

SS Shipenshore

Marian Ellis & John Gutberlet





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SS SHIPENSHORE
By
Marian Ellis & John Gutberlet

CAST

FIRST MATE
SECOND MATE
CREW MEMBER WARREN
PURSER
TRUDY, THE ACTIVITY DIRECTOR
CAPTAIN STUBING
HARRIET HOPE
MILES (MARY PAT) HOPE
PHOTOGRAPHER
AGNES AYERS
MISS POLLY PRATT
MISS RUTH COOPER
MISS SALLY OLSON
MISS TONI CARTER
MAX, A SINGLE MAN
THE BLUEBIRD CHORUS LED BY ESTHER OBERMAN
MR. AND MRS. WALKER, THE HONEYMOONERS
A MAN AND HIS WIFE
HARRY, THE PIANO PLAYER
DETECTIVE JACK B. QUICK
THE EMCEE
BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES
CARLOTTA TENDANT

Place

Aboard a cruise ship heading for the Caribbean.

Time

The present.

Suggested Musical Numbers

CAPTAIN OF THE SHIPENSHORE* <i>(*parody of Gilbert & Sullivan's I AM THE CAPTAIN OF THE PINAFORE)</i>	Company
PAPA LOVES MAMBO	Trudy and Company
ENJOY YOURSELF	Boots and Her Buddies
I LOVE YOU TRULY	Harry, the Piano Player
SO IN LOVE	Carlotta Tendant
WHERE OR WHEN	Toni and Max
SING YOU SINNERS	Bluebird Chorus
IT'S BEEN A LONG, LONG TIME	Miles and Warren
WELL DID YOU EVAH?* <i>(*parody of Cole Porter's WELL DID YOU EVAH)</i>	Company
LET'S FALL IN LOVE	Captain and Harriet
CUBAN PETE	Bluebird Chorus

ACT ONE
Scene 1

At Rise: The setting is the main deck of the S.S. Shipenshore. Crew members are polishing up the railing, the windows, and other areas. The First Mate, Second Mate, Purser and Trudy, the Activity Director enter. The officers walk around and inspect the work being done by the crew. Crew member, Warren, is polishing very diligently.

FIRST MATE: Good work, there, men. The ship is looking mighty spiffy.

SECOND MATE: Spiffy.

WARREN: Thank you, sir.

FIRST MATE: *(To Purser)* Are things in order, Mr. Cooper?

SECOND MATE: Mr. Cooper?

PURSER: Everything is ready for sailing, sir. We have a full ship, sir.

FIRST MATE: Excellent. The Captain will be pleased.

SECOND MATE: Pleased.

TRUDY: All activities are in place and ready to go, sir.

FIRST MATE: Good.

SECOND MATE: Good.

(The Captain enters.)

FIRST MATE: Attention all hands. Captain on deck. Captain on deck.

SECOND MATE: Captain on—

FIRST MATE: *(interrupting)* They heard it the first time, Second.

SECOND MATE: Aye, aye, sir.

CAPTAIN: The ship looks very spiffy, First Mate. Good work.

FIRST MATE: Thank you sir.

CAPTAIN: I think this will be a fine cruise. The S.S. Admiral Shipenshore is ready to set sail!

*(Song: "I AM THE CAPTAIN OF THE SHIPENSHORE"
parody I AM THE CAPTAIN OF THE PINAFORE by Gilbert & Sullivan)*

CAPTAIN: I am the Captain of the Shipenshore.

WARREN: And a right good Captain, too!

CAPTAIN: You're very, very good, and be it understood
I command a right good crew.

WARREN: We're very, very good, and be it understood
He commands a right good crew.

CAPTAIN: A Captain very fair,
I'm extremely debonair,
Master of all that I see.
I am never known to quail
At the fury of a gale,
And I'm never, never sick at sea.

WARREN: What, never?

CAPTAIN: No, never!

WARREN: What never?

CAPTAIN: Hardly ever!

WARREN: He's hardly ever sick at sea!

ALL: Then give three cheers and one cheer more for the
hardy Captain of the Shipenshore! Give three cheers
and one cheer more for the Captain of the Shipenshore!

FIRST MATE: Captain Stubing, the passengers are starting up the gangplank. (To Purser.) Mr. Cooper, do you have the manifest in hand?

PURSER: Aye, aye, sir.

(He gives the list to First Mate. They stand on either side of the Captain. Warren waits nearby. As the boarding passengers are introduced, other passengers who have come down the aisles, or from backstage, come on and are greeted. The Photographer on board snaps pictures.)

PURSER: Here we go, Captain Stubing. May I present Mrs. Harriet Hope and her daughter, Miles. This is Captain Earnest Stubing, Captain of the SS Shipenshore. *(Harriet and Miles meet Captain. Harriet carries a box.)*

WARREN: May I take your box, Mrs. Hope? *(He tries to take it from her)*

HARRIET: *(turning away)* Oh, no, no. I'll keep it. Thank you.

CAPTAIN: Welcome aboard, Mrs. Hope and Miss Miles.

HARRIET: Please call me Harriet. Having my young daughter traveling with me makes me seem so old.

MILES: Oh, Mother! Captain, please call me Mary Pat. That's my real name.

HARRIET: Oh, Miles! *(They move across the deck. Agnes Ayers walks on. She is not happy.)*

FIRST MATE: Miss Agnes Ayers from Broomall, Captain Stubing.

CAPTAIN: Delighted to have you aboard, Miss Ayers.

AGNES: Well, maybe. We'll just have to see. When do we sail?

FIRST MATE: We will be departing the Claymont terminal in 8 minutes.

END OF FREEVIEW

You'll want to read and perform this show!