

## THE PLOT

It's a lazy day on the *ICAN COOKII*. The lady pirates are discussing their latest culinary achievements when Mary reminds them that there is work to be done. They sing their spirited pirate song but are interrupted by the sighting of a schooner. After a short skirmish, they board the ship, discovering a bunch of little girls in the hold, along with their chaperones, Dr. Pritchard and Firestone. It seems the girls are members of the Londerry Jubilation Choir on tour to New York, Charleston and Pensacola, Florida! Upon hearing their story, Mary and her pirates agree not to slit the throats of the girls, but instead, to make them walk the plank, immediately following a workshop on the etiquette of plank walking. To save their lives, Pritchard offers to release them from their high moral standards and let them join up with the piratical women. They refuse, but before they die, Pritchard demands to know the name of his executioner. "I'm Mary Read," replies the captain. "The Mary Read, late of lake haven, over Hampshire on the downs derry down, derry, derry, derry down, that's fashire county, England RFD #97034?"

It seems that Mary's grandfather, Gordon Read, had passed and bequeathed his inheritance to his granddaughter who had heretofore been missing. However, to receive the inheritance, Mary must prove herself worthy in dignity, knowledge and bearing and learn to act like an English lady. So Mary agrees to spare their lives in exchange for "Henry Higgins" tutelage. Along the way, Margaret and Hester Read nor Wright (Mary's cousins) appear to challenge Mary's claim. In spite of the attempt of other members of the Read entourage to further sabotage her claim, Mary receives the inheritance by a strange twist of fate, only to discover that she does not really want to live the life of a lady. At this very moment, Nick, the figurehead, is recognized by Dr. Ensemble as a former student of Barton's School for Boys. Suspecting he is Patrick Read, Mary's long-lost brother and the true heir to the estate, Ensemble asks to examine him for the telltale birthmark, a guava shaped lump on his tonsils! Nick and Mary discover they are long lost siblings, whereupon Nick decides he is ready for the good life and accepts the responsibilities of his newly found station. Levelor declares his love for Mary and gives up his barrister ambitions for a life of adventure at sea. And they all live happily...