



If a Pirate I Must Be...: The True Story of "Black Bart," King of the Caribbean Pirates

By Richard Sanders

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In *If a Pirate I Must Be...*, Richard Sanders tells the larger-than-life story of Bartholomew Roberts, aka “Black Bart.” Born in a rural town, Roberts rose from third mate on a slave ship to pirate captain in a matter of months. Before long, his combination of audaciousness and cunning won him fame and fortune from the fisheries of Newfoundland to the slave ports of West Africa. Sanders brings to life a fascinating world of theater and ritual, where men (a third of whom were black) lived a close-knit, egalitarian life, democratically electing their officers and sharing their spoils. They were highly (if surreptitiously) popular with many merchants, with whom they struck incredibly lucrative deals. Yet with a fierce team of Royal Navy pirate hunters tracking his every move, Roberts’ heyday would prove a brief one, and with his capture, the Golden Age of pirates would pass into the lore and legend of books and movies. Based on historical records and journal and on writings by Roberts himself, *If a Pirate I Must Be...* is the true story of the greatest pirate ever to sail the Caribbean.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Richard Sanders is an award-winning documentary filmmaker who first became fascinated with pirates while living in Columbia during the 1990s. He now lives in London.

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