boys and heads for the deck. ASTER appears on the Wasp.)

~~**NARRATOR ASTER**~~

~~*With the Wasp racing at flank speed for the Neverland, Leonard Aster clears his mind and tries to reach Molly.*~~

(They lift their amulets away from their chests for better reception.)

MOLLY

Daddy, are you there? Hello, hello?

ASTER

Can you hear me now?

(adjusts amulet)

Can you hear me now?

MOLLY

Daddy - the Queen's trunk is here, on board the *Neverland!*

ASTER

Not in English! Too dangerous.

MOLLY

Oh dear, please don't speak in—

ASTER

(ad libs)

Brump burppel wheee!

MOLLY

Oh Daddy, not Dodo.

ASTER

Myah myah vrrreep!

MOLLY

Parrots? A flock of parrots?

ASTER

Vrrrraaap, vrrrrreep! Eeep!

MOLLY

Parrots have taken over your ship? Well, what genius brought parrots—?

ASTER

PIRATES! We've been taken over by pirates!

MOLLY

Pirates! Oh, that hard "i" sound is so tricky—

ASTER

MOLLY! The *Wasp* is bearing down on the *Neverland*! Soon as we catch you, steer clear of Black Stache and BRING THE TRUNK TO ME!

MOLLY

I will!

ASTER

Don't let me down, Daughter! This is your mission now!

MOLLY

(ecstatic at the responsibility)

Yes, sir. Thank you, sir! *Cwa-cwah! Cwa-cwah! Vreeeep!*

(The BOY appears.)

END

~~BOY~~

~~What are you doing?~~

(Startled, MOLLY lets go of her amulet. Lights out on ASTER.)