

# **Fifteen Men - Characters**

## Duncan (First Mate)

*"Show your teeth, you salty bitch! Come on, give me a heavy sea I can feel!"*

Duncan is a broad-shouldered rock of a man with a lined face ravaged by wind and weather. He is flashily dressed, the greasy black hair is put back in a ponytail, and the gold glitters in his mouth. He is a stern man of few words and without any notably sense of humor.

Duncan is an unequalled first mate, and has many a time sailed the ship safely through reefs and rocks in stormy weather while he was screaming curses towards the sky and the sea. He is well respected by the crew, and certain superstitious members are fond of ascribing lucky qualities to him. They fear the day he no longer will be standing on the bridge when the ship is tossed around by the waves.



Duncan will use the treasure to travel home to England and propose to the love of his youth.



## Black Caesar (Second Mate)

*"Take this knife, little man – now let's dance, you and I!"*

Black Caesar is a large, black man with a naked torso, golden earrings, a bald head and a smile as white as mother-of-pearl. He has won the position as the ship's second mate by, among other things, throwing his predecessor overboard, but his ambitions do not end here. He has tasted the sweets of power, and the day isn't far away where he will stand on the deck as captain of his own ship. Black Caesar has a dominating and threatening aura, and he manages to cow most rivals. He is cynical, coldhearted and without mercy, but despises cowards and weaklings who stab men in the back. When you kill a man, you should damned well look into his eyes while you're doing it.

Caesar will use the treasure to become a captain on his own ship and then ravage the Caribbean Sea until his name causes every soul to shiver in fear.

## Mr. Cunningham (Boatswain)

*"Reef them damned sails, you dogs, or I'll trash your sorry backs until you cry blood!"*

Mr. Cunningham is the ship's boatswain. He is short and very stout with two blinking eyes which are placed too close and too deep in his fleshy face. He is known for his sarcastic tongue, his heavy hand and his strong leather whip. A man who knows how much the ship and crew can take, and who pushes them to the limit – and beyond

if necessary. Mr. Cunningham considers his most important task to be crushing every beginning revolt or mutiny before it evolves. He firmly believes that if it wasn't for him the hierarchy onboard would fall apart at any given time. Anarchy would rule, and not a bloody thing would work without him. He is quite hated and feared among the sailors.



**Mr. Cunningham will use the treasure to provide for his wife and eight children back home.**



## Pappa Jack (Oldest Sailor)

*"The dark, cold whore demands her price, and every sailor has to be ready to pay it".*

Pappa Jack is the oldest sailor on the ship. His face is red-cheeked with uneven tufts of grey beard, and his fists are callous. Pappa fears the sea as only an old man can, and tries persistently not to provoke the forces of the dark, cold deep. And he is ready to pay the necessary price to mitigate the ocean... When you have sailed as long as Pappa has, you get to know the sea and its whims, and he can find great importance in even the slightest change of wind. He has the ears of the

younger sailors, and he enjoys a certain amount of respect and acknowledgement among the others. Many a watch on the deck has been whiled away listening to Pappa Jack's many tales from his long life on the sea. When they set sail for this travel, Pappa saw a clear sign that it would be his last, one way or another, and he hasn't been able to rid himself of that feeling since...

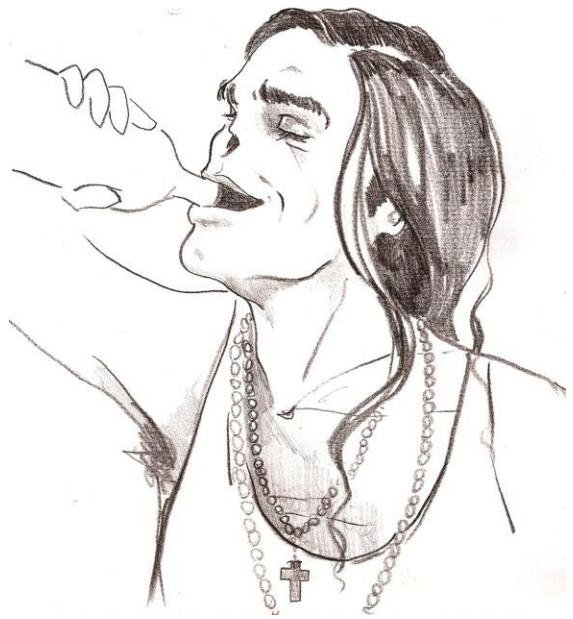
**Pappa Jack will use the treasure to retire and die in peace.**

## Jesús (Gunner)

*"Yes, give me that bottle, and the powder too. God be blessed for the good rum - and the Holy Virgin too. Well, where did I get to? That's right, I told the bitch to lie still and suck..."*

Jesús lost his nose to an unreliable cannon several years ago, and now there's only a hole left in the middle of his face. He has a fiery temper and during a naval battle you can hear him bark commands and insults without pause, as the cannons are being prepared. He claims persistently that God is by his side, and that just might be the reason he hasn't blown himself to pieces yet, in spite of the large amount of rum that flows between his lips each day. He seldom keeps his mouth shut, and his babble is often accompanied by flamboyant gestures.

Jesús will use the treasure to build a church and find redemption.



## Mad Dog Murdoch (Sailor)

*"You're asking me why? Why you should fetch me some grog? Because I damn well tell you to, sop!"*

Mad Dog is a great bald colossus with braids in his red beard. His naked torso is covered in numerous tattoos, and in the belt hangs his ever faithful cutlass. Mad Dog is a straightforward fellow, having no greater ambition in life than possessing what is right in front of him. But make no mistake, he will take these things as he pleases, and woe to those who get in the way. He is by far the strongest man onboard, and more than once a fistfight has resulted in an adversary ripped apart. Mad Dog has a surprisingly great sense of humor, especially when the joke is on others, and on these occasions his thunderous laughter will sweep across the deck.

Mad Dog Murdoch will use the treasure on rum, bacon and broads.



## Bones (Sailor)

*"Hushhhh..."*

This scrawny ghost of a man keeps to himself most of the time. He works as the lookout, moving around in the ropes above with an almost unnatural agility and elegance. Like a spider in its web, he can crawl about up there for days without setting a foot on deck. His voice is low and whispering, almost as the last breath of a dying man. Nobody knows what he did for a living before coming onboard the ship, and nobody wants to know. Although the crew doesn't talk with him, they talk about him. One foggy night, they found one of the crewmen hanging in one leg from the mainmast, his eyes plucked out. Though everybody knew who the murderer was, nobody said anything. They cut the body down and poured him overboard.



Nobody knows what Bones will use the treasure for.



## Percy (Ship's cook)

*"Get out of my galley! I don't serve my cooking to dead men!"*

Percy works as the cook and is, by the way, an extremely unattractive acquaintance. He is pale, rude and stinks of sweat, booze and decaying bits of food residue peeking about in his great beard. Sucking the butt of an old cigar, Percy rules the galley with an unnerving hostility towards anyone who dares to enter his domain, being neither a people person or for that matter a decent chef.

Furthermore, he has a rather morbid sense of humor, making bad jokes about other people's misfortune. Years ago, he lost one of his hands, which was then replaced with an old meathook, fitted onto his forearm.

Percy will use the treasure to buy himself a noble title.

## Handsome Jim (Sailor)

*"She was no more than 15 years, but when I got her out of her corset, she went as wild as a fiery devil. And then you should have seen her sisters!"*

Handsome Jim is a sailor made from the perfect mold - not too tall, but broad-shouldered and sturdy - and a ladies' man when not being at sea. A simple man who knows his stuff, values grog and women, and who doesn't hesitate before starting a good fight in taverns and joints. On his arm is a tattoo for every virgin he fucked, and his numerous and famous conquests have not only earned him respect and admiration among the crew, but also made him a target of envy. Many of the others would say that he's a little too cocky for his own good. Life is straightforward for Jim, and chances and opportunities have always fallen nicely into his lap. What he lacks in intelligence, he makes up for in vanity.



Handsome Jim will use the treasure to live a life of pleasure.

## Nathaniel Butler (Sailor)

*"Look at me... LOOK AT ME!! Look what I've become..."*

Nathaniel was once a man with a promising future. Well respected. Popular. An officer in the British navy. When he takes a rare look in the mirror these days, he feels nothing but disdain for what he has become: A wretched robber and murderer. His hair is uncombed and greasy, the uniform hangs in rags around his slouching figure, and his eyes are filled with anger and bitterness. He knows his way around a rapier and is an able sailor in every way, but drinking has gotten the better of him. Yet he still clings to the hope of one day reclaiming his lost honor and life.



Nathaniel will use the treasure to reclaim his old life.

## Jean-Loupe (Sailor)

*"You toil and moil for the common good, and what do you get apart from yuck and whipping lashes? And the Mates are just sitting on their arses, dreaming on how to divide the booty, while the rest of us have to..."*

Jean-Loupe is a skinny loud-mouth with a sulky face and stooping shoulders. Numerous scars from whipping lashes are spread across his back. A constant stream of sour remarks flow from his mouth about the misery of everything. Jean-Loupe rarely thinks before he acts or speaks up, and when he is caught by an impulse he follows through on it without much room for reflection. He thinks highly of himself, and by God he could teach those arsehole Mates how to run this ship. Discontent tends to spread from him like rings in water.



Jean-Loupe will use the treasure on gambling.



## Cutthroat Bill (Sailor)

*"I think we understand each other you and I. What do you say, we give him an extra smile and haul him over the rail?"*

Cutthroat Bill is a swarthy man with a weasel-like face, black frock coat and a triangular hat. He is always fingering one of his knives, and he throws them with deadly precision. He also has many slith throats on his consciousness. Bill is not a reckless man and he prefers to stab his opponents in the back, rather than risk an open confrontation face to face. Honor and morals are unknown to him, and he has no principles he wouldn't betray- if the price was right. Cutthroat Bill has always had a way of knowing which way the wind blows, and so far he has always managed to put his money on the winner...

Cutthroatt Bill will use the treasure to build an inn in the countryside.



## Santiago (Sailor)

*"Yes, yes good sir. Santiago mops the deck as sir tells him to, just move on... Yes, that's right, move on... Santiago will slit you open when you sleep, you dog..."*

Santiago is as ugly as sin and rotten teeth fill his mouth. This doesn't stop him from smiling a big and servile smile, which never reaches his eyes. Santiago has a bowed back and a cringing attitude, and few have ever seen him stand straight. He prefers to please his superiors and not get in the way of those stronger than himself. But smiles and pleasantries quickly turn into venomous curses when no one is listening. Santiago may bow and scrape the best he has learned, but he knows that he is better and smarter than all the others, and one day he'll give them what they deserve. Santiago likes to talk about himself in the third person.



**Santiago will use the treasure to buy a whorehouse and bury himself in breasts.**



## Dr. Bonnet (Ship's Doctor, Captain's Waiter)

*"You have acquired 'the French illness', sailor. This is what you get for living an immoral life. Yes, it will be painful..."*

Dr. Bonnet is a straight-backed man with sharp eyes and long slender fingers. Even though his elegant west and powdered wig are getting a bit worn out, he maintains a pride and cool arrogance that leaves little doubt, that he is an educated man. Bonnet was on his way to the British colony of Port Royal when the ship he was travelling with got boarded by the pirates. Since then he has been kept as a hostage and serves as ship's doctor and waiter to the captain. So far he has conscientiously taken care of his duties on board, though he doesn't go out of his way to spare his patients from painful treatment or sarcastic comments. Though Dr. Bonnet is still formally a hostage, he isn't confined to quarters, and walks freely as part of the crew. His time on board has bestowed upon him a cruel disdain towards moaning and weakness, and taught him that in the end, everybody has to take care of themselves.

**Bonnet will use the treasure to buy a tobacco plantation and a stock of slaves to work it.**



## Tommy (Ship's Boy)

*"Yes, sir. I'll do my best to live up to your expectations."*

Tommy is Ship's Boy, the youngest deckhand on board. This is his first voyage on the seas, and his heart is filled with adventure and curiosity. This orphan boy was lured to sea by stories of golden treasure, exotic women and fantastic adventures told in a smoke filled joint in the late hours of the night. Until now, he has never drawn blood from another and he is still in possession of the naiveté and artlessness of youth. Neither has he discovered the true nature of the band of scoundrels he has joined – he regards them almost as family. Tommy longs for the recognition and respect of the others and he is certain that this journey will make a man out of him.



**Tommy will use the treasure to sail to the end of the world.**

**Duncan (First Mate)**

Broad-shouldered, lined face, flashily dressed, greasy black hair, a stern man of few words

**Black Caesar (Second Mate)**

Large, black, naked torso, golden earrings, bald head, dominating, threatening, despises cowards

**Mr. Cunningham (Boatswain)**

Short, very stout, blinking eyes, sarcastic, maintains hierarchy, leather whip, hated, feared

**Pappa Jack (Oldest Sailor)**

Redcheeked, tufts of grey beard, knows the sea and its whims, seasoned, respected

**Jesús (Gunner)**

Lost nose, fiery temper, claims God is by his side, drinks, seldom keeps his mouth shut

**Mad Dog Murdoch (Sailor)**

Great bald colossus, braided red beard, straightforward, takes what he pleases, thunderous laughter

**Bones (Sailor)**

Scrawny ghost, lookout, unnatural agility and elegance, whispering voice, feared

**Percy (Ship's Cook)**

Pale, rude, stinks of sweat, great beard, meathook as hand, morbid sense of humor

**Handsome Jim (Sailor)**

Not too tall, broad-shouldered, sturdy, tattoos, ladies' man, little too cocky, vain

**Nathaniel Butler (Sailor)**

Former officer, uncombed and greasy hair, uniform in rags, angry, bitter, able sailor, drinks

**Jean-Loupe (Sailor)**

Skinny, loud-mouth, sulky face, stooping shoulders, scars, sour remarks, impulsive, spreads discontent

**Cutthroat Bill (Sailor)**

Swarthy, weasel-like, black frock coat, knives, cautious, backstabber, opportunist

**Santiago (Sailor)**

Ugly, rotten teeth, servile smile, cringing attitude, prefers to please, venomous curses

**Dr. Bonnet (Skip's Doctor, Captain's Waiter)**

Sharp eyes, elegant, cool arrogance, educated, sarcastic, cruel disdain, formally a hostage

**Tommy (Ship's Boy)**

Youngest deckhand, adventurous, curious, naiveté and artlessness, longs for recognition and respect