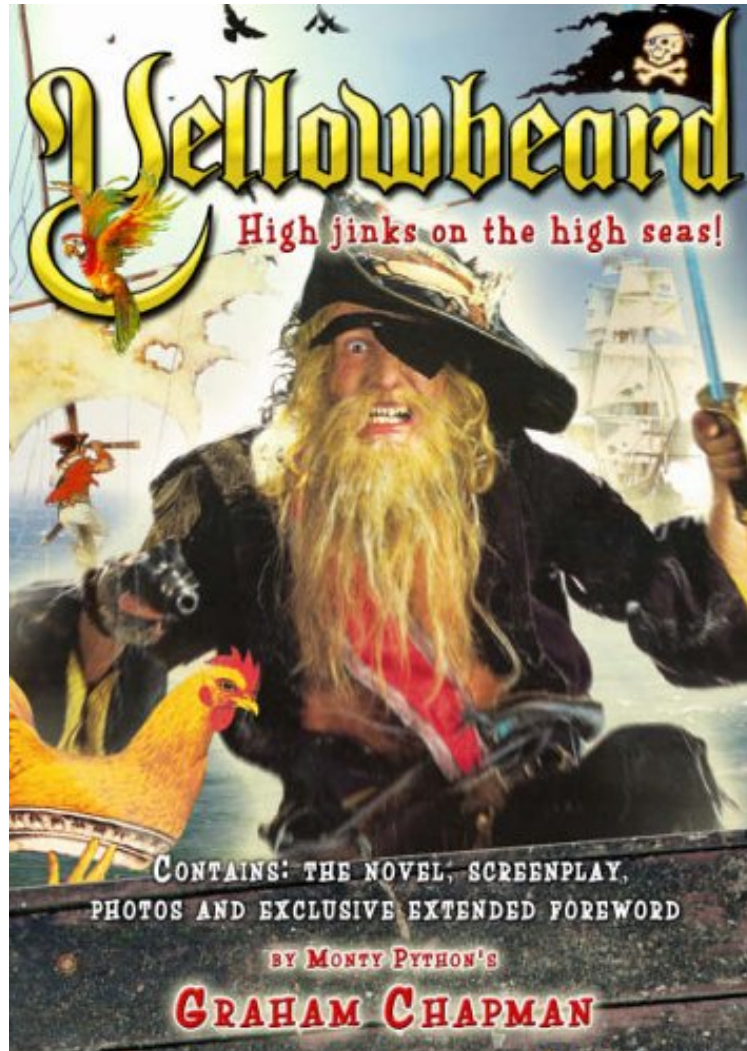


Yellowbeard

Graham Chapman

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Graham Chapman : Yellowbeard before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Yellowbeard:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. He fell on it!By Andrew HoffmannEven as a Yellowbeard fan, I'm amazed this book exists at all. I'd seen Graham Chapman's novelization sitting in a local book store once, but with this book you get the novelization, an earlier (but not too early) version of the script, and a thorough introduction (Yellowbeard: Pirate Without Penance, by Jim Yoakum, director of the Graham Chapman Archives) that covers the making of the film from concept to completion and then some. It answered every question I had about Yellowbeard and one in particular.Marty Feldman who played Gilbert, died on location in Mexico before filming was completed.

There's a scene near the end of the movie where a stunt double fills in as Gilbert trips (with head down to conceal the double's face) and falls into the pool of acid. It looks as though the character was quickly written out due to the loss. I was wondering how the Gilbert storyline would have played out had Feldman been able to complete it. According to Yoakum, the death scene would have been the same or similar. All of Feldman's scenes had been filmed with the sole exception of the death scene, which was filmed more-or-less as written. The cast reaction to news of Feldman's death is touching, particularly that of Young Frankenstein co-star Peter Boyle. The introduction also explores why the movie failed to catch on (the gist being that it doesn't gel for any number of reasons), how difficult it was to attain financing, and to what extent Graham Chapman was involved with the production. Chapman's disregarded editing requests are included, but tellingly, the novelization that he wrote with partner David Sherlock after filming wrapped is very close to the final version of the movie. The biggest difference being that in the book, he elaborates on the characters' motivations. In the script, the Mansell character initially had his own subplot leading to an alternate ending. Also, much of the dialogue was different. This could be due to the cast of comedy stars making changes during filming (to Chapman's frustration), or deleted scenes, but the book doesn't specify if any of the additional material in this version of the script was ever filmed. This book, plus the documentary also offered by contain more than I ever thought I'd know about this unique, funny, and highly quotable film. Stagger stagger, crawl crawl... Alternate Book Cover: 'Yellowbeard: High Jinks on the High Seas' was published with two alternate front covers (possibly one for readers in England and a different design to appeal to readers in the USA). Whether you receive the cover shown above, or the cover with the cast emerging from the tattooed head, don't panic. It's the same book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The seamy underside of "Yellowbeard" By Gordon Haber This is the annotated script from Graham Chapman's (and Marty Feldman and James Mason) final film. All of the mysteries are explained. All of the plot twists are straitened. Every character is fleshed out to a brimming three dimensions. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Comedic Genius By Julie Murphy Graham Chapman is well known as a comedic genius and this treatment of Yellowbeard is ample evidence of that fact.

Among the many blackguards who left their bloodstained mark on history, the foulest of them all was the pirate Yellowbeard. His name struck terror into the hearts of gentlefolk - the same area into which he plunged his dirk - in the days when Queen Anne was a monarch rather than a table. According Graham Chapman, the late comedian-actor-writer-Monty Python, Yellowbeard tells 'the true story of Treasure Island, all the bits that Robert Louis Stevenson didn't want to tell. Yellowbeard is a vile buccaneer so scurrilous that he makes Long John Silver look like a tinhorn. He puts the 'rat' back into pirate'. The idea for Yellowbeard came from one of Graham's closest friends, the late Keith Moon, drummer for The Who, who urged Chapman to attack the pirate genre with his renowned comedic thrust. The results were a novel (Chapman's one and only), and a cult film starring a bodice-ripping cast of comedy actors from the Pythons to Cheech and Chong, via David Bowie. This edition brings together the novel and screenplay for the first time, along with exclusive materials from the Graham Chapman Archives. For anyone who likes pirates, pythons or beards, here is the ultimate Yellowbeard collection.

About the Author Graham Chapman worked at Cambridge Footlights, where he met John Cleese. Graham wrote for many TV series, radio programs and films, including Monty Python's Flying Circus. He also had the lead role in the films Monty Python and the Holy Grail and Monty Python's Life of Brian. Yellowbeard was his only novel. Graham died (at age 48) of cancer on 4, Oct 1989, just one day before the 20th anniversary of Monty Python. Fellow Python Terry Jones called it 'The worst case of party-pooing I've ever seen.'