

ACT II

SCENE 1: AOUDA and FOGG enter DSR, in front of curtain.

AOUDA: Mr. Fogg, Passepartout has been missing too long! What shall we do?

FOGG: We shall look until the ship is ready to sail. Then we sail for Shanghai and America.

AOUDA: And leave Passepartout?

FOGG: Yes, my dear, leave Passepartout. He shall have to find us.

(FIX enters DSL.)

FIX: Madam, sir. Were you not passengers on the steamer in from India?

FOGG: I was, sir, but I am afraid I have not made your acquaintance.

AOUDA: May I introduce Mr. Fix. Mr. Fix, this is Mr. Fogg.

FIX: Pardon me, but I thought I would see your servant, Passepartout here.

AOUDA: Do you know where he is, sir?

FIX: What! He is not with you?

FOGG: I am afraid not. He has not been seen for a full day and I fear we must leave without him.

FIX: Oh, indeed, no! You must not leave him. I am sure that with some concerted effort, he may be found.

AOUDA: Oh, poor Passepartout!

FOGG: Be reassured that I shall do all I can to have him located, but we leave in 30 minutes.

FIX: Oh, but you must find him. You cannot leave without him!

FOGG: I'm afraid I have no choice, sir.

(FOGG takes AOUDA'S arm and strides off stage DSL. FIX, following, is trying to change FOGG'S mind.)

(Curtain opens, and FOGG leads AOUDA back on board—enter DSL—to her cabin, and then goes and speaks quietly to the CAPTAIN. AOUDA sits and quietly plays Solitaire. FIX follows slowly on board and goes to his tiny cabin/closet and sits down.)

FOGG: If we reach Shanghai within four days, I will pay you a bonus of 200 pounds.

CAPTAIN OF THE SHIP: We will carry all the sail the wind will let us, sir.

FOGG: It is your ship, and I must trust in you.

(FOGG returns to his cabin, seats himself across from AOUA who has been quietly shuffling a deck of cards and playing Solitaire.)

FOGG: Aouda, when we reach Shanghai, perhaps we'll find that Passepartout will be there, having gone on a different ship. I have left word with all the shipping consuls and the local police to watch for him and send word to me in England if he is found.

AOUA: Oh, Mr. Fogg. Our poor dear friend.

(FOGG reaches out and holds her hand in reassurance. AOUA drops her eyes and looks shy. They silently begin to play cards together throughout next scene.)

(PASSEPARTOUT wanders onto the stage DSL. He is holding his head, and staggering/dizzy.)

PASSEPARTOUT: What has happened to me? This is terrible, I must not miss the boat! Wait! Wait for me.

(PASSEPARTOUT staggers on board slowly and past FIX'S cabin door. FIX spots him and steps out quickly to intercept him.)

FIX: Passepartout! Here you are! You disappeared after we parted last night. I wondered what became of you. Having fun somewhere, were you? Let me help you, come into my cabin and sit down.

PASSEPARTOUT: Merci, Fix. Have you any water? I was robbed and left on the docks! My head is aching and I cannot walk another step.

FIX: Terrible! Why don't you sit down and I'll go tell Mr. Fogg you are here and resting.

PASSEPARTOUT: No. I must get back to work. Monsieur Fogg was counting on me to buy supplies.

FIX: You are no good to him if you don't rest, think of your duty. Here, have a drink and then you can get back to your master. Meanwhile, I'm sure Mr. Fogg will understand. He is, as you say, a good man.

PASSEPARTOUT: You are right. I shall rest a moment and then be better able to resume my duties.

(PASSEPARTOUT takes a drink and FIX clubs him over the head, ties him up, gags him, and closes him in his broom closet.)

FIX: Now to keep him hidden so Fogg isn't warned of my purpose. A challenge indeed.

(FOGG and AOUDA walk CS.)

FOGG: I'll be along in a moment, my dear.

(AOUDA exits USL. FOGG walks FS and sees FIX attempting to keep his door shut. Approaches him quickly.)

FOGG: Mr. Fix. Would you care to join us for a late supper? Oh, I see you are busy. May I assist you?

(PASSEPARTOUT is tied, but slumps against the door, almost opening it. Physical humor here requires PASSEPARTOUT to almost open the door repeatedly as FIX talks to FOGG while closing the door repeatedly and pretending it is not happening.)

FIX: No, no, thank you, Mr. Fogg. I was just coming out for dinner myself. This cubby hole doesn't even have a decent lock.

FOGG: You can't be serious, man. You're traveling in a closet? I won't have it. *(Turns and calls.)* Captain? Captain!

CAPTAIN OF THE SHIP: Yes, Mr. Fogg?

FOGG: Have you a spare cabin for Mr. Fix available? This closet is unacceptable for an Englishman!

CAPTAIN OF THE SHIP: Why, yes, sir, we have had a cabin open since the last port.

FIX: No, no, it's quite alright. I simply cannot afford a larger cabin. This closet will do.

FOGG: Absolutely not! Captain, I'll pay for the cabin myself.

FIX: Oh, sir, you are too good.

CAPTAIN OF THE SHIP: I say, Mr. Fix. That closet door seems to be giving you trouble. I'll have a man look at it.

FIX: No, no. It's fine, just a bit touchy from the storm. It'll be fine. *(Slams door extra hard. The door stays shut.)* See? Just fine.

(All turn and exit USL. FIX pauses CS and looks back at closet.)

FIX: It's certain your master, rascal that he is, is a kind and polite one. *(Exits.)*

(FOGG and AOUDA walk out from USL each sipping a cup of tea. They stop CS and talk.)

AOUDA: Mr. Fogg. I'm so concerned for our dear Passepartout. Do you think there is any chance we will find him in Shanghai?

FOGG: There is always the chance that he took a different ship. We shall hope and pray, my dear. *(Takes AOUDA'S free hand and looks down at her affectionately.)*

AOUDA: You are quite right, Mr. Fogg. I must keep my hopes up for our dear friend. Impossible situations have a way of working out when you are near.

(They are both embarrassed by their nearness and step back, FOGG dropping her hand. They both drink their tea. FOGG and AOUDA cross stage and seat themselves in their cabin. FIX wanders in DSL and pauses in front of the closet. PASSEPARTOUT remains tied up in the closet.)

FIX: Well, Frenchman, we arrive in Shanghai in just a few moments. I fear I shall have to leave you here while I check with the consul and see if my arrest warrant has arrived for your master. No hard feelings, eh?

(FIX exits DSL. CAPTAIN steps out to edge of deck entering from USR.)

CAPTAIN OF THE SHIP: Shanghai! All ashore that's going ashore!

(FOGG and AOUDA stand, pick up their bags and umbrella and exit DSL, pausing in front of the closet.)

FOGG: Shall we, my dear?

(They exit DSL. SAILORS and the CAPTAIN bustle by carrying bags and parcels. The ship empties and becomes silent, except for a thumping that grows in the closet. The closet door bursts open and PASSEPARTOUT is seen, standing wrapped in rope, his hands and feet still tied. The gag hanging about his neck.)

PASSEPARTOUT: Sacre bleu! I am loosed! Just wait until I get my hands on that scoundrel! But, wait, where is everyone?! Monsieur Fogg! Mademoiselle Aouda! Wait for me!!

(PASSEPARTOUT hops wildly or penguin walks his way CS and USL calling out for help. He then is lost to sight for a moment, then reappears crawling or hopping back CS and off the stage DSL.)

[Close curtain.]

(Ticket booth is replaced DSL in front of curtain. FOGG and AOUDA enter DS in front of curtain and cross to booth.)

FOGG: Two tickets to San Francisco, please.

TICKET AGENT: Why yes, sir. You are sailing on the *Carnatic*, the same ship you came in on. It is being fueled as we speak.

FOGG: Fine, quite fine. We'd like the same cabins then, thank you.

TICKET AGENT: Yes, sir. *(Stamps their passports and gives them tickets.)*
(They leave DSR. FIX enters DSL and buys his ticket in silence, quickly, scurrying after FOGG.)

(We hear thumping. PASSEPARTOUT hops in from DSL and approaches the ticket booth.)

PASSEPARTOUT: I'd like one ticket to San Francisco, please.

TICKET AGENT: Of course, sir. You will be sailing on the *Carnatic*. She is being refueled right now. Do you need help, sir?

PASSEPARTOUT: The *Carnatic*? The same ship I was on? Parbleu, what a lot of effort to go back to the same place I was! Yes, yes, I was set upon by a ruffian! Luckily, he did not rob me!

TICKET AGENT: Very lucky, sir. *(Unties PASSEPARTOUT, who then pays the agent from his wallet.)* Here is your ticket.

PASSEPARTOUT: Merci!

(They exit stage DSL, taking ticket booth with them. Curtain opens upon the ship again, FOGG and AOUDA in their stateroom, the CAPTAIN on the deck. PASSEPARTOUT enters DSL.)

PASSEPARTOUT: I must find Monsieur Fogg and Mademoiselle Aouda without delay.

(FIX enters USL and walks briskly CS where he and PASSEPARTOUT see one another. With a roar of anger, PASSEPARTOUT sets upon FIX and beats him soundly.)

PASSEPARTOUT: How dare you, sir?! You are a scoundrel of the worst sort. My head, it still aches!!

FIX: Have you done?

PASSEPARTOUT: Trouncing you? For the moment only.

FIX: Good. You have thrashed me. I expected it. Up to this time, I have been Mr. Fogg's adversary. Now, all is changed. I have gotten my warrant, but it is no good until we are back on English soil. Therefore, I am now your greatest ally.

PASSEPARTOUT: Ah, finally! You are convinced of his honesty?

FIX: Of course not! I think him the worst of rascals. It is simply in my best interests to hasten Mr. Fogg back to English soil. Your interest must be the same as mine, to ascertain whether you are in fact in the service of an honest man or a criminal.

PASSEPARTOUT: You, sir, are the worst of fools.

FIX: Are we friends, then?

PASSEPARTOUT: Friends? Never, but perhaps allies for a time. But, at the least sign of treason, I shall gladly twist your neck for you!!

FIX: Agreed.

(PASSEPARTOUT and FIX bow to each other, FIX exits USL, and PASSEPARTOUT tentatively enters FOGG'S cabin.)

PASSEPARTOUT: Monsieur, I have returned.

FOGG: Passepartout! You are late. What is your explanation?

PASSEPARTOUT: I came down with a sudden—headache—and found passage on another ship when I missed the *Carnatic*. I am very sorry, sir.

AOUDA: Oh, Passepartout. We were so worried for you. Are you recovered?

PASSEPARTOUT: Thank you Mademoiselle. Oui, I am recovered and most heartily sorry for the worry I put you through. I shall be most careful it will not happen again.

(AOUDA hugs PASSEPARTOUT and FOGG shakes his hand.)

[Close curtain.]