



2008

### Pirates, Ho!

Tessa McMillan

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Thomson, Sarah L. *Pirates, Ho!* Illustrated by Stephen Gilpin. Marshall Cavendish, 2008. ISBN 9780761454350. \$14.99. 33 p.

Reviewer: Tessa McMillan

Reading Level: All

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Adventure poetry; Ghost poetry;

Subject: Stories in rhyme--Juvenile fiction; Pirates--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

A mean bunch of cut-throats sail the seas to a rhythmic beat. From Peg-Leg Tom to One-Eyed Jack, they are the worst lot of pirates. After chasing ships and making enemies walk the plank, this pirate crew gathers on the deck at night to tell ghost stories. The story that scares everyone is about a captain who sells his soul to gain gold and to chase after living pirates. No one can fall asleep afterwards, but the pirates soon calm themselves with dreams of counting their gold coins and having more high-seas adventures.

Gilpin's hand-drawn illustrations and Thomson's witty rhymes combine to create a humorous book that will be fun to read aloud to children of all ages. *Pirates, Ho!* is a great addition to any library. For teachers, this book can be used as a script for a children's play when teaching about the different types of poetry. For parents, this book can be a quick read for a bedtime story.

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