

“Give me a lime!” History Skits 1700s

Rebecca Locklear

“A Jacobite Revel” by British playwright, Chris Green, is set in 1745. This 5-minute skit has comic elements and a huge part for the CROWD.

A Jacobite Revel

Chris Green

with staging cues and editing by Rebecca Locklear

NARRATOR: In 1688, King James II of England was forced into exile, and soon, other kings and queens occupied the throne. But many people still thought that King James II's son and grandson were the rightful heirs to the throne. So, in 1745, Scottish Highlanders rose in support of James II's grandson, known as “Bonnie Prince Charlie.” Prince Charles was charming and brave and tried to win back the English throne with the aid of Scottish clans. Ah, here he is, about to attack an English town.

DRAMA SAMPLE

DRUMMER: *(frantic drumming)*

NEWSBOY: Disaster at Prestonpans! General Cope defeated. The Jacobites are marching on Berwick (BEAR-ick). The Jacobites!

CROWD: *(behind main actors and pointing at audience)* The Jacobites! The Jacobites marching on Berwick! *(ad lib. hysteria, then freeze)*

SERGEANT: *(to SOLDIER)* Prepare the defenses, soldier. No expense spared. Get those trees chopped down. Prime the muskets. Get the shot. Prepare the cannon. *(SOLDIER doesn't move)* Move! Move!

SOLDIER: Yes, sergeant. *(turns to go but comes back)* Uh....sergeant?

SERGEANT: Yes, soldier?

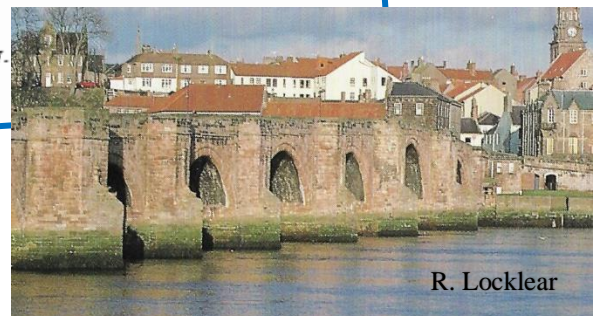
SOLDIER: Those houses outside the gate, sir! *(CROWD comes out of freeze position, looks where soldier is pointing and freezes)*

SERGEANT: What about them?

SOLDIER: They're in our line of fire, sir.

SERGEANT: Right. Blow them up. Clear the rubble. Do it now.

SOLDIER: Ah...blow up the houses, sir?



R. Locklear

Photo R. Locklear

“The Legend of Pirate Sam Bellamy” by Grady Locklear is not a skit. It’s a 27-verse poem that can be acted out in tableau, pantomime, and sword fighting action...with music. It comes with pages of background information and staging directions.

Skit Notes: The Legend of Pirate Sam Bellamy

Rebecca Locklear

Summary: In 1715, why did British-born sailor Samuel Bellamy turn to piracy? What happened to Captain Bellamy and his flagship? Act out this exciting true story told in verse.

Cast of Characters:	# of Lines
Narrator	108
Samuel Bellamy	0-Lead
Maria	0-Second Lead
Mom	0
Dad	0
Sister	0
Palgrave Williams	0-Second Lead
Merchant Sailor 1	0
Merchant Sailor 2	0
Captain	0-Second Lead
Captain’s Mate	0
Captain’s Sailor 1	0
Captain’s Sailor 2	0
Lead Head of Ship, storm sound affects	0-Second Lead
5 Ship Folks	0
2-4 Dancers	0



Setting: 1715-1717; Cape Cod town (Massachusetts), dockyard; ship.

Props: Pirate flag, wooden boxes to sit on, pouch

¹A young man came to Nauset* Bay
 From far across the sea
 An Englishman, his Christian name
 Was Samuel Bellamy.

¹⁵Black Sam the pirate fought his way
 From bow to stern and back
 The crewmen tried to bear the sway,
 But fell to the attack.

¹⁸Amidst the pirates’ hearty cheers,
 Black Sam went to the hold
 And moments later, he emerged,
 Hands full of glimmering gold!



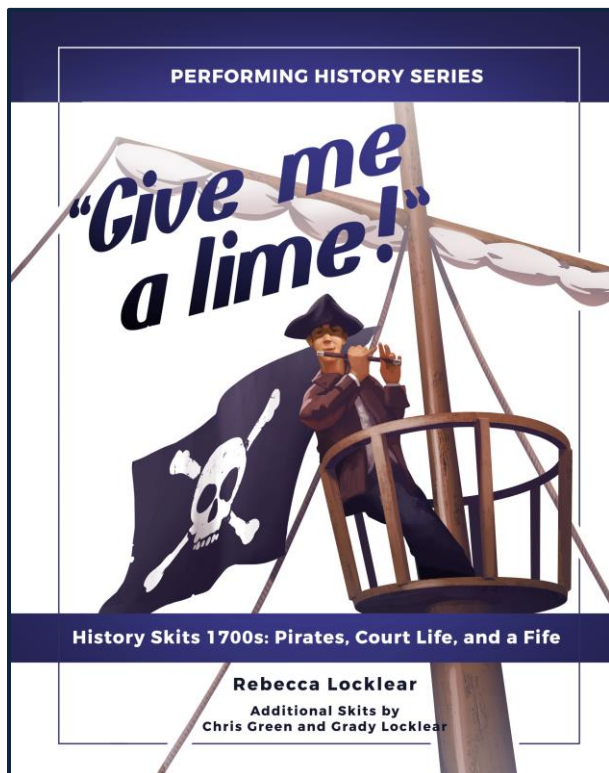
Ven Locklear, Illustrator

Continued

FIVE GREAT SKITS!

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