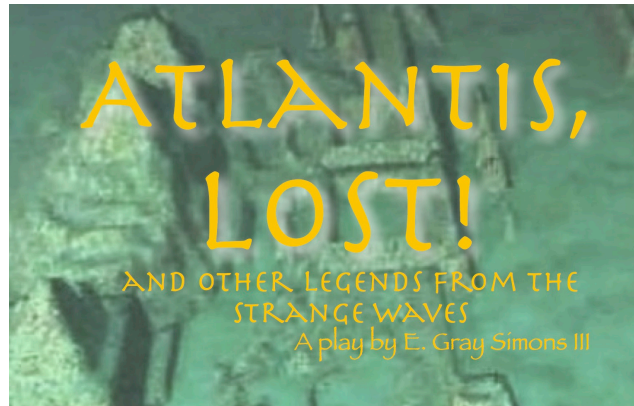


Atlantis, Lost!



And Other Legends from the Strange Waves

A Play
By
E. Gray Simons III

from the



SERIES



Newport, Maine

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ATLANTIS, LOST!

And other legends from the Strange Waves

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SCENES

PROLOG -- At The Sideshow

SCENE 1 -- Ancient Greece and Atlantis

SCENE 2 -- 19th Century Scandanavia

SCENE 3 -- The Hawaiian Islands

SCENE 4 -- Scotland

CAST LIST

	PROLOG	SCENE 1	SCENE 2	SCENE 3	SCENE 4
ACTOR 1	ACTOR 1	NARRATOR, ATLAS	BUCCANEER, ALF	MAUI	LUGNE
ACTOR 2	ACTOR 2	SCHOLAR 1, POSEIDON	NARRATOR, SERPENT	HAWAIIAN, SUN	REPORTER
ACTOR 3	ACTOR 3	SCHOLAR 2, ATHENA	AVILDA	NARRATOR, WIND	CORA, MAGGIE
ACTOR 4	ACTOR 4	PLATO, ZEUS	SEWARD	LONO	NARRATOR
ACTOR 5	RINGMASTER	HADES	SERPENT, KING	HAWAIIAN, RAIN CLOUDS, RINGMASTER	GREGOR, RINGMASTER

ATLANTIS, LOST! and Other Legends from the Strange Waves A Mystery Sideshow Theatre Play by E. Gray Simons III. Multiple characters can be played by as few as 5 actors. Costumes, and Props are vital but simple. The set should be fluid, moving through multiple locations easily. About an hour. Atlantis, Lost! is a collection of stories about historical wonders and the waters of the world. This collection of wet and wonderful tales includes the lost civilization of Atlantis, the life of a pirate, the origin of surfing and the Loch Ness monster. Ride the strange waves and discover a whole new view of the world through these inspired episodes of modern mythology. **Order # 3173**

Playwright **E. Gray Simons III** has worked for fourteen years as an Artist-in-Residence at BTF. In 2000, he became Artistic Director of BTF PLAYS! and has since written and directed more than a dozen original plays, among them *Aesop's Network*, *Nursery Rhyme Café*, *Mystery Sideshow 2: Strange Waves*, and *Mystery Sideshow 3: Way Out West*. Simons made his BTF directorial debut in 2000 with *The Wind in the Willows* and in 2001 he became director of the Summer Performance Stories, *The Odyssey*, *The Magic Flute*, *Arabian Nights*, and *Monkey*. Other directorial credits include *The Wizard of Oz*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Oliver!* and *Peter Pan*(2009) on BTF's Main Stage, *Where Has Tommy Flowers Gone?* and *Holiday Memories* in the Unicorn Theatre, *Robin Hood* at the Berkshire Museum, *The Who's Tommy* at Brandeis University with co-director Eric Hill, and *Big Love* at Brandeis University. His BTF acting credits include *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Peter Pan*, *Moby Dick-Rehearsed*, and *Wilder, Wilder*. Berkshire Theatre Festival's year-round education program, BTF PLAYS! serves area students from kindergarten through high school. At the heart of BTF PLAYS! is a passionate commitment to bring live theatre and all its inherent excitement and creativity to children in our region. Each year, more than 10,000 students in underserved rural and inner city schools throughout Berkshire Country are reached through in-school residency programs, vacation camps, and our touring production. Over the course of the summer, BTF PLAYS! hosts vacation camps for students from grades K-6, providing opportunities to learn about acting, improvisation, storytelling, and working behind the scenes in the theatre.

PROLOGUE

SETTING: THE OCEAN, PRESENT

An optional song AT THE SIDESHOW is available to sing as an introduction to this installment of the Mystery Sideshow Theatre series. (The persistent break of ocean waves is heard. Actors move the fabric of the set as if it is the undulating ocean. Several actors emerge from the fabric. They are swimming, floating, surfing, etc... Ringmaster enters holding a staff, which resembles paddle.)

RINGMASTER: Water, water everywhere! It makes one pause and think... What sunken mysteries lie below? Should I take a drink?

ACTOR 2: Will there be a long lost treasure?

ACTOR 4: Or a creature from the deep?

RINGMASTER: What are these tales of ancient mariners that give us troubled sleep?

ACTOR 3: Can I learn to ride the surf?

ACTOR 1: Find a civilization that was lost?

RINGMASTER: And when we seek below the surface, will we by strange waves be tossed?

(The actors shift back and forth across the stage as if they are being pushed across the slanting deck of a ship by the motion of rough seas.)

It's true, we are about to shove off into uncharted waters and it's possible that a turbulent current of questions may sweep us down a misty river of reverie... But fear not! For we are learned sailors that will help you navigate the troubled oceans of the unknown. On this voyage we shall measure the unfathomable depths of your imagination and most assuredly bring to the surface the iridescent revelations that lurk deep within the brine of your drifting minds. Now, part of our trip is historical and part is just a point of view and the rest is an old sea shanty and funny fish story or two. Our journey will not be dangerous. I doubt you'll need a life vest. All that's required is an open mind and we'll fill up of the rest.

ACTOR 1: So, follow us to the waterside.

ACTOR 2: To see what's in the sea.

ACTOR 3: Feel the pull of the rising tide.

ACTOR 4: And streams of sideshow mystery.

RINGMASTER: All we have is a tall tale and a voice to tell her by... Anchors away! Let's ride the Strange Waves!

SCENE 1

SETTING: ANCIENT GREECE, AT THE ADVENT OF RECORDED HUMAN HISTORY.

(Two Greek-style pillars are moved into place. An actor enters as the narrator.)

ACTOR 1: Let us begin our voyage with one of the greatest thinkers of the western world, Plato.

PERUSAL SCRIPT -- Atlantis Lost by E. Gray Simons III

(Plato enters with two other scholars.)

He was a philosopher from ancient Greece. He thought many deep thoughts and wrote many great dialogues concerning the laws and ideals that govern humans. Nearly all of his writing is still studied enthusiastically today, but his most unusual text was the beginning of a controversy that started over 2000 years ago and has continued to this day. It was about the lost civilization of Atlantis.

PLATO: Atlantis was the nearest thing to paradise the world has ever seen!

SCHOLAR 1: I don't believe it.

PLATO: Oh, it's true.

SCHOLAR 2: It can't be true.

PLATO: Why would I lie?

ACTOR 1: Plato and his colleagues debated endlessly about the existence of Atlantis. Even Plato's brilliant teacher, Socrates, was skeptical about the reality of such a utopian society. But, Plato stuck to his claim that a perfect people had lived on an island continent beyond the Pillars of Hercules and had unexpectedly disappeared in a great cataclysm.

PLATO: There occurred violent earthquakes and floods and in a single day and night the island of Atlantis sank into the depths of the sea!

SCHOLAR 1: I don't believe it.

PLATO: Oh, it's true.

SCHOLAR 2: It can't be true.

PLATO: Why would I lie?

(Plato and the scholars continue to argue and exit.)

ACTOR 1: And thus the debate has gone on to this very day and no one has ever been able to verify Plato's story. If there was such a perfect civilization, who can say why it was devoured by the sea... Well, one possible explanation begins at a place we know today as the Straits of Gibraltar, which is a narrow passage of water surrounded by rocky cliffs that separate the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. Long ago the tall cliffs were called the Pillars of Hercules and from that high point, Poseidon...

(Poseidon enters holding a trident.)

The ruler of the seas and creator of Atlantis, often looked out across the ocean. On one particular day Hades, the trouble-making god of the Underworld, happened to be taking in the view as well.

(Actor 1 becomes Hades.)

HADES: Poseidon, God of the Sea!

POSEIDON: Hades, God of the Underworld.

HADES: What are you doing way up here by the Pillars? Shouldn't you be down stirring ocean currents and minding lovely mermaids?

POSEIDON: I like the view.

HADES: Oh, yeah! You can see all of Atlantis from this spot.

POSEIDON: What are you doing up here in the world above? Shouldn't you be tending the wretchedness of the departed?

HADES: Well, believe it or not, sometimes the Underworld really gets to be a downer. I mean take Sisyphus. You know he's the guy stuck pushing a huge rock up a steep hill for all of eternity... and sure

his endless agony is charming and when the rock rolls back down and he has to start again it's hilarious, but after the millionth time I'm like... Hey, buddy! Just a little farther and you're there!

(Sigh)

I know I shouldn't complain. I have the misery of the condemned around me all the time and that should be enough to make me happy, but sometimes I just want to cross the river Styx and never go back. You ever get that feeling?

POSEIDON: Not really.

HADES: Well, I just had to get away for a little bit, so this time I came up to the Pillars.

POSEIDON: Great.

HADES: So how are things down in merry old Atlantis?

POSEIDON: Everything is perfect.

HADES: Perfect, huh?

POSEIDON: Yes, I have created a perfect race of humans that live in complete harmony.

HADES: Complete harmony... So, no one ever gets upset?

POSEIDON: No

HADES: Or complains?

POSEIDON: Never.

HADES: Or is selfish?

POSEIDON: Not at all.

HADES: That's not what I heard.

POSEIDON: What do you mean? What did you hear?

HADES: Well, you know I don't like to spread gossip, but I was visiting Zeus on mount Olympus and he said that Atlantis was nothing but a race of whiny, simple-minded, self-centered, porpoise-hugging posers.

POSEIDON: Porpoise-hugging posers?

HADES: Or something like that. And he said that the king of Atlantis, Atlas, is nothing but a muscle bound moron.

POSEIDON: My son, Atlas, is perfect.

HADES: Perfectly inarticulate... in Zeus's words.

POSEIDON: Well, I'll just have to have a few words with Zeus.

HADES: I'm pretty sure he's still up on Mount Olympus.

POSEIDON: Thank you, Hades.

HADES: No problem.

(Poseidon exits)

ACTOR 1: Of course, there was a problem and it was Hades. He loved to come up from the Underworld to create strife in the world above. He was especially happy if he could cause it on a grand scale between the gods.

(Zeus enters holding a lightning bolt.)

He actually had been to Mount Olympus to see Zeus earlier that day and they had spoken about Atlantis.

ZEUS: So, Hades, what brings you to Mount Olympus?

HADES: Well, Zeus, I just wanted to have a word with you...

ZEUS: Okay.

HADES: You know, I decided to vacation in Atlantis this year.

ZEUS: Good for you.

HADES: After all, it is the “new” paradise.

ZEUS: So I’ve been told, if you’re looking for a shallow, touristy amusement-park atmosphere.

HADES: Oh, I am. Any-who, I ran into Poseidon’s son, Atlas. You know he’s the ruler of Atlantis.

ZEUS: Yes, I’ve met him.

HADES: Yeah, well, we were talking about Athens and he thought that as a culture Atlantis had surpassed it in every way.

ZEUS: Don’t be absurd. Athens has the most highly skilled craftsman and the fiercest warriors the world has ever seen.

HADES: Hmm... Atlas said that Athens barely had enough skills to pay the bills and that the only thing fierce about their warriors was their body odor... especially your daughter, Athena.

ZEUS: Atlas said that?!

HADES: I know, I was shocked. But you know, I thought you’d like to hear about it. Well, I gotta get back to the world below.

ZEUS: Hades, if you happen to run into Poseidon on the way down, could you tell him I’d like to talk to him about his son?

HADES: Hey, no problem Zeus.

ZEUS: Thank you, Hades.

ACTOR 1: It was quite common for the gods to argue, so it wasn’t hard for Hades to stir up trouble, but this had gone far beyond his typical brand of mayhem. By the time Poseidon arrived on Mount Olympus both the God of the Heavens and the God of the Seas were in very bad tempers.

POSEIDON: Zeus, I’d like to speak to you!

ZEUS: Poseidon! Is it about your muscle bound moron of a son?

POSEIDON: You have no right to criticize my family! The Atlanteans have more culture and intelligence than the Athenians could ever imagine.

ZEUS: Oh sure, if by culture you mean the water ballet and whale watching.

POSEIDON: And unlike your unsophisticated daughter, Athena, Atlas is the model of strength and style.

ZEUS: Atlas can barely style his own hair.

POSEIDON: I suppose you think the Athenians are the height of the human race?

ZEUS: No, I think they’re the only example of the human race. The people of Atlantis are more like frogs.

POSEIDON: You take that back!

ZEUS: Why don’t you make me!

POSEIDON: All right! What if we settle this with a contest?

ZEUS: Name the game.

POSEIDON: Every game there is.

ZEUS: Okay, we’ll play them all. Atlantis versus Athens. What’s at stake?

POSEIDON: The loser has his civilization crumble to the bottom of the sea.

ZEUS: Deal.

POSEIDON: Where?

ZEUS: Right here. Mount Olympus. At sunrise.

POSEIDON: It's on. Tomorrow the Olympic Games begin.

(Actor 1 enters as Zeus and Poseidon move upstage, continuing to glare at each other.)

ACTOR 1: So the first Olympic Games started the next day. Every person from Athens and Atlantis was at the games and the greatest athletes from each side competed. Atlas was the chief competitor for Atlantis.

(Atlas enters.)

And Athena was the champion for Athens.

(Athena enters.)

They went head to head in a seemingly never-ending variety of contests.

(Atlas and Athena mime the following contests as Zeus and Poseidon cheer them on.)

Running! Swimming! Javelin! Shot put! Long jump! Wrestling! Hula-hoop! They were evenly matched in every event. Finally, after nearly a month of non-stop competing they ran out of games and the contest still hadn't been decided. Each team had won, lost and tied the same number of events.

ZEUS: There's nothing left to contest.

POSEIDON: There must be something we haven't tried.

HADES: *(Entering, happily)* Zeus, Poseidon! I've never been so entertained in my life. These games are amazing! So many epic battles where one combatant seems to have the upper hand and out of nowhere the other competitor pulls off some kind of heart-stopping dramatic victory! I just have one complaint... I want more taunting... the champion should be gloating in the losers face... you know, insult to injury...

(Thrashes and imaginary opponent)

Boom! How you like me now?!

ZEUS: Hades, we've run out of games.

POSEIDON: Help us think of something else.

HADES: Um, let me think, what haven't I seen... Oh, easy. Hotdog eating contest!

ZEUS and POSEIDON: Perfect!

(Atlas and Athena each bring on a large bowl of foam hot dogs. They each set the bowl down and prepare to eat.)

HADES: Okay, first one to finish all the hot dogs wins. Ready... Set... Go!

(Atlas and Athena turn upstage and mime eating the hotdogs very fast. Athena finishes first.)

ATHENA: Done!

HADES: We have a winner!

(Raises Athena's hand and turns to Atlas)

In your face!

ZEUS: Yes!

POSEIDON: No!

ATHENA: I think I'm going to be sick.

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(As Athena staggers off, Hades points out, looking off in the distance as a massive collapsing, splashing noise is heard)

HADES: And look Atlantis is tumbling into the sea!

ATLAS: Oh, no my beautiful kingdom. It's sinking! No!

(Atlas exits as the rumbling fades, Athena wretches upstage)

POSEIDON: I guess you were right Zeus, Athens is better. You can start bragging.

ZEUS: Poseidon, I don't feel right about this. We should have called it a draw.

POSEIDON: Well, it's too late now. Atlantis is at the bottom of the ocean.

ZEUS: I know... I feel terrible. The citizens of Atlantis were living in paradise and now... they're homeless. I think they should come and live in Athens.

POSEIDON: Really?

ZEUS: Absolutely! We'll combine our cultures to make the best of both.

POSEIDON: That's very kind of you, Zeus.

ZEUS: Well, your people competed bravely over the last few weeks.

POSEIDON: So you really don't think we're porpoise-hugging posers?

ZEUS: I never said that.

POSEIDON: Well, Hades said you did...

ZEUS: *(To Hades)* Hades. What have you done?

HADES: Oh, golly! This has been really fun, but I should get back to the Underworld... See ya!

(Exits)

ZEUS and POSEIDON: Hades!!

(Zeus and Poseidon follow Hades off stage, as Actor 1 enters)

ACTOR 1: So the utopian civilization of Atlantis was gone forever. Atlas, their powerful king tried desperately to hold up the sinking island but he failed in the attempt and was left holding up the rest of the earth near the Pillars of Hercules. A number of the Atlanteans accepted Zeus's offer and moved to Athens, but many more wandered into the world to find new homes in distant lands across the great ocean we know today as the Atlantic.

(Ringmaster enters as Actor 1 exits)

RINGMASTER: Over the centuries, a number of artifacts, that are thought to be Atlantean, have been found in the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. Some have even been discovered as far away as the Caribbean Sea, but no conclusive proof of their origin has ever been given and so Atlantis remains a mystery. But, of course, the Olympic Games have continued and the modern games, which have gone on since 1896, are still a golden opportunity for honorable competition, national pride and maybe even a hot dog or two. Now let us drift forward in history to more recent events.

(The fabric of the set moves and the Ringmaster drifts across the stage.)

Over the high seas, humans have wandered for thousands of years, mostly because of a desire to find marvelous distant lands to explore. In their wanderings, explorers often transported valuable cargos over the ocean from these distant lands. These were dangerous voyages and many ships, cargos and crews were lost to the harsh forces of the ocean. But there was another menace at work on the ocean that was just as merciless as Mother Nature... Pirates!

SCENE 2

SETTING: SCANDINAVIA, THE 9TH CENTURY.

(A pirate enters followed by Actor 2)

ACTOR 2: When most people think of pirates they think of the swashbuckling buccaneers of the 17th century.

BUCCANEER: Arg!

ACTOR 2: There was a style, romance and savagery to these rogues of the open ocean that was irresistible, but they weren't the originals.

BUCCANEER: Arg?

(Actor 2 shakes head and Buccaneer exits, dejectedly)

ACTOR 2: Raiding ships began nearly as soon as there were ships to raid. The more people that set out across the waters of the world the more pirates were there to ambush them. And this was not a club exclusive to men. All kinds of women were there to claim their fair share of the booty. In fact, there was one legendary lady from Scandinavia who looted almost half the Danish fleet. She was a beautiful Viking princess named Alvilda.

(Alvilda enters.)

She was the daughter of King Seward,

(Seward enters.)

Who like most Vikings in the 9th century, was constantly occupied with sailing to new and unconquered lands.

ALVILDA: Father!

SEWARD: Alvilda!

ALVILDA: Father! You have returned.

SEWARD: My dear, Alvilda. How I have missed you, my daughter.

ALVILDA: What new and wondrous realms have you seen?

SEWARD: I have seen new lands that would delight and fascinate you.

ALVILDA: Oh, how I long to be delightfully fascinated. When will you take me with you?

SEWARD: Your curiosity would rival that of the greatest Viking voyager, but I'm afraid it is too dangerous.

ALVILDA: But father, I am skilled in the arts of battle. I can look after myself and I desire to know more of the world. I wish to see the bright spectacles and the dark marvels that exist only in my imaginings.

SEWARD: Your thirst for knowledge fills me with pride and one day you may see these things, but first I must see to your needs.

ALVILDA: But I have no needs, only unfulfilled dreams.

SEWARD: And do your dreams include meeting a brave young man?

ALVILDA: No.

SEWARD: Well, as your sensible father it is up to me to point out to you, my impetuous young daughter, that you are getting to the age when your needs include finding a proper husband.

ALVILDA: But I am not in love with anyone.

SEWARD: But you shall be. Come, look. I have brought you a present.

ALVILDA: Father, have you brought me a husband?

SEWARD: No, I brought you something that will help find you a husband. On my last voyage, I sailed to a far away shadowy continent and I captured these two colossal serpents.

(Two serpents enter.)

Fear not, I have trained them to attack only the men who are bold enough seek your hand in marriage.

ALVILDA: So they will attack my suitors?

SEWARD: Yes, and only the one that is brave enough and strong enough to defeat them will be able to have you. It's perfect!

ALVILDA: But what if I don't like him?

SEWARD: How could you not like someone who is man enough to slay these monsters?

ALVILDA: Father, I don't want a stranger as a husband! I want to see the world and find my fortune and then, maybe, fall in love...

SEWARD: I want to hear nothing more of this silliness. I have made my decision. You will marry a man of true courage and you will be happy about it.

ALVILDA: But, I won't be happy. I'll be some warrior's trophy!

SEWARD: That's enough! Go to your room and wait.

(*Alvilda exits and the two serpents move upstage.*)

ACTOR 2: King Seward did not like speaking to his daughter in this way, but he felt it was for the best and stuck to his word. He placed the two huge serpents in front of Alvilda's bedroom door and invited anyone to try to overcome them in exchange for his daughter's hand in marriage. Every young man that challenged the snakes failed and Alvilda waited. When it seemed like no one would ever make a match for the guardians, none other than the prince of Denmark presented himself as a suitor. The King led him to Alvilda's door and he drew his sword.

(*Alf battles the snakes and defeats them.*)

SEWARD: My brave young man! Congratulations! Here you must meet my daughter.

ALF: Thank you, King Seward. I would be delighted.

SEWARD: (*Calls offstage*) Alvilda!

(*To Alf*)

She's been waiting for quite some time.

(*Alvilda enters*)

My dear, I would like you to meet your husband to be. I'm sorry, what is your name young man?

ALF: Alf.

SEWARD: Is that short for Alfred?

ALF: No, just Alf.

SEWARD: Oh, well, this is my daughter, Alvilda.

ALF: I am very pleased to meet you.

ALVILDA: And I have been very much looking forward to meeting you, so I could tell you in person that I will not be marrying you.

SEWARD: Excuse me, Prince Alf.

(Laughing nervously and pulling Alvilda to one side.)

Alvilda, you have not even given this young man a chance. He has slain the serpents and he's very handsome and well spoken. Is there some quality that he is lacking in?

ALVILDA: He has none of my love.

SEWARD: But you must get to know him.

ALVILDA: I already know that he is going to keep me from what I want and I do not need to know more.

ALF: What is it you want princess and how do you know that I will keep you from it?

ALVILDA: I want to find my place in the world, I don't want to be placed somewhere.

ALF: That is noble. I had heard that you were beautiful and that is true, but I was not told of your determination and spirit.

ALVILDA: Why? Was that not written in the advertisement that brought you here to try to win me as a prize? I cannot be won and kept in your halls with your other treasure.

ALF: Your affection is a treasure that I know I could never win, but would like to earn, if I can...

SEWARD: You see Alvilda—

ALVILDA: You may earn my respect, but for that you must leave me to my own will and leave my sight.

SEWARD: Alvilda, you will go to your room and wait for me!

ALVILDA: Fine, if he will not leave, then I will!

SEWARD: Go!

(Alvilda exits.)

I apologize, prince Alf. You are a patient and gracious young man.

ALF: King Seward, if she does not want me, I should go.

SEWARD: No, I must speak with her. She is not in her right mind and it's my fault. If she were to meet you on her own, she would like you. You are just her type. Please, excuse me. I won't be but a moment.

ALF: Of course, you're majesty.

SEWARD: Thank you.

(He exits. Then calls from offstage)

Alvilda? Alvilda!

(Enters)

She's gone!

(Alf and Seward exit.)

ACTOR 2: Alvilda had considered running away several days before prince Alf showed up. Then when the prince came and slew the serpents, she decided it was her only chance to find her own destiny. She was reluctant to disappoint her father, but she resented the fact that he had forced her into the position of marrying prince Alf.

(Alvilda enters)

ALVILDA: So what if he was brave, handsome and well spoken.

ACTOR 2: And despite the fact that she found Alf quite appealing, she convinced herself that he was surely nothing more than a pretentious Dane and her stubborn nature and her desire to see the world won out.

(Alvilda changes clothes.)

She disguised herself as a man, and signed onto the first ship that would have her. After several days at sea she realized that she had unwittingly joined up with a band of pirates and was terrified that they might discover her true identity. They made several attacks on merchant ships and she had to prove herself in battle on more than one occasion.

(Alvilda displays her sword fighting skills.)

Her skills were far superior to everyone she met and she soon gained the respect of her entire crew.

(Alvilda's crew members enter.)

In fact, their admiration for her was so great that after only a few short months they made her captain and Alvilda guided her ship, the Valkyrie, wherever she pleased. She relished her new sense of freedom and saw sights on the ocean that she had only imagined before. She also learned to justify her new outlaw life by resolving to rob only the ships that flew the flag of Denmark. As she plundered her way across the North Sea, building up large piles of Danish treasure,

(Alf enters.)

She sometimes felt lonely and wondered if she might run into Prince Alf and if he would remember her.

(As Alvilda exits, the King of Denmark enters.)

Prince Alf's father, the King of Denmark, certainly noticed that many of his ships were being looted and he went to his son to resolve the problem.

KING OF DENMARK: Alf, I must speak with you.

ALF: Yes, father.

KING OF DENMARK: Have you heard of these mounting raids on our merchant ships?

ALF: No, I haven't. I've been preoccupied.

KING OF DENMARK: Yes, you've been sailing around the wide seas looking for a Viking Princess for the better part of a year. I don't know why you would choose to dwell so long on a woman you barely know.

ALF: I can't help it father. I feel partly to blame for her running away from her father and I wish to make amends. And, if truth be told, I fell in love with her the moment I saw her and I feel I can never love another.

KING OF DENMARK: Well, it's time you got your mind onto something else. I need you to set sail right away. One pirate ship that is supposedly called the Valkyrie has waylaid nearly half of our Danish fleet.

ALF: That's astonishing.

KING OF DENMARK: Well, I do not wish it to continue and I would like you to put a stop to it.

ALF: Of course, father.

KING OF DENMARK: When you find these pirates you are to show them no mercy.

ALF: Yes, father.

(Alf exits.)

ACTOR 2: Prince Alf had to forget about his long lost Viking Princess for the moment and put his mind to the task of intercepting the rogues that had robbed half his father's fleet. He had never heard of such audacious pirates, so he set sail with his best men, prepared for the worst. They had only been on the hunt for a few days when the pirates surprised Alf's ship and attacked.

(Alvilda's crew enters and they fight with Alf.)

Alf fought his way through the pirates until he came face to face with the captain.

ALVILDA: Prince Alf?

ALF: Yes, I am Prince Alf and I order you to surrender in the name of the King of Denmark!

ALVILDA: Do you know who I am?

ALF: I know you are a villain and that's all I need to know.

(They have a sword fight.)

ALVILDA: I am a pirate, but once I was the object of another person's desire and I gave that up for a life of adventure.

ALF: Why should I care about your transgressions and regrets? You have no one but yourself to blame.

(They fight for a moment.)

ALVILDA: Have you ever been in love?

ALF: Once. I fell in love with a heavenly vision that disappeared an instant after I beheld her.

ALVILDA: And do you still long for her?

ALF: Of course!

ALVILDA: What would you give to see her again? Is she worth all the treasure I have stolen from Denmark?

ALF: What does it matter? My love is lost and I will take my pain out on you!

(They fight again. She knocks his sword away.)

ALVILDA: You are a brave, handsome and well-spoken man, Prince Alf, so I will ease your suffering.

(Alvilda moves her sword close to Alf's neck and after a moment removes her disguise)

ALF: Alvilda! You are the captain of the Valkyrie?

ALVILDA: Yes.

ALF: I thought I'd never see you again.

ALVILDA: I have roamed much of the world and had many adventures.

ALF: And have you found your heart's desire?

ALVILDA: I have learned that the world is more fascinating and delightful than I could ever have imagined, but that it might be much more so were I to share it with someone with whom I am in love.

ALF: Ever since the day you vanished I have desperately wished that I might find you and tell you that I was wrong to try to win your heart without your consent.

ALVILDA: And now that you have found me, are you still willing to give up half the wealth of Denmark for me?

ALF: Only if you promise to get to know me, before you fall in love.

ALVILDA: I promise.

ACTOR 2: After an extended courtship, during which Alvilda and Alf had sufficient time to discover that the world was indeed more fascinating and delightful when shared, they returned to Denmark. Alf brought Alvilda to meet his father the King and explained that the pirates of the Valkyrie had kidnapped her and he had miraculously saved his long lost love. They announced their wedding and when Seward, Alvilda's father, found out she was alive and well and was about to be married, he was overcome with joy. At the wedding party all the guests marveled at their amazing tale of how they had found each other again and somehow reclaimed the stolen treasure from the pirates.

RINGMASTER: *(Enters)* Alvilda went on to become the Queen of Denmark and left her sea-faring days

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behind. But some historians claim that she had kept a small part of the treasure as a parting gift for the crew of the Valkyrie and it still lies hidden on some secret island. Now let us paddle over to some islands that are not so secret... The Hawaiian Islands.

SCENES 3 & 4 COMPRISE 10 MORE PAGES