Despite popular belief, buccaneers—or pirates of any kind—were not anarchistic rabble-rousers who would rebel against all forms of authority but were actually savvy businessmen. As Peter T. Leeson writes in his book *The Invisible Hook*, “pirate life was orderly and honest” (45). It had to be. Pirates, and by extension buccaneers, saw themselves as a society rather than individuals who all happen to sail on the same ship or live in the same place. For any society to work, people need to work together rather than constantly clash with one another. Pirate life depended too much on group efforts to ensure that things ran smoothly for any member to argue. A pirate could not raid a ship alone, and neither could he hunt for food or maintain the ship alone. Pirates, just like any organized society, “had a strong incentive to secure social harmony without government” (Leeson 46). Resources were too easily destroyed in pirate communities, and conflict of any kind would easily bring the whole society to its knees. Leeson argues that, in pirate society, “it was critical to prevent interpirate conflict[s] if pirates were to cooperate for profit . . . successful pirate governance needed to regulate pirate behaviors that generated significant ‘negative externalities’” (53). That is not to say that pirates were a wholly peaceful and democratic people. They were, but only within themselves. When it came to actual plunder, the average pirate could not care less about the people they raided. Like in any successful business venture, the pirates had to look out for their own in order to procure the maximum profit.