



## **Arr Mate - Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's**

### **Chest**

Grab the Dramamine and prepare for oceanic thrills, Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest is all the action, comedy and adventure you'd expect from this all-star cast. As the movie begins, you're immediately engaged in the seafaring saga of Captain Jack Sparrow, played by Johnny Depp. Not instantly introduced, his character is unraveled through others and you begin to learn about the man and the legend. Whether you saw the first Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl or not, this movie stands well on it's own. Were you not a fan of the Black Pearl and you enjoy non-stop action and run-induced sword fighting, you'll find what you're looking for in Dead Man's Chest. This movie is a rare improvement from its predecessor.

The plot trails two betrothed lovers. To free his adored and jailed fiancée Elizabeth, played by the stunning Keira Knightly, courageous Will Turner, played by Orlando Bloom, sets off to find the notorious Captain Jack and obtain his compass. Yet Captain Jack has another plan in mind. The two, and eventually three, set sail to acquire the key, which they later learn unlocks the power of the seas. This journey through hungry island cannibals, runaway mills, slippery ocean vultures, bar fights and swampland fireflies, leaves you at the edge of your seat, jumping at unexpected twists and turns.

On the surface, the movie is another ornately costumed tale of drunken pirates, complete with a talking parrot and menacing monkey. Yet another layer buoys up as you begin to see Davy

Jones, played by Bill Nighy, and his ghoulish crew of grotesque and brutal underwater mutants as more than merely Jack's enemy, but a metaphor for the ocean itself. Each man on board his magical sea-bound ship is mutated, growing shells, algae and appendages. When his attempt to destroy Will fails, his crew member states he's been taken by the sea, to which Jones replies that's impossible: 'I am the sea.' Could their threats represent the destructive capabilities of the ocean itself?

Captain Jack undoubtedly steals the show through with his ever-so-contradicting persona - the hero/the frightened, the leader/the lost, the loved/the despised. Women love him, or so he thinks. His crew trusts him, to an extent. Ungrateful and admittedly selfish, his wit and clever coyness seem to draw even the most doubtful to his side. But he owes Davy Jones his soul. Does he learn to go down with his ship in the end, or survive another feat to ensure the next sequel?

Director Gore Verbinski responsible also for The Ring and The Mexican, as well as the Dariusz Wolski's photography direction, Penny Rose's costume design and Hans Zimmer's music scores create the most captivating, inspiring portrayal of pirate life possible. The ocean waves surrounding you and spectacular set design make you forget your in a dry movie theater. Movie goes enter a new realm of existence, if only for 150 minutes. If you're looking for a true break from reality, Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest, rated PG 13, is the summer movie to see.

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