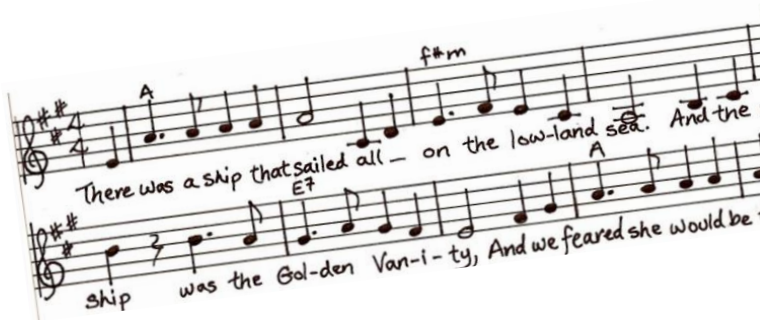


“The Golden Vanity” is not only a great solo piece, but students who act out the seven verses have much fun with this.


It’s always been well-received in history production that I do. Enjoy! --Rebecca



PERFORMING BRITISH HISTORY
Music/Drama - c.1588

The Golden Vanity

Sir Walter Raleigh: Hero or Villain?



Adapted by REBECCA LOCKLEAR

Song/Skit Notes: The Golden Vanity

Rebecca Locklear

Summary: A young sailor volunteers to sink an enemy ship, but what happens after he successfully completes his mission?

Cast of Characters	# of Lines
Vocal soloist	7
Cabin boy	0
Captain	0
Daughter	0
Crew	0

HOW IS THIS SONG USED?

- In choral concerts with a Renaissance theme
- At Renaissance Fairs
- In drama performances
- For vocal solo recitals

Setting: c.1588, on board a ship.

Props: Tools, white blanket for hammock.

Performance Time: 7 minutes

Background Information: This traditional, fictional song reached its height of popularity in the 1600s. It is about Sir Walter Raleigh (c.1552-1618) who was a poet, writer, explorer, and businessman as well as a courtier to Queen Elizabeth I. In 1588 he helped defeat the Spanish Armada. In his day, Raleigh was not liked by the common people, being labeled arrogant, selfish, and cruel to those beneath his station. Perhaps that is why a song like this emerged.

The song has many variations. For example, the real name of Raleigh’s ship was *Sweet Trinity* but it has been changed in various ballads. In this version it is the *Golden Vanity*. This song also has many variations in the text, and the enemy can be either French, Spanish, or

CONTINUED

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