

= Jack Sparrow =

Captain Jack Sparrow is a fictional character and the main protagonist in the Pirates of the Caribbean film series . The character was created by screenwriters Ted Elliott and Terry Rossio , and is portrayed by Johnny Depp , who based his characterization on Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards and cartoon character Pepé Le Pew . He first appears in the 2003 film Pirates of the Caribbean : The Curse of the Black Pearl . He later appears in the sequels Dead Man 's Chest ( 2006 ) , At World 's End ( 2007 ) , On Stranger Tides ( 2011 ) , and Dead Men Tell No Tales ( 2017 ) .

In the films , Sparrow is one of the nine pirate lords in the Brethren Court , the Pirate Lords of the Seven Seas . He can be treacherous and survives mostly by using wit and negotiation rather than by force , opting to flee most dangerous situations and to fight only when necessary . Sparrow is introduced seeking to regain his ship , the Black Pearl , from his mutinous first mate , Hector Barbossa . Later he attempts to escape his blood debt to the legendary Davy Jones while battling the East India Trading Company . The character 's role expanded as the films progressed .

The Pirates of the Caribbean series was inspired by the Disney theme park ride of the same name , and when the ride was revamped in 2006 , the character of Jack Sparrow was added to it . He headlines the Legend of Captain Jack Sparrow attraction at Disney 's Hollywood Studios , and is the subject of spin @-@ off novels , including a children 's book series Pirates of the Caribbean : Jack Sparrow , which chronicles his teenage years .

= = Films = =

= = = The Curse of the Black Pearl = = =

Captain Jack Sparrow first appears in The Curse of the Black Pearl ( 2003 ) when he arrives in Port Royal in Jamaica to commandeer a ship . Despite rescuing Elizabeth Swann ( Keira Knightley ) , the daughter of Governor Weatherby Swann ( Jonathan Pryce ) , from drowning , he is jailed for piracy . That night , a cursed pirate ship called the Black Pearl attacks Port Royal and Elizabeth is kidnapped . The Black Pearl 's captain , Hector Barbossa ( Geoffrey Rush ) , desperately seeks one last gold coin to break an ancient Aztec curse that he and his crew are under . A blacksmith named Will Turner ( Orlando Bloom ) frees Sparrow to aid him in rescuing Elizabeth . They commandeer the HMS Interceptor and recruit a motley crew in Tortuga in Haiti before heading to Isla de Muerta , where Elizabeth is held captive . Along the way , Will learns that Sparrow was the Black Pearl 's captain until Barbossa led a mutiny ten years earlier and took over the ship , marooning Sparrow on an island to die . Sparrow tells Turner that his father was a pirate known as " Bootstrap " Bill Turner .

The rescue attempt goes awry and Barbossa maroons Jack and Elizabeth on the same island he had stranded Sparrow before . Elizabeth creates a signal fire from rum barrels and they are rescued by the British Royal Navy . Sparrow cuts a deal with Commodore James Norrington ( Jack Davenport ) to lead Norrington to the Black Pearl . Norrington refuses until Elizabeth , desperate to save Will , spontaneously accepts Norrington 's earlier marriage proposal . Right before the film 's climactic battle with the pirates at Isla de Muerta , Sparrow swipes a cursed coin from the treasure chest , making himself immortal and capable of dueling Barbossa . He shoots his rival with the pistol he has carried for ten years just as Will breaks the curse , killing Barbossa . Despite having assisted the Navy , Sparrow is sentenced to hang .

At Sparrow 's execution in Port Royal , Will saves Sparrow , but they are quickly captured . Elizabeth intervenes , declaring her love for Will who is pardoned , while Sparrow escapes by tumbling off a sea wall . The Black Pearl and her new crew arrive in time to retrieve him , and he becomes captain once more . Impressed by the wily pirate , Norrington allows him one day 's head start before giving chase .

= = = Dead Man 's Chest = = =

A year following the events of the first film , Sparrow searches for the Dead Man 's Chest , which contains the heart of Captain Davy Jones ( Bill Nighy ) . Sparrow made a bargain with Jones to raise the sunken Black Pearl and make Sparrow captain for thirteen years . Now the debt is due , and Sparrow must either serve one hundred years aboard the Flying Dutchman , or be dragged to Davy Jones 's Locker by the Kraken . If he can find the Dead Man 's Chest Sparrow can free his soul and control Jones and the seas .

Adding to Sparrow 's woes , Lord Cutler Beckett ( Tom Hollander ) of the East India Trading Company has a personal score to settle with Sparrow . Beckett wants the chest and forces Will Turner to search for Sparrow and his magic compass . Turner locates Sparrow and his crew on Pelegosto , held captive by cannibals who intend to eat Sparrow . They escape , and voyage to Tia Dalma ( later revealed to be the Goddess , Calypso , bound in human form as Dalma , and former lover of Jones ) . Dalma immediately sees destiny in Will , and provides Sparrow with a jar of dirt - Jones can only set foot on land once every 10 years , and since land is where Sparrow is safe , Dalma suggests with the dirt that he takes land with him .

Sparrow strikes a new deal with Jones to deliver one hundred souls in exchange for his own . Jones agrees but keeps Turner as a " good faith payment " . Sparrow is recruiting sailors in Tortuga when he encounters Elizabeth Swann and James Norrington , the latter having succumbed to alcohol . Sparrow convinces Elizabeth that Turner can be freed by using the magic compass to find the chest . The duo head for Isla Cruces and find Will , who escaped Jones 's ship and has stolen the key to the Chest . Turner wants to stab Jones 's heart and free his father from Jones 's servitude , while Norrington plots to restore his career by delivering the heart to Beckett . Sparrow wants it to convince Jones to call off the Kraken .

Norrington escapes with the heart amid a battle with Jones 's crew , and Jones summons the Kraken . Realizing Sparrow is the target , Elizabeth traps him aboard the Black Pearl as the crew abandons the ship , and kisses him while she handcuffs him to the mast . Then , the monster devours Sparrow and drags the ship and his soul to Davy Jones 's Locker . The surviving crew seeks refuge with Tia Dalma ( Naomie Harris ) , a magic woman , who produces a captain she says can rescue Sparrow : it was her doing that brought Barbossa back to life .

= = = At World 's End = = =

With Davy Jones 's heart in his possession and the Flying Dutchman under his command , Cutler Beckett begins exterminating all pirates . To combat Beckett , the nine pirate lords of the Brethren Court convene at Shipwreck Cove . Only Jack Sparrow is missing , killed and sent to Davy Jones 's Locker at the end of the previous film . Sparrow , as Pirate Lord of the Caribbean , must attend , as he did not bequeathe to a designated heir his " piece of eight " , a pirate lord 's marker . The collective " nine pieces of eight " are needed to free sea goddess Calypso to defeat Beckett . With Elizabeth Swann ( Keira Knightley ) and Will Turner , Barbossa leads Sparrow 's crew to Davy Jones 's Locker using stolen navigational charts from the pirate lord Sao Feng ( Chow Yun @-@ fat ) . After the crew locate him , Sparrow deciphers a clue on the charts allowing them to escape the Locker .

At the Brethren Court , Elizabeth has succeeded Captain Sao Feng as a Pirate Lord and is elected " Pirate King " after Sparrow breaks a stalemate vote . Sparrow is briefly reunited with his father , Captain Teague ( Keith Richards ) . During a parley with Beckett and Jones , Sparrow is traded for Turner , whom Jones and Beckett had captured . When Sparrow negotiates with Beckett in the extended version of the film , it is revealed that he once sailed the Black Pearl under Beckett 's command , but deserted after refusing to carry slave cargo . The Black Pearl battles the Flying Dutchman during a maelstrom created by Calypso , during which Sparrow steals Jones 's heart to become immortal . When Jones mortally wounds Turner , Sparrow instead chooses to save Turner by helping him stab the heart , which kills Jones and makes Turner the Dutchman 's captain . Together , the Pearl and the Dutchman destroy Beckett 's ship . At the end , Barbossa again

commandeers the Pearl and Sao Feng 's charts , stranding Sparrow and Gibbs in Tortuga . Sparrow , however , had removed the chart 's crucial center portion , and sets sail in a dinghy , armed with his magical compass and the chart to search for the Fountain of Youth .

= = = On Stranger Tides = = =

After failing to find the Fountain of Youth , Sparrow arrives in London only to learn someone is gathering a crew by using his name . While searching for the imposter , he saves Gibbs from being hanged but is captured by the Royal Guards . They present him to King George II . Sparrow is surprised to learn Captain Barbossa is now a privateer in the Royal Navy . Sparrow refuses to negotiate with them to locate the Fountain of Youth and escapes . Soon he crosses paths with his impersonator , an old flame named Angelica ( Penélope Cruz ) . She shanghai's him to serve aboard the Queen Anne 's Revenge , the ship captained by her father Blackbeard ( Ian McShane ) , who forces Sparrow to search for the Fountain of Youth .

Sparrow fails in his attempt to take over the ship in a mutiny against Blackbeard and save the naive Angelica from her evil father . After encountering dangerous mermaids , Barbossa , and the Spanish Navy , Sparrow locates the Fountain of Youth . When Angelica is wounded , he tricks Blackbeard into sacrificing himself to save her , and Angelica blames Sparrow for her father 's death . Sparrow and Angelica acknowledge their feelings for one another , but Sparrow maroons Angelica on an island , believing she may avenge her father 's death . Gibbs , meanwhile , has retrieved the shrunken Black Pearl from Blackbeard 's collection of shrunken ships in the hope of restoring it to normal size . Though he has forfeited his opportunity for immortality , Sparrow settles for being famous as the one who found the Fountain of Youth . Following the film 's end credits , Angelica 's voodoo doll of Sparrow has drifted to the island that she is marooned on .

= = = Dead Men Tell No Tales = = =

Sparrow will return in the fifth film , portrayed once again by Johnny Depp coming May 26 , 2017 .

= = Concept and creation = =

= = = Characters = = =

When writing the screenplay for The Curse of the Black Pearl , Ted Elliott and Terry Rossio envisioned Captain Jack Sparrow as a supporting character in the vein of Bugs Bunny and Groucho Marx . The producers saw him as a young Burt Lancaster . Director Gore Verbinski admitted , " The first film was a movie , and then Jack was put into it almost . He doesn 't have the obligations of the plot in the same ways that the other characters have . He meanders his way through , and he kind of affects everybody else . " Sparrow represents an ethical pirate , with Captain Barbossa as his corrupt foil . His true motives usually remain masked , and whether he is honorable or evil depends on the audience 's perspective . This acts as part of Will Turner 's arc , in which Sparrow tells him a pirate can be a good man , like his father .

Following the success of The Curse of the Black Pearl , the challenge to creating a sequel was , according to Verbinski , " You don 't want just the Jack Sparrow movie . It 's like having a garlic milkshake . He 's the spice and you need a lot of straight men ... Let 's not give them too much Jack . It 's like too much dessert or too much of a good thing . " Although Dead Man 's Chest was written to propel the trilogy 's plot , Sparrow 's state @-@ of @-@ mind as he is pursued by Davy Jones becomes increasingly edgy , and the writers concocted the cannibal sequence to show that he was in danger whether on land or at sea . Sparrow is perplexed over his attraction to Elizabeth Swann , and attempts to justify it throughout the film .

At World 's End was meant to return it tonally to a character piece . Sparrow , in particular , is tinged with madness after extended solitary confinement in Davy Jones 's Locker , and now desires

immortality . Sparrow struggles with what it takes to be a moral person , after his honest streak caused his doom in the second film . This is mainly shown by his increasingly erratic behaviour and Jack 's hallucinations which appeared to be simply his deranged mind in the beginning where dozens of " Jack Sparrows " appeared to crew the ship in his solitary exile , but later the hallucinations grew more important and there were mainly two " Jacks " constantly arguing about which path to follow : the immortality or the mortality . The last hallucination took place while Jack was imprisoned on the Dutchman where his honest streak won ( possibly due to not liking his sea creature @-@ like " future " which comedically dropped his brain and searched for it around the Brig ) . By the end of At World 's End Sparrow is sailing to the Fountain of Youth , an early concept for the second film . Rossio said in 2007 that a fourth film was possible , and producer Jerry Bruckheimer expressed interest in a spin @-@ off . Gore Verbinski concurred that " all of the stories set in motion by the first film have been resolved . If there ever were another Pirates of the Caribbean film , I would start fresh and focus on the further adventures of Captain Jack Sparrow . "

On Stranger Tides was first announced on September 28 , 2008 , during a Disney event at the Kodak Theater . Verbinski did not return to direct the fourth installment and was replaced by Rob Marshall . The movie uses elements from Tim Powers ' novel of the same name , particularly Blackbeard and the Fountain of Youth , but the film is not a straight adaptation of the novel .

= = = Johnny Depp = = =

Looking to do a family film , Johnny Depp visited the Walt Disney Studios in 2001 when he heard of plans to adapt the Pirates of the Caribbean ride into a film . Depp was excited by the possibility of reviving an old Hollywood genre , and found the script met his quirky sensibilities : the crew of the Black Pearl were not in search of treasure but trying to return it to lift a curse on them , and the traditional mutiny had already occurred . Depp was cast on June 10 , 2002 . Producer Jerry Bruckheimer felt Depp would give the film an edge that could draw teenage and adult audiences despite Disney 's reputation for soft children 's fare .

At the first read @-@ through , Depp surprised the cast and crew by portraying the character in an off @-@ kilter manner . He researched 18th @-@ century pirates and , seeing parallels with modern rock stars , modeled his performance on Keith Richards . Richards later appeared in two cameos as Jack 's father , Captain Teague , in At World 's End and On Stranger Tides . Verbinski and Bruckheimer had confidence in Depp , partly because Orlando Bloom would play the traditional Errol Flynn @-@ type character . Depp improvised the film 's final line , " Now , bring me that horizon " , which the writer called his favorite line . Disney executives were initially confused by Depp 's performance , questioning whether the character was drunk or gay . While watching the rushes , Disney CEO Michael Eisner proclaimed Depp was ruining the film . Depp 's response to Disney executives was they could trust him with his choices or let him go . Many industry insiders questioned Depp 's casting , as he was an unconventional actor not known for working within the traditional studio system .

Depp 's performance won acclaim from film critics . Alan Morrison found it " Gloriously over @-@ the @-@ top ... In terms of physical precision and verbal delivery , it 's a master @-@ class in comedy acting . " Roger Ebert praised Depp for drawing away from the character as written and found Depp 's performance " original in its every atom . There has never been a pirate , or for that matter a human being , like this in any other movie ... his behavior shows a lifetime of rehearsal " . Depp won a Screen Actor 's Guild award for his performance , and was nominated for a Golden Globe and the Academy Award for Best Actor , the first in his career . Film School Rejects argued the film made Depp as much a movie star as he was a character actor .

Depp 's return in Dead Man 's Chest was the first time he had ever made a sequel . Drew McWeeny wrote , " Remember how cool Han Solo was in Star Wars the first time you saw it ? And then remember how much cooler he seemed when Empire came out ? This is that big a jump . " Depp received an MTV Movie Award and a Teen Choice Award for Dead Man 's Chest , and was nominated for an Empire Award and another Golden Globe . For his performance in At World 's End , Depp won an MTV Movie Award for Best Comedic Performance , as well as a People 's Choice

Award , a Kids ' Choice Award , and another Teen Choice Award . He has signed on to reprise the role for future sequels .

= = = Make @-@ up and costumes = = =

Depp wears a dreadlock wig in a rock @-@ and @-@ roll approach to a pirate aesthetic . He wears a red bandanna and numerous objects in his hair , influenced by Keith Richards ' habit of collecting souvenirs from his travels ; Sparrow 's decorations include his " piece of eight " . Sparrow wears kohl around his eyes , which was inspired by Depp 's study of nomads , whom he compared to pirates , and he wore contacts that acted as sunglasses . Sparrow has several gold teeth , two of which belong to Depp , although they were applied during filming . Depp initially forgot to have them removed after shooting *The Curse of the Black Pearl* , and wore them throughout the shooting of the sequels . Like all aspects of Depp 's performance , Disney initially expressed great concern over Depp 's teeth . Sparrow wears his goatee in two braids . Initially wire was used in them , but the wires were abandoned because they made the braids stick up when Depp lay down . Sparrow has numerous tattoos , and has been branded a pirate on his right arm by Cutler Beckett , underneath a tattoo of a sparrow .

Depp collaborated with costume designer Penny Rose on his character 's appearance , handpicking a tricorne as Sparrow 's signature leather hat ; to make Sparrow 's unique , the other characters did not wear leather hats . A rubber version was used for the scene in *Dead Man 's Chest* when the hat floats on water . Depp liked to stick to one costume , wearing one lightweight silk tweed frock coat throughout the series , and he had to be coaxed out of wearing his boots for a version without a sole or heel in beach scenes . The official line is that none of the costumes from *The Curse of the Black Pearl* survived , which allowed the opportunity to create tougher linen shirts for stunts . However , one remains which has been displayed in an exhibition of screen costumes in Worcester , England . It was a nightmare for Rose to track down the same makers of Sparrow 's sash in Turkey . Rose did not want to silkscreen it , as the homewoven piece had the correct worn feel . Sparrow wears an additional belt in the sequels , because Depp liked a new buckle which did not fit with the original piece .

Sparrow 's weapons are genuine 18th century pieces : his sword dates to the 1740s and his pistol is from the 1760s . Both were made in London . Depp used two pistols on set , one of rubber . Both survived production of the first film . Sparrow 's magic compass also survived into the sequels , though director Gore Verbinski had a red arrow added to the dial as it became a more prominent prop . As it does not act like a normal compass , a magnet was used to make it spin . Sparrow wears four rings , two of which belong to Depp . Depp bought the green ring in 1989 and the gold ring is a replica of a 2400 @-@ year @-@ old ring Depp gave to the crew , though the original was later stolen . The other two are props to which Depp gave backstories : the gold @-@ and @-@ black ring is stolen from a Spanish widow Sparrow seduced and the green dragon ring recalls his adventures in the Far East . Among Depp 's additional ideas was the necklace made of human toes that Sparrow wears as the Pelegosto prepare to eat him , and the sceptre was based on one a friend of Depp 's owned .

During the course of the trilogy , Sparrow undergoes physical transformations . In *The Curse of the Black Pearl* , Sparrow curses himself to battle the undead Barbossa . Like all the actors playing the *Black Pearl* crew , Depp had to shoot scenes in costume as a reference for the animators , and his shots as a skeleton were shot again without him . Depp reprised the scene again on a motion capture stage . In *At World 's End* , Sparrow hallucinates a version of himself as a member of Davy Jones 's crew , adhered to a wall and encrusted with barnacles . Verbinski oversaw that the design retained Sparrow 's distinctive look , and rejected initial designs which portrayed him as over 100 years old .

= = Characterization = =

According to screenwriters Ted Elliott and Terry Rossio , Sparrow is a trickster who uses wit and

deceit to attain his goals , preferring to end disputes verbally instead of by force . He walks with a slightly drunken swagger and has slurred speech and flailing hand gestures . Sparrow is shrewd , calculating , and eccentric . He fools Norrington and his crew to set sail on the royal ship Interceptor , which compels the admiration of Lieutenant Groves as he concedes : " That 's got to be the best pirate I have ever seen " . Norrington himself acquiesces to this praise : " So it would seem " , in sharp contrast to what he had previously proclaimed : " You are without doubt the worst pirate I have ever heard of " . In the third film , while he leaves Beckett 's ship stranded and makes off , Lieutenant Groves asks him : " Do you think he plans it all out , or just makes it up as he goes along ? " .

Though a skilled swordsman , Sparrow prefers to use his superior intelligence during combat , exploiting his environment to turn the tables on his foes , reasoning " Why fight when you can negotiate ? " He uses strategies of non @-@ violent negotiation and turning his enemies against each other . He invokes parleys and tempts his enemies away from their murderous intentions , encouraging them to see the bigger picture , as he does when he persuades Barbossa to delay returning to mortal form so he can battle the Royal Navy . He often uses complex wordplay and vocabulary to confound his enemies , and it is suggested that his pacifism may be one reason Barbossa and the crew of the Black Pearl mutinied .

The character is portrayed as having created , or at least contributed to , his own reputation . When Gibbs tells Will that Sparrow escaped from a desert island by strapping two sea turtles together , Sparrow embellishes the story by claiming the rope was made from hair from his own back , while in reality , Sparrow escaped the island by bartering with rum traders . The video game *Pirates of the Caribbean : The Legend of Jack Sparrow* bases itself on these tall tales , including the sacking of Nassau port without firing a shot . Depp has likened pirates to rock stars in that their fame preceded them . Sparrow insists on being addressed as " Captain " and often gives the farewell , " This is the day you will always remember as the day that you almost caught Captain Jack Sparrow ! " which is sometimes humorously cut off . When Norrington accuses him of being the worst pirate he has ever heard of , Sparrow replies , " But you have heard of me . " In a deleted scene from *The Curse of the Black Pearl* Sparrow ponders being " the immortal Captain Jack Sparrow " , and during *At World 's End* he again is interested in immortality , although his father , Captain Teague , warns it can be a terrible curse . Sparrow ponders being " Captain Jack Sparrow , the last pirate , " as the East India Trading Company purges piracy .

Despite his many heroics , Sparrow is a pirate and a morally ambiguous character . When agreeing to trade 100 souls , including Will , to Davy Jones in exchange for his freedom , Jones asks Sparrow whether he can , " condemn an innocent man ? a friend ? to a lifetime of servitude in your name while you roam free ? " After a hesitation Sparrow merrily replies , " Yep ! I 'm good with it ! " He carelessly runs up debts with Anamaria , Davy Jones , and the other pirate lords . Sao Feng , pirate lord of Singapore , is particularly hateful towards him . In a cowardly moment , Sparrow abandons his crew during the Kraken 's attack , but underlying loyalty and morality compel him to return and save them . Sparrow claims to be a man of his word , and expresses surprise that people doubt his truthfulness ; there is no murder on his criminal record .

Depp partly based the character on Pepé Le Pew , a womanizing skunk from *Looney Tunes* . Sparrow claims to have a " tremendous intuitive sense of the female creature " , although his conquests are often left with a sour memory of him . Former flames , Scarlett and Giselle , usually slap him or anyone looking for him . His witty charm easily attracts women , and even has Elizabeth questioning her feelings . Verbinski noted phallic connotations in Sparrow 's relationship with his vessel , as he grips the ship 's wheel . The Black Pearl is described as " the only ship which can outrun the Flying Dutchman " . The Freudian overtones continue in the third film when Sparrow and Barbossa battle for captaincy of the Black Pearl , showing off the length of their telescopes , and in a deleted scene , they fight over the steering wheel . Sparrow claims his " first and only love is the sea , " and describes his ship as representing freedom . Davy Jones 's Locker is represented as a desert , symbolizing his personal hell .

= = Impact on pop culture = =

When *Dead Man's Chest* grossed over \$ 1 billion worldwide , Ian Nathan attributed this to Sparrow 's popularity : " Pirates , the franchise , only had to turn up . There was a powerful holdover from the cheeky delights of its debut , something we hadn 't felt since the Clone Wars called it a day . " Empire in 2006 declared Depp 's performance the seventy @-@ fourth " thing that rocked our world " and later named him the eighth greatest movie character of all time . In 2015 , a new poll of the 100 greatest film characters of all time placed him as the fourteenth greatest . A survey of more than 3 @,@ 000 people showed Jack Sparrow was the most popular Halloween costume of 2006 , and a 2007 poll held by the Internet Movie Database showed Sparrow to be the second most popular live action hero after Indiana Jones . In a 2007 Pearl & Dean poll , Jack Sparrow was listed as Depp 's most popular performance .

Todd Gilchrist feels Sparrow is the only element of the films that will remain timeless . According to Sharon Ebersson , the character 's popularity can be attributed to his being a " scoundrel whose occasional bouts of conscience allow viewers to go with the flaws because , as played to the larger @-@ than @-@ life hilt by Depp , he owns every scene he is in " . Film history professor Jonathan Kuntz attributed Sparrow 's popularity to the increased questioning of masculinity in the 21st century , and Sparrow 's personality contrasts with action @-@ adventure heroes in cinema . Leonard Maltin concurs that Sparrow has a carefree attitude and does not take himself seriously . Mark Fox noted Sparrow is an escapist fantasy figure for women , free from much of the responsibility of most heroes . Sparrow is listed by IGN as one of their ten favorite film outlaws , as he " lives for himself and the freedom to do whatever it is that he damn well pleases . Precious few film characters have epitomized what makes the outlaw such a romantic figure for audiences as Captain Jack Sparrow has . " Entertainment Weekly put it on its end @-@ of @-@ the @-@ decade , " best @-@ of " list , saying , " Part Keith Richards riff , part sozzled lounge lizard , Johnny Depp 's swizzleshtick pirate was definitely one of the most dazzling characters of the decade . " In June 2010 , Sparrow was named one of Entertainment Weekly 's 100 Greatest Characters of the Last 20 Years .

= = In other media = =

Jack Sparrow also appears in video games and books spun off the Pirates of the Caribbean media franchise , among them *Kingdom Hearts II* , where he is voiced by James Arnold Taylor . *Pirates of the Caribbean : The Complete Visual Guide* gives a backstory to Sparrow in which he was born on a pirate ship during a typhoon in the Indian Ocean and was trained to fence by an Italian . Books following Sparrow 's adventures before the events of the film include a twelve @-@ book series focusing on his teenage years entitled *Pirates of the Caribbean : Jack Sparrow* , and a five @-@ books *Pirates of the Caribbean : Legends of the Brethren Court* series . In 2011 , Ann C. Crispin wrote a novel titled *Pirates of the Caribbean : The Price of Freedom* , which follows Jack 's adventures as a merchant captain for the East India Trading Company .

In 2011 , comedy group the Lonely Island , in collaboration with ballad singer Michael Bolton , released a song named for Jack .