

## Pirates at the Barn: AUDITION SCRIPT 4

**STRANGER**  
**SERGEANT**

**STRANGER:** I was thinking of taking you to Government House with me tomorrow. It's the Governor's Ball. But I'm afraid your Aunt Amelia wouldn't allow that. There's probably quite a lot of washing to do.

**KATHY:** But — but — she's — she's — Captain Richards — Oh! [THE SERGEANT comes on. He is followed by TWO SAILORS carrying the chest containing AMELIA. They put it down.]

**SERGEANT:** Excuse me, sir. Look — it's this here baggage of Black Bill's—

**KATHY:** [recognizing the chest, gasps] Oh!

**STRANGER:** Oh, yes.

**SERGEANT:** They say it's a deadly type of wild bunyip, sir. Captain of the Susanna doesn't quite know what to do with it. Sounds something horrible, too.

**STRANGER:** Hm. [He unlocks the chest and turns his back on it.] Well, I don't think we want it here ... Oh, by the way, sergeant. You haven't seen a lady by the name of Mrs. Amelia Snizzle anywhere, have you?

**SERGEANT:** Who, sir? [AMELIA, with the look of battle in her eye, has pushed open the lid and is getting out. THE STRANGER gives THE SERGEANT a significant look. He and THE SAILORS grin and ignore AMELIA.]

**STRANGER:** A Mrs. Snizzle?

**SERGEANT:** Snizzle? Oh - er - no. Did you want her, sir?

**STRANGER:** Yes. She's wanted for several robberies in Sydney, and if I find her I shall have to take her back to jail. But, of course, if she has disappeared for a few months or years, perhaps — say, gone to America — I shouldn't be able to do much about it, should I?

**SERGEANT:** Hm. I see your point, sir. [So has AMELIA. She re-enters the chest and quietly closes the lid.]

**STRANGER:** Well, it's time we were leaving. Oh — of course, the bunyip. Sergeant, take the chest back to the Susanna, and present it to the Captain with my compliments. Tell him it is an extremely valuable bunyip — and he might be able to teach it a few useful tricks, such as doing the washing, and so on.

**SERGEANT:** Very good, sir. I'll tell him. [He winks heavily.] [To SAILORS] Easy does it, now. We don't want it to escape. [They take up the chest and carry it off.]

**KATHY:** But Captain Richards —!

**STRANGER:** I'm sorry, Kathy, but as your Aunt Amelia has evidently disappeared — perhaps for quite a long time — I don't suppose I can leave you here after all. I could send you back to the orphanage...

**KATHY:** Oh, no!

**STRANGER:** But then you couldn't go to the Ball — so perhaps it will be better if you come with us. How is that?