

(BONES runs in from the kitchen.)

BONES

Captain! Captain! Captain! Momma wants to know if you've seen The Swallow?

BIGBEARD

He went into the kitchen just after you did.

BONES

Yeah. I know. But me and Momma left the kitchen for a bit.

BONNY

You left Swallow in the kitchen by himself?

BONES

Yeah. And then Momma smelled something burning. And then she want to check on The Swallow. And then she put out the fire..

BIGBEARD

Fire? What fire?

BONES

It's out now, Captain.

BONNY

Well where is he?

BONES

Who?

BIGBEARD

WHO?

BONES

Who?

BIGBEARD & BONNY

THE SWALLOW!!!

(THE SWALLOW enters. He struggles to drag in a TREASURE CHEST. He pulls and pulls as hard as he can and it barely slides along the floor. EVERYONE watches with their jaws wide open as he

struggles. THE SWALLOW stops, turns around and stares back at EVERYONE.)

THE SWALLOW

(Disgusted)

Well is anyone gonna give me a hand?

(MOMMA enters.)

MOMMA

(Angry)

Where the heck is that drunken fool?

(She sees him)

Where in the world have you been, Swallow? THE KITCHEN WAS ON FIRE!

(THE SWALLOW steps aside and with a flair, reveals the TREASURE CHEST that sits behind him.)

THE SWALLOW

Tah-Dah!

MOMMA

What in the world have you gone and done, Swallow?

THE SWALLOW

Didn't think I had it in me, didja?

BIGBEARD

SWALLOW!!!

THE SWALLOW

What?

BONNY

Look around you.

(He does.)

THE SWALLOW

And...

BONNY

Witnesses, Swallow... Witnesses!

(THE SWALLOW looks slowly around the restaurant again.)

THE SWALLOW

(To customers)

I... Found it. It was lying there... With no one around. I didn't want some unsavory person to run off with someone's hard earned, and quite heavy, treasure so I decided to bring it here for... For safe keeping.

BONES

(Playing along)

Very good idea, Swallow. How about I take this into the kitchen so we can store it for it's... Rightful owner.

(BONES attempts to drag the TREASURE CHEST. It doesn't budge. He tries again. Still, nothing.)

BONES(Continued)

Looks great right there. Dont'cha think, Captain?

BIGBEARD

I think someone had better come up with a solution to this problem... Quick!

THE SWALLOW

It's not a problem, Captain!

MOMMA

How can you say it's not a problem, Swallow? My boy landlocked himself and all of us at this restaurant to get away from the kinds of... Problems just like the one you just drug through the front door!

BIGBEARD

Do I even want to know where you... Rescued this treasure from?

THE SWALLOW

Probably not.

MOMMA

Why, probably not, Swallow?

BONNY

What did you do?

BIGBEARD

Bones!

BONES

Yes, Captain?

BIGBEARD

Open the chest and let's see just *how much* trouble The Swallow has just drug through the door.

(THE SWALLOW quickly sits on top of the TREASURE CHEST, folds his arms and shakes his head.)

THE SWALLOW

I really don't see the need in anyone invading the secure nature of this chest. How will the owner feel if he finds out we went rummaging through his chest at the first chance we got?

MOMMA

To use yer line of thinkin, Swallow... In order for us to *return* this chest to it's *rightful* owner... We need to *open* it and see what's inside.

BIGBEARD

MOVE, SWALLOW!

(BONNY pulls her dagger and touches it to THE SPARROW's chest.)

BONNY

Give up the chest, Swallow.

(THE SWALLOW grabs the tip of the dagger with two fingers and holds it in place as he slides himself off of the chest.)

BIGBEARD

Bones... Open the chest.

(BONES flips the latch on the TREASURE CHEST and slowly opens the lid. Inside, covering the contents, is a FRENCH FLAG.)

BONES

Oh oh...

(BONES grabs the FLAG and holds it high
for all to see.)

BIGBEARD

(Seeing the FLAG)

Is that what I think it is?

BONES

I believe it is, Captain.

MOMMA

I will slit you from end to end, Swallow!

BONNY

This chest belongs to...

EVERYONE

THE RAZOR!

(PANIC! BONES throws the FLAG back
into the CHEST and SLAMS it shut!
Everyone except for THE SWALLOW spreads
out not wanting to be near the chest.)

BONES

Oh no, Oh no, Oh no...

BONNY

Oh my Gods!

MOMMA

I can't believe ya did this, Swallow!

BIGBEARD

WHY WASN'T ANYONE WATCHIN HIM?

THE SWALLOW

I don't need to be babysat!

BONNY

Obviously you do, Swallow!

MOMMA

(Examining her CLEAVER)

I need to sharpen my knife before I deal with you,
Swallow!

THE SWALLOW

What?

BONES

You know how much The Razor hates the Captain,
Swallow!

BIGBEARD

The Razor's been out for my head for years!

THE SWALLOW

And who's fault is that?

BIGBEARD

What did you just say?

MOMMA

I don't need to sharpen my knife! I'll tear you apart
with my bear hands!

(MOMMA lunges at THE SWALLOW. He runs
away, around the dining room and out
the front of the restaurant with MOMMA
hot on his heels.)

BIGBEARD

What am I supposed to do now. The Razor has been
waiting for any excuse to run me through. Swallow has
just given him all the excuse he needs. I'm finished.

BONES

Don't worry Captain. Maybe The Razor doesn't even
know who took the chest.

BIGBEARD

(Sigh)

Maybe you're right, Bones.

(Motions to chest)

Help me move this into the kitchen and outta site.

BONES

Be careful, Captain. It's a pretty heavy chest.

(BIGBEARD lifts his side with no effort at all. Bones struggles to raise his end two inches off of the ground. They exit. BONNY steps forward hesitantly.)

BONNY

(To customers)

Did I forget to mention that the Captain has decided to make all of you... Honorary Salty Dog Pirates?

(Beat)

Now... In order for you to become true Pirates of The Salty Dog, you need to... Take an oath! So... What I need for you all to do is to raise your right hand and repeat after me... Okay?

(To self)

Here goes nothing...

(To customers - call & answer)

By my word...

And by my blood...

Through toughest winds...

And thickest floods...

Come old sea hag...

Or foggy bog...

I pledge myself...

To The Salty Dog...

(She applauds)

Well done everyone. Well done, indeed. Now that you are all officially pirates of The Salty Dog I should probably warn you of something...

(Threatening)

Being official pirates of the Salty Dog your main duty is to protect the Captain at all costs! Therefore, if a certain French fellow happens to waltz into this restaurant, your Captain needs you to... KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT ABOUT THE TREASURE CHEST!

(Calmer)

We would hate to lose brand new and very promising pirates to Davy Jones, *if you catch my drift...* Enjoy your grub... *Mateys.*

(BONNY exits.)