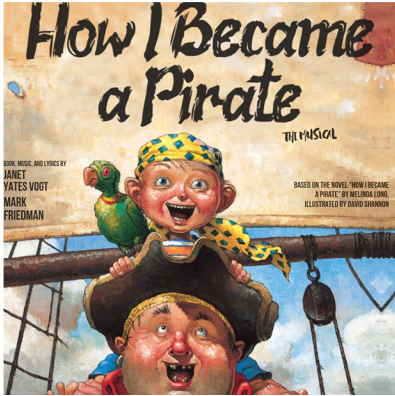


# ABOUT THE PLAY



## BIG IDEAS IN *HOW I BECAME A PIRATE*

- Family
- Pirates
- Fantasy
- Pirate Jokes
- Finding your way home
- Adventure

## ON THE BEACH

Jeremy Jacob sits on the beach and builds a large sand castle. His parents are distracted by his baby sister and do not notice when a large pirate ship arrives. As they head back to the house, they remind Jeremy to be back home in time for soccer practice.

## HOW JEREMY BECAME A PIRATE

Braid Beard and the other pirates approach Jeremy on the beach. They are looking for the Spanish Main, but Jeremy explains they landed on North Beach. All the pirates blame their navigator, Swill. Braid Beard introduces himself as the captain of the ship, along with the other pirates: Max and his stuffed parrot, Petey, Pierre, the cook, a very distracted Swill, and Sharktooth, the most feared pirate on all the seven seas. Braid Beard and the other pirates notice Jeremy's sand castle. They recruit him as a digger because they have some treasure to bury. Jeremy agrees as long as he can get back in time for soccer practice.

## THE SHIP

The pirates give Jeremy a tour of the ship, including "the poop deck," which is the area of the ship that is farthest to the back and usually above the captain's quarters. They teach him the ropes, including pirate etiquette, which is essentially the reverse of being polite. In order to teach him how to talk like a pirate, they reference the "Pirate Thesaurus." After his pirate orientation, there is no time to lose and they head off to find a spot to bury their treasure. Now it is Jeremy's turn to share a little about what life is like on dry land. He talks about homework, living at home with his baby sister, and of course, soccer. He shares that unlike life as a pirate, when you play soccer you play by the rules and if not, you get a yellow card.

## BEDTIME ROUTINE

After discussing all the rules everyone is tired, especially Jeremy. He asks if he can go to bed, but learns that pirates do not have a bedtime. Jeremy asks if he can brush his teeth and learns that pirates never do that either. When he discovers that pirates never get goodnight kisses, books, or tucking, he wonders if he actually does want to be a pirate after all.

Before he falls asleep, Jeremy asks Sharktooth about his eye, which is covered by a patch. Instead of a gruesome tale, he learns he has pink eye and is a little embarrassed. Even though the other pirates think Sharktooth is the scariest of them all, he is actually quite a sensitive guy. When no one is looking, Sharktooth tucks Jeremy into bed.



# ABOUT THE PLAY

## BACK TO NORTH BEACH

A storm starts to brew. Everyone battens down the hatches and most importantly, secures the treasure. The storm blows the pirates all the way back to North Beach, where they started. Braid Beard begins to plot out a plan to bury the treasure on North Beach. Jeremy tries to offer suggestions, but no one listens. He has the perfect spot to bury the treasure. Finally, after a long time, Braid Beard notices Jeremy and his map.

## FOLLOW THE MAP

The pirates attempt to follow the map and end up back where they started. They think it is the perfect place to bury the treasure, which happens to be in Jeremy Jacob's backyard. The pirates prepare to bury the treasure where Jeremy marked X on the map. Jeremy thinks it will be convenient because it is so close to his home. Braid Beard confides in him that he misses his own home. Jeremy misses home as well, especially the tucking in, being able to jump into his mom and dad's arms when there is a storm, and of course, his own room.

## FAREWELL

It is time for the pirates to leave. Jeremy cannot convince them to stay, even with the promise of his mom's famous mac and cheese. Jeremy is worried he will never see his new friends again, but they reassure him that he will always be a pirate inside. It is time for soccer practice so, Braid Beard passes him a ball. He looks down to see a skull and cross bones on it.