Ruby (narrator)

There's a few times in your life that you get an opportunity that will change everything. When I got the call, I knew it was one of those times. We were about to make history.

Host Correct!

ding ding noise

Host

Final question of the final round! No one has ever made it this far, folks, the pressure is high.

Are you ready John?

<mark>John</mark> As I'll ever be.

Host

Which pirate is known for stealing a treasured figurehead from the Naval ship known as the 'Bearded Princess' in the year 1670?

John

Uhhh. Blackbeard! Blackbeard the pirate!

Host

John, that is... correct! You just won ten million dollars!

(Applause.)

(applause cuts out and we cut to the next scene. Traffic sounds fade in)

Ruby Max

(displeased) Those answers were not what we discussed, John.

John

But they were right, right? I even studied up before I came, grabbed a history book on the way.

Catch.

Chuck

... this book is called 101 history jokes for kids.

John

And yet we won the money.

Ruby

That's the easy part. Now comes the hard part, which you made a hundred times harder.

Remember the plan I outlined for you? The one where you give simple answers that are easy to accomplish? That plan?

John Doe

(Dismissive) Yeah, yeah, I know how you are about your little plans.

Ruby 'Blackbeard?' Seriously.

John Doe

He was the first pirate I could think of!

Ruby

If you had said one of us, we could have done it ourselves.

John

We'll get Blackbeard to do it. Obviously we can handle it-- in a way, we already did. Hey, since it already happened, couldn't we take the money and not even go back in time?

Chuck

That's not how time travel works. We have to make it happen, or it didn't happen.

John

So lets, uh, hop in the time travel thingy or whatever this piece of junk is, and get it over with.

Chuck

The LCGTN is not junk.

Leticia

LCGTN? What does that stand for?

Chuck

Ruby wouldn't tell me.

Ruby

Long complicated gibberish technological name. Chuck wouldn't stop badgering me about what it's called so I had to say something.

Chuck

So you don't know what it's really called?!

Ruby

Our sponsor didn't tell me what it as, or how it works. He was... sparing with the details.

Leticia

I don't trust this. He wouldn't even tell you the name, what else is he hiding? Whoever this is could be sending us to die.

Serendipity

Yeah, Ruby, how do we know we can trust 'em?

Ruby We don't.

(beat.)

John

Well, we're in it now, no point in worrying. (sound of metal clanging as he kicks the machine) Chuck, you're supposed to be a genius, how do you think this thing works, is it a death trap?

Chuck

I've never seen anything quite like it, honestly.... But I suspect the device runs using a flux capacitorial cybernutritional-

Ruby

For the love of god, lets go. We have a lot of work to do.

John

Relax, we have all the time in the world.

Ruby

(unamused) Ha, ha. Get in.

Serendipity

(from inside the time machine) Yes, hurry it up! I want to get back in time for my crochet group!

Time machine electrical noises/whirring, big hunking door closing and locking

running footsteps from outside and frantic knocking noises

Lucy

Let me in... Let me in! Don't leave without me!

doors open again and let her in

Lucy

(winded) Sorry Im late. Wheew! Almost got left behind on our big heist . wouldnt that have been, um, awkward! (she gives a weird little laugh) Is anyone nervous?

Ruby

Nervous? I cant allow that on my team. Anyone who's nervous should get out now, go home, and never contact any of us again.

Lucy

... I agree. Nervousness is for dummies. Whos nervous? Not me.

Ruby

(Sarcastic) Thanks for keeping us updated. Serendipity, send us to September 4, 1770. We're going back in time.

Lever pulling noise, and a temporal time noise as they go back in time

Ruby (narrator)

A few weeks back, I got a call from an unknown number. A guy offering to sponsor us for one last job. So I had to get the team back together, like old times.

The plan was simple: One of us goes on the popular history trivia game show "Out on a limb," where they're currently offering a grand prize of 10 million dollars. Our guy answers every question right, and we win the money.

Of course, the catch is that we're a heist team, not a history trivia team, so theres no way our guy guesses them all right without help. The prize is so huge because no one has ever won it in the history of the game. The questions are known for being obscure and difficult. Out on a limb is also famous for their crackdowns on cheating. People have tried audience plants, hidden devices for looking up answers, bribery, the works, but theyre alway caught. If the judges even suspect you, you're out.

So, we dont cheat. That's where the time travel device comes it. Using the machine provided by our sponsor, we go back in time to make our answers correct.

The plan is perfect-- all of mine are. The only problem is, I'm working with this group of idiots.

time travel noises stop and a terrible backfire noise happens

Serendipity it won't crank.

Chuck

Try that lever on the left.

(Explosion sound)

Chuck ...your other left.

Ruby (narrator)

Yeah. Starting to remember why the team broke up in the first place.

(Revving sound)

Serendipity

Got it this time. Buckle up!

Ruby

Thats Judith Gamble, but we all call her Serendipity. She's the driver. Not the most lawful driver out there, but she can drive any vehicle she's ever seen. Sure, she hits curbs, pedestrians, cop cars, hydrants, you get the idea, but she gets the job done, no matter what it takes.

Chuck

Do you think we can slow down, I'm feeling a little nauseo---ooooooh, this thing has cup holders! With- some kind of viscous sludge in the bottom.

Lucy

Maybe don't touch that--

Chuck

Too late. I'm taking some samples. And maybe eating a little bit hehehe

Ruby

Chuck Marbles. Resident scientist, hacker and bomb tech. Some call him a genius, some call him insane. Hes a bit of a wildcard and highly emotional, but he can make a bomb out of basically anything. I haven't seen him in years. He said he was 'retiring', but I knew I needed to bring him back for one last score.

Lucy

Ummm I feel like I'm gonna hurl. Are we there yet?

Leticia

No.

Lucy

What about now?

Ruby

Lucy, my most recent hire. The distraction. Unlike the rest of the team, I didnt approach her to be ont he team. She approached me, and annoyed me into giving her the job. Shes mostly a nuisance, but even I can admit she has her uses... As bait. Sometimes you need someone to stand there uselessly and look innocent, and she does that well.

Leticia

(annoyed) all of you be quiet or I'll personally kill every last one of you. we'll get there when we get there. You can't handle a little nausea, you shouldn't be here.

Ruby

Leticia. The muscle. They do all the beating, threatening, intimidating, and general heavy lifting for the team. They're a complete mystery. I cant find any information on their background and honestly, I don't trust them as far as I can throw them.

John

So, be honest, which one of us is the most likely to accidentally have sex with our own past self and create a paradox while we're time traveling?

Everyone: You.

John

Wrong. If I did it, it would not be an accident.

Leticia

Didn't I just say no talking?

John

I thought you were kidding.

Ruby

John Doe. Burglar and pickpocket extraordinaire. Funnily enough, that is his real name, but there's nothing else real about him. He's a conman, he uses misdirection and sleight of hand to get what he wants. He's also incredibly shallow, impulsive, and materialistic... which makes him one of the best thieves I've ever met.

And then there's me. Ruby Max, the brains of this operation. I build my team, I do the research, I make the plans, I get the payout. I'm the best in the game, and I'm going to keep it that way for a long, long time.

more time travel noises, the door opening

electrical wire failure noises

the crew coughing from smoke

John Doe

coughing more dramatic than everyone else This place is a dump. Where are we again? Pirate times?

Serendipity

Pirate times isnt a real year.

Town crier

Extra extra read all about it, citizens of Pirateville, its April 8, 1709, the year 1709 in Pirate Times!

Lucy

(excited) So are we digging up treasure? And following a map? And maybe some rhyming clues?

Ruby

What do you think this is, a movie? No, someone already did the dirty work for us. They've got the treasure in a ship, we need to get Blackbeard to agree to steal it, and we're set.

Lucy

(sigh) another dream crushed.

Chuck

Is that a cannon over there? I've always wanted a cannon. My nefarious and maniacal schemes would be so much more maniacal if they were pirate themed.

footstep noises as he walks off to see the cannon

Ruby

Hey! Come back here!

Serendipity

I have to use the bathroom.

Ruby

Why didn't you go before we left?

Serendipity

I didn't have to go then.

John

I want to check out the shops here, if thats fine with you.

Ruby It is not.

John

Whatever, you're not the boss of me.

Ruby
That is literally what I am!

Lucy
I have to go pee too.

Leticia
All of you can go, I'll wait here.

Lucy

And leave you alone with the time machine? You'll abandon us all here!

Leticia
Why would I do that?

Lucy

I don't know, because you threatened to kill us all at least three times today? and you look like you eat puppies for breakfast? Boss, you'll watch them while I'm gone right? I'll be back before you know it.

Ruby

We have a goal, we need to- Come back, we have to find blackbeard and get him to steal the figurehead! (noise of frustration)

Jacque

Let them go. It'll take five minutes, then they'l get bored and come back.

Ruby

(sigh) Let's drag the time machine somewhere less conspicuous. Then, I guess we're going in the tavern while we wait on them... Someone around here must have information.

Ruby (narrator)

I had forgotten how.... distractable they could be. I think we're all out of practice. But according to our sponsor, the time machine will only go to a certain year once, and Blackbeard dies within the next year, so we've only got one shot at this. I hope they don't get into any trouble while they're gone.

(seagull noises)

Lucy

We're in trouble. I have to pee so bad.

Serendipity

Theres a ship, lets go there. I want to get a look at some of these boats anyhow. That's one of the items on my bucket list.

rustling paper

Lucy

This list just says "drive a boat" and "finish Matlock season 9".

Serendipity

Yes, and after I do that, I'll die. And not a minute sooner!

Lucy

What season are you on?

Serendipity

season 8.

Lucy

... Maybe we shouldnt let you drive the boat. This doesnt seem like such a good idea.

Serendipity

That's what people always say about my ideas, and are they ever right?

Lucy

I dont know, are they?

Serendipity laughs.

Lucy

...are they?

Serendipity

C'mon, its only a little trespassing. The ship is called the 'Happy Minnow,' it can't be all that dangerous. Besides, I want to get a nice photo at the wheel for my grandson.

(Silence.)

Serendipity

Okay, okay, I want to steal the boat and drive it a little, you got me.

Lucy

This thing is tiny... Plus, look, the side is all busted, I don't even think it would sail.

Serendipity

I could make her sail. Oh, the wheel is mahogany, how charming.

slow footsteps approach

Lucy

(nervous) Um, Serendipity?

Serendipity

We'll find the restroom area in a moment, dear. The polish on this wood is beautiful, whoever owns this does a damn fine job of maintenance.

Lucy

About that, there's--

Serendipity

How fast do you think this baby can go? 10 knots?

Lizzie

12, actually.

Serendipity screams

Lucy screams

Serendipity

(scared) I like your steering wheel!!

Lizzie

Thank you. Now... Who are you... *gun cocking* and what are you doing on my ship?

CUT TO

tavern noises

Leticia

How can we even be sure Blackbeard will be here?

Ruby

While John was getting that giant check onstage and lying about donating it to a sick puppies charity, I was researching. We're in the town of Bath, North Carolina, a frequent hangout for Blackbeard around this time.

Ruby (loudly) Anyone here heard the name Blackbeard?

(Silence.)

Bartender Who's askin?

Ruby
A paying customer.

(Sound of coins being set down.)

(Beat.)

Bartender

He comes around to gamble once in awhile, throws big parties. Come back around seven, you'll see him in the back room. And you didnt hear it from me-- if you're here for his head, I want no blame in it.

Ruby Understood.

Bartender Anything else?

Ruby Whatevers on tap. We'll be here awhile.

Ruby (narrator)

One of the most important parts of my job is seeing. Noticing little things, taking them into account. I notice the strand of long brown hair on the barkeeps shirt, the ring-shaped tan line on her finger, and the way she lifts a glass, pretending to inspect it, but her eyes travel around the room. I notice the layout, a front door and no windows, a backdoor behind the bar. The people at the corner table, already drunk and loud, smashing bottles like they're looking for a fight. A Navyman at the middle table, who would blend in as a civilian if his uniform weren't peeking out of his bag. You never know what will be important later.

Ruby

Is the Bearded Princess coming in today?

Bartender (Sigh) Tomorrow.

Ruby
You dont sound happy about it. Hate crowds?

Bartender It's not that. It's personal.

Ruby
None of my business. I'm just making conversation.

Ruby (narrator)

Sometimes silence will get more out of people than asking. The best way to get someone to do what you want is to make them believe it is their own idea.

Bartender
...My scoundrel husband's mistress is coming in on that ship. They think I'm out of town. I hope the stupid ship sinks. I hope she gets eaten by mermaids.

Leticia
Is that a... common issue?

Bartender

Don't tell me you're a skeptic, everyone in these parts knows about the mermaid pod off the cliffs edge. They say the creatures can make themselves appear human, save for their long, sharp teeth and the sinewy hair that takes a special comb to manage... for all I know, his mistress is one too, trying to lure his stupid ass to his death... fine by me. I could kill him myself, I swear.

Ruby Need a gun?

Slides a gun

Bartender (Laughs) I like you.

Ruby
Another drink? We can chat awhile.

Leticia

(Sigh) The others still aren't back. What could they be doing?

CUT TO

John is whistling, and you can hear market noises

John Hello!

Sales person Looking to buy a hat?

John

Do you sell anything flashier? That hat in the back, the wide brim, that one is just stunning. Could you turn around and grab it for me? The one on the top shelf. Waaay back.

coins clattering and fabric rustling. Footsteps approach.

Chuck

We've been here for five minutes and you're doing petty crime?

John

Is that a trick question? Why, what have you been doing?

Chuck

I, um... admired some weaponry. Not important. You better be careful, if we get put in jail before we can do the heist--

John

I'm barely stealing. I'm like Robin Hood, I steal it then I give it right back, or whatever it was he did. Watch, when the sales lady gets back I'll use this money I took to buy the hat from her, and she'll have the same amount as she started with. Hey, do you think we'll get to bonk anyone over the head in this heist?

Chuck

You need to let it go, Ruby is never gonna let you bonk anyone on the head. It didn't even look cool in the movie.

John Yes it did!

Chuck

No it-

Salesperson Here's your hat, sir. Three doubloons.

money clinking

John

Thanks. And... can you direct me to where blackbeard might have gone?

Salesperson

Blackbeard frequents many places around here... the ports, taverns... um, the parks when he wants to go for a walk.... But I wouldnt advise two nice fellows like you to meet trouble like him.

footsteps running

Other Salesperson
There he is, officer! That bastard stole forty doubloons from me!

Chuck

You?

John

Yep.

footsteps running

Cannon guy

Theres the rat that took half my armory and blew a hole through the side of my shop!

John

You?

Chuck

Yep.

John

The boss is going to kill us.

Chuck

Yeppp.

John

...Lets run.

Ruby

...And you think that might be why you're afraid of intimacy now.

Bartender

(Crying) yes. You are so right. Thank you for talking to me, I feel like you're my best friend I've ever had. I trust you so much.

Leticia

(Long suffering sigh) Still no sign of Blackbeard, but I can barely see over all these people.

Pirate

Blackbeard? What's a pretty thing like you doing with such a nasty name in ver mouth.

leticia

intimidating I can get real ugly real quick-

Ruby

They dont mean that. What- You've seen him?

Pirate

He's in the corner with that old wench drinking soup.

Ruby

Wait a second... we know that old wench.

insanely loud slurping noises

Serendipity

There you are! look at this nice young man I found. I invited em over for casserole sundy'

Lucy

Hi Ruby. We, uh, found Blackbeard.

Ruby

Where have you two been? I thought you were going to pee! It's been two hours!

Lucy

We were sort of trespassing on this boat because Serendipity wanted to see the mahogany wheel, and this lady came up and was all 'what are you doing on my ship?' and Serendipity pretended to throw her back out as a distraction-

Serendipity Pretended?

Lucy

And the lady had a gun in our faces and she said we're lucky shes low on crew members or she would have blown our faces off and fed our entrails to the fish and...

Black Beard Who be this?

Serendipity
A friend of ours.

Lucy

She's our boss, Mr. Blackbeard.

Ruby

(sigh) Well, at least you found him. Good job. Blackbeard. I need to talk to you. In private. I've got a job that might interest you.

Blackbeard

what makes you think you're in a position to be offering ME a job?

Ruby

I- we can't discuss it in here, especially since other people know who you are and there's a Navy member over there at the middle table. I'll distract the Navyman. Jump the bar and follow me through the backdoor when the fighting starts.

Ruby

Bartender....does your husband have long brown hair?

Bartender

Yes... how did you-?

Ruby

Just saw him come in with a woman. He's with those people in the corner.

Bartender

Oh, I'll get him. Hey! Shit heads!

Guys in the corner You talking to us?!

Barfight sounds

Door closes and nosies fade.

Blackbreard What's this job yer talking about?

paper rustles

Ruby

The figurehead of the Bearded Princess, made of pure gold and inlaid with Rubies and Sapphires. Have you heard of it?

Black Beard

Aye, but that's being transported by the royal fleets prized ship, it's got to be guarded to the gills. Whoever steals that will have the Navy after them for years to come. It's going to take a great deal to make such a risk worth my while.

Ruby

I've heard of you, you know. They say you're a genius, and that you rarely need to use violence to get what you want. Cuz you're smart.

Black beard

That I am. But another of my skills is that I am immune to flattery.

Ruby

No bullshit then. I want to steal the treasure and split the reward. I've done a lot of these. I'm competent at what I do, and I know you are too. I know you know how much that figurehead is worth. What do you say?

Black Beard

...you got yourself a deal. I see myself in you, lass, ; if this works I can see a great partnership between us. Just let me get my-

gunshot

Ruby

-- and he's dead. God fucking damn it.

* chuck and john run up, panting.*

John

Ruby, there you are! We found out Blackbeard is... at...the..... Oh, looks like you found him.

Navy

You there! I command you to stop under the threat of law!

Ruby What have you two done now?

John

Us? You're the one with Blackbeard's dead body at your feet!

Ruby

It was a stray bullet. (Sigh) probably meant for the barkeeper's husband.

John

What do we do?

Ruby

Bring the body inside, pretend he's your drunk friend and bring him to the time machine. I'll talk to the guards.

John

Got it.

John drags the body and it is heavy.

John

Looks like a warzone in here.

Lucy

That lady started shooting and the cop took her away. Is that Blackbeard?

John

Yes, but hes a little bit.... dead at the moment. Ruby's talking to the cops right now. Oh, hey Ruby, how'd it go?

Ruby

I took care of it.

Lucy

Is that code for 'killed them?'

Serendipity

I think we would all like to know if you killed them, dear.

Ruby

I'm sure you would. Alright everybody, I am slightly adjusting the plan.

John

We could always lie. That's my go to.

Lucy

All we have to do is steal it and say we're Blackbeard. They didn't have photos back then-I mean, back now- so they don't need to verify it.

Ruby

Lucy, that's... not actually a bad idea for once.

Lucy

Thanks?

Ruby

We would need a ship. And someone to take the fall as our "Blackbeard."

Lucy

Oh! I forgot to tell you.

Ruby

Forgot to tell me what?

Lucy

Uhhh, earlier when I weas telling you about how we were on that ship and the threatening lady was threatening us... well long story short, we kinda... joined her crew.

Ruby

What?! You all cant run off and join a crew, you're on MY crew.

Lucy

We weren't joining for real! It was a way to get away, we told her there was more of us and we said we'd come back and bring you guys too after we got you. In the moment, I didnt want my entrails fed to the fish! I thought it was smart thinking!

Ruby

If you had common sense you would have stayed with me from the start and followed my instructions. Theyl lbe after you, once they realize you arent coming back.

Leticia

Hold on. This could work to our advantage.

Ruby (narrator)

I see whee this is going, and I hate it. More people are more variables, agents of chaos that can pull apart the strings of even the most perfectly woven web. It's already difficult dealing with the

five of them, another captain means another screw in the cogs of the plan. We'll find another way.

Ruby

You are not joining a crew. None of us are joining a crew, and that's final.

CUT TO

(boat noises)

Lizzie Goose

Welcome aboard to our six new crewmembers! You'll find that though this boat may be small, it's quite cozy, and I think you'll get used to it. It won't sail as well as usual at the moment, but we're working toward repairs as fast as possible. I'm glad we've got you here to replace the six we lost.

Lucy

What happened to the last ones?

Lizzie Goose

Lost them to the mermaids. They made the foolish mistake of stealing a mermaids treasure, and so they got eaten. Alas.

Leticia

What is it with everyone around here and mermaids?

Lizzie Goose

Now, for your first order, swab the deck.

Lucy

But we need to talk to you about-

Lizzie

I said swab the deck!

Ruby

Lucy, she said swab the deck.

Lucy

Whatever, Fine.

Lizzie

That's 'Aye Captain' to you! And the rest of you sea dogs, I want this ship ready to sail in on hour or I'll throw ye all to the sirens myself! Get to it!

Ruby Elizabeth? Was it?

Lizzie

ELIZABETH? What kind of posh name is that? The names Lizzie. Lizzie Goose. But it's Captain to you.

Ruby

Captain. We didn't come to this ship for nothing. I've got a score for you, it's a treasure that would be plenty to cover your repairs.

Lizzie

I told ye, the ship is damaged and that's my priority, it'll have to wait.

Ruby

It can't wait, the Bearded Princess sails tomorrow and-

Lizzie

(shaprly) The Bearded Princess?

Ruby

Yes.

Lizzie

I'm interested. I'm about to practice with my sword, care to join me while we talk?

CUT TO

(segull noises bc theyre outside)

John

Ugh, you did not have to do that in front of me.

Chuck

its called the poop deck for a reason.

John

Somehow I doubt that it's because they want you to-

Crewmember

Hey, you! Hoist the sails!

John

I can't do that.

Chuck

They JUST showed us how.

John

I don't mean I forgot how, I mean I can't. I got my nails done yesterday and I don't want to ruin--

Lucy

Let me do it, I saw a video one time on how to hoist.

Leticia

No, I'll do it, you're doing it all wrong.

Lucy

Why does everyone think I can't do anything?

(overlapping arguing)

Crewmate

Here, I'll help. There, done.

Chuck

Thanks. You guys are friendlier than I'd expect pirates to be.

Crewmate

In this crew, we're family. We help each other.

John

Even your mean ass boss?

Crewmate

(shaprly) Dont speak of the Cap'n that way.

John

We saw her yell at you for twenty minutes about the shininess of the floor. Shes a tyrant. Does she have you under a contract or something that keeps you from talking shit?

Crewmate

She's done a great deal for us. Half this crew, she an' her wife--rest her soul-- took in when we had nothin', because they been there too. You ask if we're under contract, and to that I say aye, the contract of respect between a ship and her Captain. She looks Hard on the outside, but shes soft on the inside.

Lucy

Our boss is like that too!

John

(Laughs) What boss, because. I know you're not talking about ruby.

Lucy

Why do you work for Ruby if you don't think she's a good person?

John

I like money? This is the steadiest income I've ever had. The difference is, I can quit anytime.

Ruby is addicted to it.

Chuck

She uses us all for her weird elaborate game. You're new, so you don't see it yet, but you will.

Lucy

I don't believe you. She's amazing.

John

Yeah, she is. At stealing, not at being a person.

Crewmate

I don't know about your Captain, but I been on the Happy Minnow ten years, and I'll die on this ship. Aint you never had somethin' worth livin' and dyin' for?

John

Hmmm, I'm a big fan of fur coats, but not THAT big a fan.

Chuck

Don't bother, John will never understand the concept of friendship.

John

Hold on, are you still mad about the-

Chuck

Yes.

John

Is that why Ruby had to try so hard to get you to come back for this heist? And why you've been mean to me all day? Grow up!

Chuck

I did. Meanwhile youre all exactly the same as when I left.

John

Yet youre the one still sulking over it five years later. (Laughs) I can't believe she brought you back.

Chuck

I'm not going to argue about this. I let it get too personal last time, and that's my fault. After this heist, I'm out for good. seriously.

John

But-

Chuck

Shut up about it or I'll poison your coffee with ethylene glycol when we get back to the present.

John

You're bluffing.

Chuck

I dont bluff.

John

....hey, is that Serendipity? Oh no. (yelling) Serendipity, don't-

Serendipity

(from a distance) What? It's called the poop deck for a reason!

Lucy

(sigh) I'll grab another mop.

CUT TO

Ruby

I on't mean to be rude, but you two have been sword fighting for an hour, when are we going to discuss the-?

Lizzie

As soon as I'm done here. You know, I'm the best swordfighter in these parts, and I have to teach my crew to fight too.

Ruby

Even with the hook?

Lizzie

Especially with the hook. It doesn't matter how much you train or good you can handle a sword, you gotta be ready for whatever else somebodys got on hand. Or in my case, on hook. And, as I always tell my crew, when things go wrong you use the--

Edwin

--scatter and run maneuver. I know.

Lizzie

That's right. We have to use that one a lot. One of these days I'll get them to learn some other maneuvers, and then we can rob anybody we want, and we'll have plenty of money for repairs.

Ruby
Are you all low on money?

Lizzie

Run along, Edwin, practice is over.

Edwin Yes captain.

Lizzie

(Beat) ...I shouldnt be saying this to new crew members but... it's best to be honest. We aren't the most successful, never have been. We get by on odd jobs, mostly, not piracy. (sigh) Perhaps I'm a poor captain, or I've got a poor crew. But they're my crew, it's my ship. I have to love em.

You know how it is.

Ruby

I wouldnt know. Ive never been a ccaptain.

Lizzie

Sure you are, I see you ordering those five around. Be honest, what do you think of me?

Ruby

You're not what I expect in a Captain. You don't command... respect from your crew.

Lizzie

There's more than one way to gain respect. I take it yours is different, then.

Ruby

I get respect through results. I give my team what they want, and they give me what I want.

Lizzie

And what do you want?

Ruby (narrator)

What do I want? A challenge. I want the knowledge that I'm the best there ever was, and for the world to know my name. I want to be... unforgettable.

Ruby

I just want to rob the Bearded Princess.

Lizzie

Sure.(beat) You ever think about legacy, Ruby? What folks will say about ye after youre dead?

Ruby

Nothing good, probably.

Lizzie

(laughs). Cheers to that. But, honestly. It's something I think about. When my dear wife passed... well, we had traveled a great deal, stole a lot of things, but when she was gone, all she left was her kick-knacks and rocks. No one remembers Coral but me, my crew, and my irritating father in law.

Ruby

I think everyone wants to be remembered.

Lizzie

Yes, and I plan to be. The robbery of the Bearded Princess is unlikely to be forgotten.

Ruby

We'd better start planning. Would you join me to gather the crew?

Ruby (narrator)

She's a good person. But a bad pirate. She'll never make it. And if I felt things like guilt--which I don't-- knowing that would help me feel a lot better about what I'm planning to do.

CUT TO

creaking and swaying of the ship, feet going down stairs

Lucy

God, it's so dusty down here. How am I supposed to find the broom through all this gloom?

slightly annoyed

handle clicking, door creaking open

creaking and swaying of the ship

Lucy coughing

Lucy

Dang it, no brooms... its a bunch of furniture. This box says "coral," but there's no coral in it... What is this, rocks? Ohhhh- what's this? *excited* jewelry!

scraping noise, slightly metallic

Lucy

A comb... it looks like it's made of pearls or something. So beautiful. (sigh) I wonder if they got this from an underground treasure chest or something piratey like that. How romantic. It looks exactly like my grandmothers comb, too.

Leticia Lucy?

Lucy AHH! What?!

Leticia
What's taking so long?

Lucy
Nothing, combing my hair.. duh!

Jacque It sounded like you were talking to someone.

(silence.)

Lucy

Thinking out loud. This comb-- my grandmother has one like it.

Leticia

Your grandmother. (sigh) You live with her, yes?

Lucy: I-- what? How did you--

Leticia

I looked everyone up before we started this mission. I find it odd that someone like you-- young, normal, with no experience doing heists, who takes care of her grandmother-- would seek out a job like this.

Lucy

So, what, you think I'm hiding something? That's ironic soming from you. We dont even know if Leticia is your real name!

Leticia

I dont think youre hiding anything, that's whats so odd about it. I think you really are as naive and incompetent as Ruby thinks--

Lucy

(hurt) Ruby think's I'm what?!

Leticia

-- and you're only going to slow us down. I suggest you keep your head down til we get back to the time machine, and then tell Ruby you're resigning. Go home.

Lucy

Good thing it isnt up to you.

Leticia

You're going to fuck something up, and the moment you do, I'm telling Ruby to remove you from the team.

Lucy

Yeah, well, too bad because as soon as you do anything suspicious, I'm telling Ruby to boot YOU from the team, and until then, I'm gonna figure you out, and....

Leticia and Lucy at the same time I'm keeping my eye on you.

sound of lizzie and ruby coming down the stairs and discussing stuff

Lizzie

What are you doing down here?! Get out!

door slams

Lizzie

Snooping around? Are you Navy spies? No, couldnt be, a spy wouldn't be so careless. Ye didn't touch anything, did ye?

Lucy

Um....No?

Lizzie

Anyone ever tell you that you can't lie for shit?

Lucy

I was looking at your rock collection.

Lizzie

It aint mine. It's me wifes. She loved picking up rocks and shells like little treasures. Quite the hoarder, she was. (muttering to herself) touching the blasted rocks.

Lucy

Where is she now?

Lizzie

Shes dead.

Lucy

Oh, I'm so sorry--

Lizzie

It was years ago. Died at the Navy's hands; same scoundrel that took my hand. But(chuckles) I got her with a bullet in the eye.

Leticia

Did you kill her?

Lizzie

Not yet. I would've, but I was fighting about six other people at the time, you understand. Her ship still sails these damned waters, and one of these days, I'll take her other eye too.

Lucy

(starstruck) Wowww!

Ruby

Tell everyone to come belowdeck. We have things to discuss.

Lucy

(Whisper) boss, when I accidentally went in the Captain's room, I accidentally grabbed this letter on accident.

Paper rustling

Ruby

(Quickly like she's skimming and uninterested) "Father, I am writing you to tell you how happy I am on the Happy Minnow. I don't wish to go back home. I am married happily and living my best

pirate life, making my own way and running around on my own two legs, not that you would understand..." hm. Two legs.... I'll return this to the Captain.

footsteps as they walk away.

Lucy

(whispering to leticia) The Captain is so cool. Not cooler than our boss, but sooo cool.

Leticia

Agreed. I love a good revenge story..

Lucy

Is that your story? You're looking for revenge too?

Leticia

If you're trying to trick me into sharing details of my life, it's not going to work.

()

Ruby

We're all here, so let's discuss. here's the plan.

(knife in wood sound)

The Bearded Princess sails in the morning. You'll need to find the layout of the ship and figure out where the treasure is kept. That means getting a map, or asking someone. John, I'll leave the talking to you--

John

Can I-

Ruby

Before you ask, no you can't bonk anyone on the head, because we don't want to arouse suspicion. Leticia will sneak past the guards around the treasure, and will carry it out to the lifeboat.

Chuck

But Leticia can't-

Ruby

Chuck, you'll need to find where they're keeping their gunpowder and explosives. I need you to blow up the back of their ship the moment the treasure leaves.

Lucy And what do I do?

Ruby

You'll go in with them, but stay out of the way. All of you keep your heads down. Then we take the treasure to port, and spread the word that Blackbeard stole it. Goose, if you hand your ship to my driv- er, my helmsman, Serendipity, she'll make sure we get away fast. All we need from you is for your crew to man the Minnow so we can get back onboard, and for you to tell everyone Blackbeard stole the treasure. That's my condition. It's a favor I'm doing for him, he needs an alibi for a crime he's committing today.

Lizzie

A crime worse than stealing from the Navy?

Ruby

Yes. What do you say? Will you help us pull off the heist? You'll get to keep the reward.

Ruby (narrator)

People are the most difficult and important part of a heist, but they're more predictable than they would like to think. Once you know someone's hopes and fears, the little things about them, what drives them, then, well... you can drive them. Lucy is bad at following directions. John recently saw some stupid action movie where a guy uses a stick to bonk people on the head, and now he wants to do it constantly because he thinks it 'looks badass.' Chuck has perfect timing, ask him the time and he can give it, down to the second, with no watch. Leticia is not at all sneaky. Serendipity has been eyeing the wheel of the ship since she got here. Lizzie wants-

Lizzie

Aye, I'll do it. Under two conditions. One, I get to kill the captain personally.

Ruby And two?

Lizzie

I do it under my own name.

Ruby

... Anything else. We need it to be under Blackbeards name or the whole thing is pointless.

Lizzie

I'm the Captain, and it's my crew that will take the spoils. It's going to be under my name.

Ruby

We'll revisit that point later. For now, let's go to bed. We need to be up early tomorrow.

Rooster noise to indicate morning <3

Lizzie

There she is. The Bearded Princess.

Ruby

What are they doing? What's that in the water?

Lizzie

(gravely) Probably fishing for mermaids. It's a terrible practice. Means the mermaids will likely swarm the ship after we sink it, they hate humans, especially those who hunt them.

Ruby

Hm. Are there a lot of mermaids around here?

Lizzie

Only one pod that I know of. We have a... personal agreement, based on our history. They tolerate the Happy Minnow and her crew in their territory.

Ruby

I thought some of your crew died to them recently.

Lizzie

You don't mess with a mermaids treasure.

Ruby

Interesting that you came to know these mermaids habits so well without being eaten, yourself.

Lizzie

()

Ruby (narrator)

This is the part where I sit back and watch as my plans go into motion.

CUT TO

Lucy

Is it me, or is this plan kinda... weird?

Leticia

No, I agree. I think Ruby is not telling us everything.

John Is she ever?

Navy
Stop! Who are you?

John

Hi, we're with the Navy and we're lost out here. Our ship is over there.

Navy

What ship is that? Why is the flag down?

John

That's a really good question, and it's because--

Navy

Why are you reaching for that stick?

Bonk

Navy

Hey!

John

Sorry! I thought it would knock you out first try!

Fistfight noises followed by another bonk, choking noises, and the body hitting the floor

Leticia

John! You were supposed to talk our way in!

John

Admit that was cool. The bonking him on the head part, not the part where he hit me back and you had to choke him for me, I mean.

Zipping noises and clothes shuffling

John

Ugh, these uniforms are itchy. I'm gonna take whatever money this dead guys got in his pockets, and then we should be on our way, cuz they're gonna notice he's gone any minute.

Jeez,

My gums hurt. I think I have scurvy.

Lucy

You just got punched in the mouth.

John

Oh. yeah.

Camera sound

Lucy

(Horrified) you're taking pictures with the dead guy?

John

Okay, number one, we don't know he's dead. Two, people do it at funerals all the time. Oh, he's got a letter from his family, how sweet. And a map of the ship.

Leticia

Give me that. (Rustling paper). Great. I'm off to find the figurehead, I assume it's in this weird unmarked area.

Chuck

And I'm going below deck to the gunpowder. It will blow in... ten minutes, so everyone be off by then, treasure or not.

Footsteps

Leticia

(Muttering to themself) I hope I can lift this figurehead on my own, those things are heavy as shit.

Lucy

Good thing I'm here to help.

Leticia

You- are you following me?

Lucy

Ruby didn't give me a job to do after getting on the boat, and I figured you'd need backup.

Leticia

Well, I-

Sounds of a bunch of guns

Leticia

-dont. You will only slow me down. Get behind this table.

Gunshots

Lucy

Also, I think we should get to know each other since we're gonna be on the same team. What's your last name?

Leticia

Don't ask me personal questions while we're being shot at. In fact, don't ever ask me anything. Ever. Here, take this and cover me.

Gunshots

Lucy

Wow, you took that guy down fast. Have you killed a lot of people?

Leticia

Behind you! (Lucy squeaks. Gunshot.) Why, still think Im going to kill everyone in their sleep?

Lucy

Just trying to get to know you, like I said. What's your favorite color?

Leticia

None of your business.

Lucy

I get it, some things are just too personal. My guns out of ammo.

Leticia

Me too.

Lucy

Do you think... we'll make it out of here? I know the boss said not to be nervous, but I... I am.

Leticia

Yeah, we might make it out. (beat.) Hey, watch this.

explosion

Lucy

How did you...?

Leticia

Trick I learned from an old friend of mine. It takes a lot of practice, but you simply take a small stone and toss it into your opponents gun. That will either cause a misfire or-

explosion

Leticia

-that.

Lucy

Can you show me?

Leticia

I could, but it takes a lot of practice to master it... take that, and hold it like- no, like this. Here, give it to me. I take the stone like this, and throw.

explosion

Lucy

Great, was that bonding? Did we just bond?

Leticia

Quiet, or they'll see that we're down here. This plan is going wrong at every turn, what was Ruby thinking?

CUT TO

Korallion

Hello? Who's there? Let us out, we're trapped!

Lizzie

Well well, the Navy caught you, did they?

Korallion

Ah. You.

Lizzie

yep. You look terrible.

Korallion

Not so much as a 'how are you.' You were always so rude. My daughter was too-

Lizzie

-good for me, yes. I'm saving you from the Navy's brig and you want to insult me on my dead wifes behalf?

Korallion

She wouldnt be dead if she'd stayed home instead of fraternizing with pirates.

Lizzie

She went doing what she loved.

Korallion

(sigh) Yes, I suppose she did.

Lizzie

Theyre attacking the ship. You all better get out of here quickly.

slow footsteps

Norma

Releasing my prisoners, Goose?

Lizzie

Captain Goose, now. Been awhile, hasn't it? Nice eyepatch.

Norma

Nice hook. Maybe I'll take the other hand this time, give you a matching set. If you couldnt do anything about it back then, youre hopeless to stop me now, with just one hand.

Lizzie

A lot of things have changed.

swords being drawn

Lizzie

Shall we?

sword fighting noises

Norma

You always were a good fencer. If you'd chosen to be a Navyman and not a pirate, you could have-

Lizzie

Dont act like any of us had a choice. People like me only exist because of people like you.

Norma

You'd have done fine in the Navy, but you're a pathetic excuse for a pirate.

Lizzie

Im going to kill you. Then I'm going to go into town and spread the word that this pathetic excuse for a pirate, Lizzie Goose, has killed you, taken your treasure and sunk your ship. You'll drown in your blood or in the ocean, and your ghost will drown in your tarnished reputation. And then I can finally lay Corals memory to rest.

Sound of Norma being kicked to the ground

Norma

Your wife... she wouldnt have wanted this.

Lizzie

She would. She loved violent revenge so much its disturbing. So, this is for Coral.

eye gouging noise

Norma

Aaaagh, my eye!

Lizzie

And this is for me.

stabbing noise

Norma

You...won't....escape. Theyll...kill you.

Lizzie

Don't care.

Footsteps as Lizzie walks away

Norma

And your....crew, too.

Lizzie's footsteps stop for a second, and then she keeps walking

CUT TO

grunting noises of carrying something heavy

Lucy

You weren't kidding about this figurehead being heavy. I can't even get it off the ground.

Leticia

When will you all learn that I do not 'kid?' It's chained down, anyway. We need John to come pick the lock, but I don't know where he is.

Navy man
Hey! You there! *Gun clicks*

Lucy

Help, I've been kidnapped! I'm not with them!

Navy man

Step away ma'am, Im not aiming at you, I'm trying to shoot your captor.

Lucy

(We hispering) I'm gonna throw this into his gun and jam it. Like you showed me.

Leticia

What? There's no way you can pull that off.

Lucy

Hm.

Explosion

Leticia

You did it.

Lucy

Oh my gosh. I think she's dead. I've never killed anyone before.

Leticia

....how did you do that?

Lucy

Got lucky, I guess.

Leticia

That wasn't luck. Throwing a gemstone into the muzzle of a gun takes skill that-

Lucy

Seriously, it was.

Leticia Hmm. Lucky Lucy.

Lucy

Lucky lucy. I like that. Now let's get the treasure, we can find John and he'll get it for us and--

Leticia

There's no time, the ship is going to blow up in... five minutes ago. Shit, run!

Lucy

Are you sure we-

Leticia

No time, we are late, we were supposed to be back ten minutes ago, it's a miracle we aren't dead!

splashing as they jump in the water

Lucy

Woah, the ship is pulling up weirdly close-- is that serendipity?

Serendipity

Yep, I'm driving! One more thing off my bucket list!

Ruby

You two, get up here, everyone else has already come back into the ship.

Leticia

We have a problem.

Ruby

Yes, we do, some navy men made it on this ship, we need all hands on deck to fight. Take a sword.

Leticia

The treasure is still on-

Ruby

No time for that now, get on the ship.

Sword fighting

Serendipity

We need more wind to turn!

Ruby Hoist the sail!

The heist team Yes Captain!

Ruby (narrator)

As they work together seamlessly to fight the Navy, I'm reminded of why I hired them in the first place, and I almost understand what Captain Goose meant.

CUT TO

Ruby

Why so glum? We may have lost the treasure, but we got away.

Lizzie

As soon as they get news of the sinking, they'll be after us, with more ships than that. This score was never about the treasure for me. My revenge won't be complete until everyone knows what I've done. But if they dont catch me for it, theyll keep at it.

Ruby So you keep getting away.

Lizzie

Cant run forever. They'll never stop coming after us, and my crew will...

Ruby

Not if the crime is under another name.

Lizzie

I see what you're doing. I need everyone to know I'm the one who killed Norma and took everything she loved, that's what my wife would have wanted.

Ruby

She also loved your crew, and wanted them safe.

Lizzie

(sigh.) I have to think. Leave me be.

The Bearded Princess explodes

Chuck

Finally. I rigged that thing to blow half an hour ago, but better late than never.

Leticia

Half an hour ago we were still on the ship... we would have died.

Chuck

Yeah, well, I told you to get off in time, so. Besides, ilf you had... it's better to split the payout with fewer people, anyway.

John

Chucks got the right idea! High five! No? Nobody?

Leticia

(Sigh) I need a drink.

Footsteps growing distant

Ruby

You rigged it to go off late on purpose.

Chuck

Despite my best effort, I do care about all of you. You're my friends.

Ruby (narrator)

Ive always known chuck sees us as a sort of family. I used that to manipulate him for a long time. But it backfired, and sent me to prison, so I'm making it clear to him now.

Ruby

Caring about us won't get you anything in the long run. Look what caring did for Lizzie Goose.

She's still got no treasure and a busted boat.

Chuck

But if it wasn't for Corals memory, Lizzie and the crew wouldn't have helped us at all.

Ruby

Because they are sentimental idiots. Are we sentimental idiots, Chuck?

Chuck

...no?

Ruby

Exactly. That's why people like us steal from people like them, and not the other way around.

Don't let it happen again.

CUT TO

Leticia

You're not as useless as I expected.

Lucy

Thank y-

Leticia

But I still want you off this team. A kid like you shouldnt be in a team like this, you should be with your family. Only idiots with nothing to lose throw their lives away on these kind of jobs.

Lucy

Oh yeah? Youre here too, why dont you take your own advice, go home to your family?

Leticia

Because they're dead.

Lucy

Oh.

Leticia

There's your piece of personal information. Better write it down, because you're not getting another out of me. Ever.

Lucy

(talking to herself) I know they're kidding, but I actually am going to write that down.

scribbling noise

LATER

Crewmember

Port ho!

Leticia

What the fuck? The Navy is waiting for us outside the port.

Ruby

Yes, they are.

Navy

Send your Captain forward!

Lizzie

I am the captain of that vessel.

Navy

And what is your name, so we may mark it on your arrest papers for the theft of the treasure and the sinking of the Bearded Princess?

Lizzie

Will you pursue my crew?

Navy

We're trying, but they seem to be... scattering and running.

Lizzie

Good job, Edwin.

Navy

I ask again, your name? I haven't got all day.

Lizzie

My name is... Blackbeard.

Edwin

Why did she let them take her?! We could have escaped, we were going to do so much more, and find so much treasure, and make our marks on history!

Ruby

She already made her mark.

Navy

Ah, Ruby Max. Thank you for the tip. Here's your reward as promised.

Ruby

Thanks.

Leticia

What the fuck.

John

Boss, what's going on?

Ruby

Let's walk and talk. We need to go to the beach. Yesterday, when you went inside with Blackbeards body, I spoke with the Navy and told them to expect Blackbeard to show up today,

at this port. Since the Bearded Princess sailed in the morning, I knew we would have a scapegoat by then. Lizzie was perfect. She wanted her name on the crime for revenge, but more than that, shewanted her crew to be safe, so I was almost certain she would turn herself in with the right ecouragement. During the heist I intentionally gave you all tasks you would fail at, because I didn't want the treasure making it out of the Bearded Princess.

Chuck So why did we go in at all?!

Ruby

I needed you to sink the Bearded Princess, for three reasons: one, the people there had a history with Lizzie, and if they'd lived they would tell the Navy that she isn't Blackbeard. Two, I needed Lizzie to think we were legitimately trying to rob the Bearded Princess, so she would take the credit. Three, I needed the treasure to sink with the ship, and for it to look like an accident, so Lizzies crew wouldnt follow us here.

Lucy ...Where are we walking to?

Ruby

That's the next part of my plan. Coral, Rubys wife, was a mermaid who became human. Obviously. Ruby mentioned that there is only one mermaid pod nearby, which includes her father in law, also a mermaid. Lucy stumbled upon a note from Coral to her father, and once Leticia told me where the treasure was hidden in the ship, I dropped the note back into the ocean...along with a note of my own. The treasure isnt lost at all.

John

Uh, yeah, we know where it is... Squillions of miles underwater.

Ruby

It WAS in the sunken ship. Now, it's coming to us. I told him to meet us here, by this cliff.

Burbling.

Ruby Here he comes.

Korallion

I got your note, about how Coral would have wanted you to have.... The figurehead will bring you good luck. Much as I hate her choice to become a human, and a pirate... you're her crew, I... she would have wanted you all to have it. And this.

Lucy
The comb?

Korallion

(Did she drop it earlier orrrr what)()The comb is a message-- if your crew ever needs the help of the mermaids, use it.

Ruby

And we will take good care of it.

Burbling

Leticia

I must say, boss, this was an impressive plan. Unhinged and likely to result in our deaths, but impressive.

Ruby

This plan was plan C. if it didnt work, I kept Blackbeards body so we could do plan D, E, or F, if it came to that. I'm just glad we didn't have to go with plan G, that one was pretty weird.

John-

What was plan- actually, on second thought, I dont want to know.

Lucy

You sold Lizzie out.

Chuck

See? She uses people. You see that?

Lucy

We're breaking her out of jail and giving the figurehead to her crew, right?

Ruby

What? No, we're leaving and taking this thing home to sell it. Consider it a bonus.

Leticia

We do not have to leave her in prison. She helped us, we got the confession of being Blackbeard and doing the crime from her, why can't we spare a moment to help her?

John

I'm on Ruby's side. It's not our business.

Serendipity

I don't know, I'm ready to go home too, but I liked Captain Goose.

Chuck

She'll probably be executed if we leave her here.

Ruby

If she was really good, she would simply escape. That's what I always do.

(beat)

Ruby

Dont make that face.

(beat)

Ruby

(sigh) Fine, but let's make it quick. I want to get back to the time machine before Blackbeards body starts to really stink.

CUT TO

Ruby

What a waste of time. I hope you're all happy. Can we go to the present now?

Serendipity

Yup.

time travel noises

Serendipity

Wheres our next question?

Ruby

We don't have to go in order, we've got plenty of times and places to choose from. How do you all feel about medieval times next?

Serendipity

I always wanted to drive a horse. I'm gonna add that to my bucket list right now.

Lucy

Yeah, I like medieval times.

John

I guess that sounds cool. I've never been.

sipping noise *spit take*

John

Why does my coffee taste like chemicals? Did you put ethylene glycol in this?

Chuc

What? No, Ethylene glycol has no taste or smell, you wouldnt be able to tell if I did.

John

Oh.

Chuck Its arsenic.

Spit

phone rings

Ruby Hello.

Mysterious sponsor (garbled) was it a success?

Ruby

Yes. We have completed the first question.

Mysterious sponsor

And the time machine is in good condition? I will know if you attempt to steal it. It is un-stealable.

Ruby

Yes. I was meaning to ask-- what is the time machine called?

Mysterious Sponsor

We call it the Second Machine. (*this is foreshadowing for season 2 bc u think its called that bc time=seconds.... but actually its bc its the SECOND machine and there are also 3 other machines called the first machine, third machine, and fourth machine)

Ruby

(yelling to the other room) Chuck, he said it's called the 'Second Machine.'

Chuck

(from the other room) That's a stupid name. (running sounds, and then his voice sounds much closer) Give me the phone.

Ruby No.

Chuck

I want to give him a piece of my mind, I've got some name suggestions that could really-

Ruby

For the last time, I'm not letting you-- oh, look what you did now. He hung up.

Ruby (narrator)

I've been thinking about what Lizzie Goose said, about legacies. Lizzie Goose never did become famous. When I got home, I searched in every pirate history book and web page I could find, and there was nothing of her but a single footnote misspelling her name. Like her wife, all she left behind was her knick knacks and memories with those who knew her, the lives she changed. Is that enough? I dont think she even knew, herself.

I'm not going to make the same mistakes she did. Everything is going to go according to plan, and I'm going to be forever known as the woman who pulled of the most incredible series of heists in history.

Ruby

We may have finished one heist, but don't pat yourselves on the back yet, we're not even close to done.

Lucy Aye, aye, Captain!

Ruby

Don't do that. Come on, lets get to work.