

I WANT TO HOLD YOUR BABUSHKA

Circa 1964

Full-Length Play in 1 Act

Cast

Bond Girls (also referred to as Narrators)

Voice Over

John

Paul

George

Ringo

Chorus

Anastaia

Rasputin

Genberal Klandestinove

Comrade Bullshetski

Natasha

Boris

KGB Guards

Various Groups of Auditioning Peasants

Scene 1

The Bond Girls or Narrators enter in front of the curtain dressed as secret agents and addressing the audience and setting the scene.

OPENING NUMBER

OB-LA-DI

**Solo: HERE'S A LITTLE STORY THAT WE LIKE TO TELL
NEVER FIND INSIDE A HISTORY BOOK
'CAUSE IT'S IN A FILE MARKED 'TOP SEC-A-RET'
BUT THEN WE THOUGHT THAT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO TAKE A LOOK ...**

**All: OB-LA-DI OB-LA-DA IT'S A SECRET
HIDDEN FROM THE PUBLIC VIEW
OB-LA-DI OB-LA-DA DON'T REPEAT IT
(BUT) EVERY WORD YOU'LL HEAR IS TRUE.**

**Solo 2: DRAW CLOSER THIS IS SOMETHING SO INCREDIBLE
YOU WILL THINK IT SIMPLY WASN'T SO
WE HAVE READ THE CLASSIFIED MATERIAL
AND NOW WE THINK IT'S SOMETHING THAT YOU OUGHT TO KNOW**

**All: OB-LA-DI OB-LA-DA IT'S A SECRET
HIDDEN FROM THE PUBLIC VIEW
OB-LA-DI OB-LA-DA DON'T REPEAT IT
(BUT) EVERY WORD YOU'LL HEAR IS TRUE.**

**AND WE'RE GOING TO TELL IT ALL TO YOU ...
JUST REMEMBER EVERY WORD IS TRUE ...**

VO: Ladies and gentlemen, direct from London's famous Palladium we bring you live and in concert Britain's new bobbed boys of rock and roll---The Beatles!

Curtain out to reveal The Beatles surrounded by the Chorus dressed as teenagers. SCREAMS AND SHOUTS as they begin to sing:

#2) TWIST AND SHOUT

**Well, shake it up, baby, now (Shake it up, baby)
Twist and shout (Twist and shout)
C'mon c'mon, c'mon, c'mon, baby, now (Come on baby)
Come on and work it on out (Work it on out)**

Well, work it on out, honey (Work it on out)

**You know you look so good (Look so good)
You know you got me goin', now (Got me goin')
Just like I knew you would (Like I knew you would)**

**Well, shake it up, baby, now (Shake it up, baby)
Twist and shout (Twist and shout)
C'mon, c'mon, c'mon, c'mon, baby, now (Come on baby)
Come on and work it on out (Work it on out)**

**You know you twist your little girl (Twist, little girl)
You know you twist so fine (Twist so fine)
Come on and twist a little closer, now (Twist a little closer)
And let me know that you're mine (Let me know you're mine)**

**Well, shake it up, baby, now (Shake it up, baby)
Twist and shout (Twist and shout)
C'mon, c'mon, c'mon, c'mon, baby, now (Come on baby)
Come on and work it on out (Work it on out)**

**You know you twist your little girl (Twist, little girl)
You know you twist so fine (Twist so fine)
Come on and twist a little closer, now (Twist a little closer)
And let me know that you're mine (Let me know you're mine)**

**Well, shake it, shake it, shake it, baby, now (Shake it up baby)
Well, shake it, shake it, shake it, baby, now (Shake it up baby)
Well, shake it, shake it, shake it, baby, now (Shake it up baby)**

(As songs ends, the crowd goes wild. BLACK OUT. CURTAIN FLIES IN)

In front of curtain, lights come up on a boy and a girl who sit mid-stage, their heads bent over a radio as if they have been listening to a broadcast of the Beatles. The boy, Rasputin Klandestinov, is dressed like a young cassock. The girl, Anastasia Bullshetski, is dressed in a simple blouse and gathered skirt. Raspy jumps to his feet, begins to twist, sings.

RASPY: NOW SHAKE IT UP BABY.

Anastasia jumps to her feet, begins to twist, sings.

ANNIE: SHAKE IT UP BABY.

TOGETHER: TWIST AND SHOUT. TWIST AND SHOUT.
COME ON, COME ON, COME ON COME ON BAAABY
COME ON BABY
WORK IT ON OUT! WORK IT ON OUT!

They collapse into each other's arms, laughing. Look into one another's eyes.

RASPY: Oh, I do love this bourgeois music, Anastasia.

ANNIE: And I love it, too, Rasputin!

RASPY: It makes me want to tear off all my clothes and, and, and---
put on a pair of blue jeans.

ANNIE: These Beatles will change the course of Western Civilization, Rasputin. It's written in the stars.

RASPY: You're right, Anastasia. I have seen the future--and it is rock and roll.

ANNIE: Poor Mother Russia. We overthrow the czar and call it a cultural revolution. But it is nothing compared to what these boys from Liverpool are going to do to America.

RASPY: If only our fathers knew.

They look longingly into each other's eyes.

ANNIE: I love your clairvoyant eyes. Rasputin.

RASPY: And I love yours, Anastasia.

They slowly come together, about to kiss. Suddenly, members of the Russian Guard burst in and surround the couple. The head guard grabs the radio. Holds it up.

HEAD GUARD: KGB! Freeze! Both of you. We've found the source of the bourgeois music, General Klandestinov!

General Klandestinov, head of the KGB, and Comrade Bullshetski, Minister of Propaganda, enter.

KLAN: Rasputin! What in the name of Stravinsky do you think you're doing?

RASPY: Father!

BULL: (seeing the radio) A radio! Anastasia, you little capitalist piglet. What were you listening to?

ANNIE: A concert, Father.

BULL: What kind of concert?

RASPY: Don't tell him, Annie, please!

KLAN: Shoot the traitor!

BULL: Wait, General Klandestinov, are you sure you want to do that?

KLAN: I am the head of the KGB. I am expected to be ruthless.

BULL: Yes, but Raspy is your son. Think how Mrs. Klandestinov will feel.

KLAN: (thinking) All right. (pointing to Annie) Shoot *her*, then.

BULL: You can't do that.

KLAN: I can do anything I want, Bullshetski.

BULL: Yes, but I am the Minister of Propaganda. And if you shoot my only child I will tell everyone in the Kremlin you are a cross-dresser, just like J. Edgar Hoover.

KLAN: But that's a lie!

BULL: Some of my best work is lies, General.

KLAN: Point taken. Now tell us who you were listening to on that radio, Rasputin.

RASPY: The Beatles, sir.

KLAN: Beatles do not sing, you little liar. Shoot him!

BULL: Wait, General. I have a sneaking suspicion he is referring to the British rock band.

KLAN: The British have not used rocks for two centuries, Bullshetski. Our spies tell us they are completely outfitted with antiballistic missiles.

BULL: This is a totally different weapon, General. A musical weapon. Life Magazine says they are planning to invade the United States with it. Were you listening to the rock band, Anastasia?

ANNIE: Yes, Father.

BULL: I'm taking the radio away!

ANNIE: I don't want it any more, Father.

BULL: You don't?

ANNIE: No. I want a television. The Beatles are going to be on the Ed Sullivan Show in February.

**GUARDS, ANNIE, RASPY AND BULL:
#3 "ED SULLIVAN"**

**ED SULLIVAN! ED SULLIVAN!
THEY'RE GOING TO BE ON ED SULLIVAN!**

KLAN: Stop this!! Or I'll shoot you all!! I don't care about this rock band or this Ed Sullivitch. I want that radio confiscated. And I want the two of you put to bed without any borscht. Do you hear me?

RASPY : Yes, father.
ANNIE: Yes, General.

KLAN: And I don't want to hear another word about these Beatles. Is that clear?

RASPY : Yes, father.
ANNIE: Yes, General.

KLAN: Good. Come along, Bullshetski. Time to get back to work. We've got a Cold War to win.

All but Annie and Raspy exit.

RASPY: If they only knew.

ANNIE: All those parades through Red Square--all that huffing and puffing at the UN. Even that ridiculous wall in Berlin. All for nothing.

#4 DO YOU WANT TO KNOW A SECRET

**RASPY: THEY'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT'S IN THE FUTURE FAR OFF
ANNIE: THEY CAN'T SEE YELTSIN OR GORBACHOV**

**RASPY: LISTEN (A: DO LA LU) DO YOU WANT TO KNOW A SECRET (DO LA LU)
DO YOU PROMISE NOT TO TELL (DO LA LU) WOW WOH WOH
CLOSER (DO LA LU) THERE'S ONE THING WE MUST ASSUME (DO LA LU)
THAT THERE'S A BUG IN EVERY ROOM WE'RE GONNA LOST THE WAR
(OO)**

BOTH: OO.....WE'VE SEEN THE FUTURE AND WE KNOW IT'S TRUE
NOBODY KNOWS JUST WE TWO

ANNIE: LISTEN (R: DO LA LU) DO YOU WANT TO KNOW A SECRET (DO LA LU)
DO YOU PROMISE NOT TO TELL (DO LA LU) WOW WOH WOH
CLOSER (DO LA LU) LET ME WHISPER IN YOUR EAR (DO LA LU)
SO THE KREMLIN DOESN'T HEAR WE'RE GONNA LOSE THE WAR

BOTH: I MEAN THE COLD WAR!

RASPY: It's hard being a sage, Annie. Do you realize we are the only two people in the entire Soviet empire who know that the capitalists are going to beat us?

ANNIE: We could tell them about the McDonald's in Moscow. But they'd never believe us.

RASPY: No, they'd never believe us.

ANNIE: Come on. I don't think we should let them get too far out of sight.

Raspy and Annie sneak off quietly as the lights fade out.

Scene 2

Lights up.

Bullshetski paces restlessly as Klandestinov tries to read through papers.

KLAN: Will you stop that infernal pacing? What's wrong with you?

BULL: We may be missing an opportunity, General. I think it may be time to seize the moment.

KLAN: Never! We are a great empire, Bullshetski. I will seize nothing less than a decade. What are you thinking?

BULL: These Beatles have a hold over the Western masses. Teenaged boys flock like lemmings to their concerts. Girls faint at their feet. And every brainwashed American family will be glued to the television the night they appear on the Ed Sullivan show.
It would be--dear General--the perfect night for an invasion!

KLAN: By god, now you're talking. No point letting all those ICBMs go to waste.

BULL: Not an armed invasion, General. A subliminal invasion. I'm talking about

walking right into their homes with our best propaganda.

KLAN: You're going to peddle the Communist Manifesto door to door?

BULL: No! We're going to infiltrate the American media.
(beat)
Think about it. What if *we* were on the Ed Sullivan Show instead of the Beatles?

KLAN: (Klan looks a Bull questioningly, then slowly begins to twist.)
Well, I suppose, with a little practice--

BULL: Not you and me, General. Our operatives. Russian comrades *disguised* as the Beatles. Why we could subvert the entire US population in one evening!

KLAN: It's brilliant, Bullshetski! Devious! Underhanded! A stroke of Slavic genius. But wait. If the Russian Beatles are going to be on network television that night-- don't you think the British Beatles might notice?

BULL: Very perceptive, General. That's why--before we do anything else, I want your men in the KGB to go to Liverpool and kidnap them.

KLAN: Kidnap them? Kidnap them! Of course!

SIBERIA

Both: When they're sent to dear Siberia, to Siberi-eri-a,
Klandestinov: There's a most delicious bill of fare,
Bullshetski: They must try out filet of polar bear.
Both: When they meet in sweet Siberia,
Far from Bolshevik hysteria,
They'll go on a tear,
For their buddies all are there
In cheery Siberi-a.

Both: When they're sent to dear Siberia,
To Siberi-eri-a,
Klandestinov: Where they say all day the sun shines bright,
Bullshetski: And they also say that it shines all night,
Both: When they meet in sweet Siberia
To protect them from diphtheria,
They can toast their toes
On the lady Eskimos
In cheery Siberi-a.

Dance

When they're sent to dear Siberia,

Klandestinov: **To Siberi-eri-a,**
Bullshetski: **Where the salt air makes you them so fine,**
 It is fresh salt air from our own salt mine,
 When they meet in sweet Siberia,
 Where the snow is so 'superia'
 You can bet, all right
 That their Christmas will be white
 In cheery Siberi-a.

KLAN: But you realize that taking rock stars across national lines is a violation of the Geneva convention, Bullshetski.

BULL: They do not call us the Evil Empire for nothing, sir.

Klan smiles broadly and the two exit. Lights to black.

Scene 3
(in front on curtain)

(Beatles enter in pajamas)

RINGO: George, I'm afraid of the dark.

GEORGE: Well, I don't want you to hold my hand.

RINGO: John....

JOHN: Yes, what is it Ringo?

RINGO: Do you think I'll ever be able to sing a song with the band?

JOHN: Sure, Ringo, sure. Just as soon as you get down all those drum parts.

RINGO: Paul, what rhymes with "elation"?

PAUL: I don't know. Dividend reinvestment participation, mutualization,
Global inflation.....

(Bealtes lay down and go to sleep. As PINK PANTHER music starts, KGB guards sneak on)

MAXWELL'S SILVER HAMMER (short bit)

**KGB GUARD: BANG, BANG MAXWELL'S SILVER HAMMER CAME DOWN
UPON HIS HEAD. CLANG! CLANG! MAXWELL'S SILVER HAMMER
MADE SURE THAT THEY WAS DEAD.**

ALL GUARDS: **BANG, BANG MAXWELL'S SILVER HAMMER CAME DOWN
UPON HIS HEAD. CLANG! CLANG! MAXWELL'S SILVER HAMMER
MADE SURE THAT THEY WAS DEAD.**

KGB GUARD: Captain. Captain, come quickly. Mission accomplished.

HEAD GUARD: Good work comrades. Now we bag 'em, drag 'em, and send them on
airplane!

HARD DAY'S NIGHT

KGB GUARDS: **IT'S BEEN A HARD DAY'S NIGHT
AND WE HAVE TRACKED YOU LIKE A DOG
IT'S BEEN A HARD DAY'S NIGHT
AND NOW YOU'RE SLEEPIN' LIKE A LOG
WE KNOW HOW PEACEFUL IT SEEMS
WE HOPE YOU HAVE PLEASANT DREAMS
THAT MAKE YOU FEEL ALL RIGHT**

**WE WORK SEVEN/TWENTY-FOUR
SO WE CAN BE THE BEST OF SPIES
AND IT'S WORTH IT JUST TO HEAR YOU SNORE
SO WE CAN SPRING OUR BIG SURPRISE**

**WE PUT A BAG ON YOUR HEAD,
WE PULL YOU OUT OF YOUR BED
AND THEN WE FEEL OKAY.**

**WHEN YOUR TRAPPED, EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE RIGHT
SO KIDNAPPED, FEELING ME HOLDING YOU TIGHT, YEAH!**

**IT'S BEEN A HARD DAY'S NIGHT
AND WE'VE BEEN WORKIN' LIKE A DOG
IT'S BEEN A HARD DAY'S NIGHT
AND NOW YOU'RE SLEEPIN' LIKE A LOG
WE'LL LOCK YOU UP IN A CHAIN
THEN PUT YOU ONTO A PLANE
YOU'LL GO TO THE GULAG
YOU'LL GO TO THE GULAG . . .**

(BLACKOUT as guards sneak off. Narrator who were guards come forward.)
(OB-LA-DI OB-LA-DA)

**(THE) BEATLES HAVE BEEN CAPTURED BY THE BOLSHEVICS
(A) SECRET THAT THE KREMLIN HAS CONCEALED.**

**WE ARE HERE TO TELL YOU HOW IT CAME TO BE
SO THAT THE AWFUL WRETCHED TRUTH CAN BE REVEALED.**

**OB-LA-DI OB-LA-DA IT'S A SECRET
HIDDEN FROM THE PUBLIC VIEW
OB-LA-DI OB-LA-DA DON'T REPEAT IT
(BUT) EVERY WORD YOU'LL HEAR IS TRUE.**

**(ANA)STASIA AND RASPUTIN KNOW THE FUTURE AND
KNOW THE YEARNING OF THE HUMAN SOUL
CAN THEY NOW RESET THE COURSE OF HISTORY
AND CAN THEY SAVE US ALL BY SAVING ROCK AND ROLL?**

**OB-LA-DI OB-LA-DA IT'S A SECRET
HIDDEN FROM THE PUBLIC VIEW
OB-LA-DI OB-LA-DA DON'T REPEAT IT
(BUT) EVERY WORD YOU'LL HEAR IS TRUE.**

**AND WE'RE GOING TO TELL IT ALL TO YOU ...
JUST REMEMBER EVERY WORD IS TRUE ...**

Scene 4

Mainstage. A crowd of Russian peasants mill about waiting to audition. Raspy and Annie enter.

RASPY: These peasants look like they just got off the Trans Siberian Railroad, Annie. What on earth are all these babushkas doing in the Kremlin?

ANNIE: I have a feeling our fathers are up to something--and I'm not sure I like it.

RASPY: What do you mean?

ANNIE: They've been holding high-level meetings all morning. I hear Russia's best undercover agents have been called back to Moscow from Gooseberry Falls.

RASPY: You don't mean---(Annie nods)--then this is serious.

KGB Guards march into place.

GUARD: His Excellency, the most high General Klandestinov
And the prime minister of propaganda, the honorable Comrade
Bullshetski.

(Melody from Hail Babinski from the musical Silk Stockings by Cole Porter.)

SONG: HAIL BULLSHETSKI

**Hail Bullshetski, Hail Klandestinov,
Hail Bullshetski, Our brilliant star!
Hail Bullshetski, Hail Klandestinov,
The greatest heroes of the U.S.S.R.!**

**Crowds parading, Serenading
You, Bullshetski,, you, Klandestinov!
When you're nearing, All are cheering
You, Bullshetski, you Klandestinov!
Swords are clanking, Tanks are tanking,
Drums are thumping, Trumpets trumping,
Planes are zooming, Guns are booming,
Bells are ringing, Ev'rybody singing:**

**Hail Bullshetski, Hail Klandestinov,
Hail Bullshetski, Our greatest stars!
Hail Bullshetski, Hail Klandestinov,
The greatest heroes of the U.S.S.R.!**

**Cars you're given, Chauffeur-driven,
You, Bullshetski,, you, Klandestinov!
Hands you're shaking, Speeches making,
You, Bullshetski, you Klandestinov!
Children petting, Medals getting,
You're our grandest, Propagandist,
You're a god-ka, Full of vodka,
Bells are ringing, Everybody's singing.**

**Hail- Bullshetski, Hail-our brilliant star!
Hail- Klandestinov, The greatest heroes of the U.S.S.R.!
You are, You are, You are, You are!
You are, you are, you are, you are, you are!
Bullshetski!**

KLAN: I'm not sure it's a good idea to have the masses inside the Kremlin. They're ruining the carpet.

BULL: We need to find exactly the right comrades to replace the Beatles, General, or the Americans will know they're spies. That's why I'm holding open auditions.

KLAN: No open auditions, Bullshetski! This is a KGB operation, remember? Absolutely every note these people sing here today must be top secret. Now, has you-know-who arrived?

BULL: They are waiting outside in the snow, General.

KLAN: These are my two finest agents, Bullshetski. They have lived among our enemies for years--completely undetected. Their accents are impeccable. *And*, they are experts on American television.

BULL: I will turn the entire audition over to them, sir. If anyone knows who to select for this mission, they will.

KLAN: Then I think it's time we bring them in from the cold.

Bull and Klan exit. Annie and Raspy come center stage.

ANNIE: Do you see what's happening, Raspy? Our fathers are planning to infiltrate the Ed Sullivan Show.

RASPY: They can't replace the Beatles with Babushkas--it will change the course of history. Think what it will do to music, to culture, to the future of animated film. We have to do something.

ANNIE: But what? We don't even know where the KGB has put the fabulous four.

RASPY: Then we'll just have to find out. Come on.

(Annie and Raspy exit as Bull and Klan enter with Boris and Natasha.)

NATASHA: Is such pleasure to be back in Kremlin, is it not, Boris, dawlink?

BORIS: These peasants look like they are from shallow end of talent pool, Natasha. I am missing Moose and Squirrel already.

BULL: Do not under estimate the Soviet genius for Rock and Roll, Bedenoff.

BORIS: This is not possible, Bullshetski.

KLAN: Are you ready, Natasha?

NATASHA: We come fully prepared, General.

KLAN: Comrades! This is your General speaking. Take your places, please. Our master spies are about to give you your instructions.

The crowd sits. Boris and Natasha sing:

I'M A LOSER

BORIS: I'M A RUSKY,

NATASHA: I'M A RUSKY
BOTH: BUT WE'RE NOT WHAT WE APPEAR TO BE
BORIS: OF ALL THE JOBS IN THE USSR
BEING A SPY IS THE BEST JOB BY FAR
NATASHA: WHEN THERE'S A NEED, WE'RE THE SPIES THEY SEND IN
BORIS AND I, WE ARE SLY, WE BLEND IN
BOTH: YOU'RE A RUSKY, BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU ARE HERE TO BE
YOU'RE A RUSKY, BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU APPEAR TO BE
BORIS: WE'LL TEACH YOU HOW TO BE CLEVER AND QUICK
NATASHA: WE'LL TEACH YOU EV'RY DEVIOUS TRICK
BORIS: SEE HOW I LOOK LIKE A REGULAR JOE
NATASHA: I HAVE AN ACCENT LIKE MARILINK MONROE
BOTH: YOU'RE A RUSKY, BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU ARE HERE TO BE
YOU'RE A RUSKY, BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU APPEAR TO BE
BORIS: WE'LL TRAIN YOU HOW TO PASS SECRETS IN CODE
WE'LL GIVE YOU BOMBS YOU CAN LIGHT AND EXPLODE
NATASHA: AND WHEN YOU'RE DONE LEARNING EV'RY SPY SKILL
WE'LL SEND YOU OFF WITH A CYANIDE PILL
BOTH: YOU'RE A RUSKY, BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU ARE HERE TO BE
YOU'RE A RUSKY, BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU APPEAR TO BE

The crowd applauds wildly. Boris and Natasha bow and continue to bow until Klan stops them.

KLAN: Enough. Get these peasants out of here and let's get on with it.

The crowd exits.

Good. Now bring in the judges.

BULL: Judges? I thought Boris and Natasha were judges, Klandestinov.

NATASHA: We are, Bullshetski. But that is top secret, you fool. So we must have skills.

BORIS: Bring on the skills!

The judges enter and take their place.

AUDITION SEQUENCE

Note to Directors: *This is a section of the show that you can design yourself using music and musical groups that suit your needs. Here are the numbers we used in our most recent production. Use as many or few numbers as you like. See the video of the show to see how these were staged. Eleanor Rigby? Ticket to Ride is amazing! As the peasants sing their songs, they should use their worst Russian accents on the lyrics!*

NATASHA: There. Now we are ready to begin. Let us have audition number 1.

BORIS: First we have trio from the Smirnoff bottling plant. They are calling themselves Viva La Vodka.

Treble Choir enters and begins to sing **MR. POSTMAN**. After two lines, Natasha signals for the gong.

NATASHA: Wait a minute yourselves, you little cheatniks. Beatles is BOYS rock group. Girls cannot be Beatles.

BORIS: Go now. Or we send you to gulag! Next contestant! Group 2, the Bolshoi Baritones.

GUYS MEDLEY: ELEANOR RIGBY/ TICKET TO RIDE

NATASHA: Group 3. Calling selves Boys, Boys, Boy.

BORIS: I like name, Natasha!

Treble Choir enters again, dressed as men.

POSTMAN

BORIS: Group 4. Calling selves Doctor Zhivago from Chicago.

YESTERDAY

Just before last note, NATASHA signals the gong.

NATASHA: This is not Beatles style. Beatles sing Rock and Roll, you fools. Guards, take them away. Can we please have some Rock and Roll?

BORIS: Group 6. The Volga Voices

I WANNA BE YOUR MAN

NATASHA: I vanna. I vanna. I vanna! Do you tink you are singing to Donal Trump? Enough of these accents. Tink British – must sound like Vinston Churchill. Now go!

BORIS: Group 5. Bobby and the Belarus-tones.

I SAW HER STANDING THERE

BORUS: Just unbearable, Natasha. Get me someone else!!

Nastasha: The Gulag Acapellagoes.

I CAN'T GET NO SATISFATION (Foul #1: After a few lines into the song the GONG sounds.)

NATASHA: Foul! I cry 'foul'! Schtop dis! Dis is not Beatles' song.

BORIS: How you know?

NATASHA: My finely trained ear tell me. This is Mick Jaguar song from Rollink Stones! Imposters. Take them away!

BORIS: Where is next group?

Annie and Raspy suddenly appear on opposite sides of the stage. Raspy crosses to Annie.

RASPY: I've been all over Red Square. There's no sign of the Beatles anywhere. What about you?

ANNIE: I've tried the bell tower, but there's nothing there, either.

RASPY: We don't have much time. You look in the Armory. I'll check in Lenin's Mausoleum. Let's go.

Annie and Raspy exit.

BORIS: Group 8. The Ural-nels.

BABY YOU CAN DRIVE MY CAR

BORIS: GROUP NUMBER 9, The Tibilisi Twins.

COPACABANA (Foul #2: After a few lines into the song the GONG sounds.)

NATASHA: OMG! OMG! Another foul! Beatles' song --- NOT!

BORIS: Another Rollick Stones?

NATASHA: Worse.

BORIS: Neil Diamond?

(She shakes her head 'no'. He realizes what's worse and together they say ...)

BORIS AND NATASHA: Barry Manilow. (They shiver with disgust.)

NATASHA: Off. Off with them!

BORIS: Group 10. The Borsht Belters.

HELLO/GOODBYE

BORIS: This job is killing me, Natasha. I have seen more talent fall off the back of a truck.

NATASHA: All right. All right. Group 11. The Uncles Vanya.

WHEN I'M 64

BORIS: Group 12. The Pushkinators.

WHAT MAKES YOU BEAUTIFUL (Foul #3: After a few lines into the song the GONG sounds.)

NATASHA: No, no! No more. Another foul!

BORIS: Not a Beatles' song.

NATASHA: Not by long shot. This song by One Direction and it wrong direction. Take them away!

BORIS: Group 13. Calling themselves FIDDLING AROUND ON THE ROOF.

CAN'T BUY ME LOVE

NATASHA: What is this nonsense? You know nothing about English. Guards, take them away. Next contestant.

LET IT BE

After second verse. Annie and Raspy enter again. More tired and frantic than before.

RASPY: Any luck?

ANNIE: Nada. I don't know where else to look.

RASPY: This is worse than the day the music died. If we don't find those guys, it's going to be the end of civilization as we might have known it.

ANNIE: We can't give up, Rasputin. Come on, let's keep looking.

LET IT BE FINISHES.

Raspy and Annie enter again just as the last audition is finishing.

BORIS: That is end of auditions, Natasha. Last miserable one.

NATASHA: How will we ever decide?

BORIS: I say we line them all up and play Russian Roulette.

KLAN: Are you telling me you're not up to the job, Badenov?

NATASHA: Of course we are up to it, General Klandestinov. But we need only few minutes to talk things over. In secret, of course.

BORIS: Is good time to use the cloak and dagger room in basement, da?

KLAN: (alarmed) The basement? No. No, you can't use the basement!

BULL: (alarmed) What the General means is that the two of you are definitely above the basement. Why don't you meet in the broom closet on the third floor?

NATASHA: What if we find bugs, General?

KLAN: Spray them, you fool.

(Natasha and Boris exit.)

KLAN: I want you to shadow them, Bullshetski.

BULL: Why?

KLAN: So, I can shadow you.

Bull and Klan exit. Raspy and Annie move center stage.

RASPY: That's it, Anastasia. They must be hiding the Beatles in the basement.

ANNIE: I just hope we're not too late.

Annie and Raspy exit as the lights go to black.

Scene 5

Raspy and Annie search with flashlights as we hear a song faintly, then louder. The Beatles are locked away in the Kremlin basement and sing:

HELP

**BEATLES: HELP! I NEED SOMEBODY. HELP! NOT JUST ANYBODY.
HELP! YOU KNOW I NEED SOMEONE. HELP!**

ANNIE: I think I hear them!

**BEATLES: WHEN I WAS YOUNGER, SO MUCH YOUNGER THAN TODAY
I NEVER NEEDED ANYBODY'S HELP IN ANYWAY
THEN THE KGB CAME BY AND NOW I'M NOT SO SELF ASSURED
NOW I FIND I'M LOCKED BEHIND THESE BASEMENT KREMLIN DOORS**

**HELP ME IF YOU CAN I'M FEELING DOWN
I'LL TAKE HELP FROM ANYBODY WHO'S AROUND
HELP ME TO ESCAPE FROM UNDERGROUND
WON'T YOU PLEASE, PLEASE HELP ME?**

RASPY: Over here!

**BEATLES: AND NOW MY LIFE HAS CHANGED IN OH SO MANY WAYS
I SEE MY WHOLE CAREER VANISH IN THE HAZE
WE'LL BE FORGOTTEN AND REPLACED BY SOME NEW GROUP
WE'LL SPEND OUR DYING DAYS EATING CABBAGE SOUP**

**HELP ME IF YOU CAN I'M FEELING DOWN
I'LL TAKE HELP FROM ANYBODY WHO'S AROUND
HELP ME TO ESCAPE FROM UNDERGROUND
WON'T YOU PLEASE, PLEASE HELP ME? HELP ME, HELP ME, OOH**

Annie and Raspy go to the pit.

ANNIE: Don't worry. We'll help you!

RINGO: About bloody time.

PAUL: Shut up, Ringo. Listen, we're ever so grateful.

ANNIE: How do we open the lock?

RASPY: I can get my father's key. Getting them out of the basement is easy. The question is how do we get four Englishmen out of the country?

ANNIE: We don't.

RINGO: What do you mean, we don't?

GEORGE: Calm down, Ringo.

ANNIE: We disguise them as Russians who are disguising themselves as Englishmen.

RINGO: This is lovely. A regular looney bin, she is!

JOHN: Will you be quiet?

RASPY: You mean, have them audition?

ANNIE: Who could possibly sound more like the Beatles than--

BEATLES: The Beatles!

ANNIE: We dress them up like peasants. They do a number. And before you know it, they're on their way to the Ed Sullivan Show.

RASPY: Oh, Annie, that's brilliant.

RINGO: Then why don't you move your bloomin' arce!

Annie and Raspy exit. Lights down.

(Lights up.)

Scene 6

All the peasants are gathered onstage, waiting for the results of the audition. After a moment, Klan and Bull appear, address the crowd.

BULL: Greetings, comrades. We have good news. Our two experts have made their final decision. They are ready to announce our four lucky winners.

KLAN: Remember, this secret mission entitles you to round trip airfare, hotel accommodations and a year's supply of bellbottoms.

There is a MURMUR of excitement through the crowd. As Boris and Natasha enter the crowd erupts into applause. They smile.

NATASHA: Thank you, dawlinks. Well, comrades, this was very difficult task.

BORIS: Like making silk purse out of sow's ear, Natasha.

NATASHA: But we have names of new spies right here. Boris, may I have envelope, please.

Boris hands her the envelope. Natasha is about to open it when Annie comes running in.

ANNIE: Wait, please! There is one more audition.

BULL: How could there be, Anastasia? We've heard everyone on the list.

ANNIE: AHD, this group wasn't on the list. They just arrived from Kiev.

KLAN: Who are they?

Annie looks off stage, anxious.

ANNIE: Pm, they're big. Very big in the Ukraine. The girls love them.

BULL: Yes, Anastasia, but who are they?

Raspy comes running in.

RASPY: The Brothers Teryerklosoff.

ANNIE: Teryerklosoff?

RASPY: That's right. Ladies and gentlemen, the Brothers Teryerklosoff!

The Beatles, dressed as peasants, come bounding onto the stage.

BACK IN THE USSR

After the song, the crowd goes wild. They begin mobbing the Beatles.

BORIS: Now there is spy material, Natasha! Everyone will think they are real Beatles. Only finely-trained mind like mine can see they are really babushkas.

NATASHA: I agree, Boris. Americans will never know they are working for KGB. Comrades, the winner is the Brothers Teryerklosoff!

Crowd goes wild as Beatles do:

USSR REPRISE

As the number finishes and the crowd screams and yells, the curtain comes down.

Scene 7

Raspy and Annie step forward in front of the drape, sit down back to back in a pool of light. They are thoughtful. They sing:

NORWEGIAN WOOD

RASPY: WE ONCE HAD A DREAM, OR SHOULD I SAY, IT ONCE HAD WE
ANNIE: WE RESCUED THE BEATLES AND PUT THEM ALL BACK ON TV

BOTH: WE GAVE THEM DISGUISES AND TOLD THEM TO SING ANYWHERE
THEY BECAME FAMOUS, MADE MILLIONS AND GREW OUT THEIR HAIR
ANNIE: WE STAYED HERE BEHIND, BIDDING OUR TIME, HIDING OUR CRIME
RASPY: WE'LL SOON BE FORGOT, BUT THEY ARE NOT, THEY ARE STILL HOT

BOTH: WE KNOW WE'RE BOTH HEROES BUT HEROES THAT NOBODY KNOWS
WE REMAIN NAMELESS WHILE THEIR FAME SO SHAMELESS GROWS

RASPY: NOW THAT THEY ARE GONE
WE ARE ALONE

ANNIE: THOSE BIRDS HAVE FLOWN
WE DID WHAT WE COULD
ISN'T IT GOOD

BOTH: MUSCOVITE WOOD

RASPY: We did it, Annie. We made sure the Beatles were on the Ed Sullivan Show.

ANNIE: History will thank us, Raspy. All that music. Just think how dull the 20th Century would have been without it.

RASPY: Except no one will ever know how we saved the Beatles, will they?

Annie turns, looks at him excitedly.

ANNIE: I had a vision, Raspy. Just last night. It took me all the way into the next millennium.

RASPY: The Year (currently year)? (Current month and day?) I had it, too!

ANNIE: (standing, caught up in the vision) A high school auditorium, somewhere in capitalist California. The place is packed. There's singing . . .

Music for the finale begins under.

RASPY: And dancing! It's a tribute to John, Paul, George and Ringo.

The curtain begins to slowly rise on the Beatles, dressed in concert gear as in the opening scene, surrounded by teenagers as in the opening scene. As the music builds, everyone sways to the beat.

ANNIE: But we're there, too, Raspy . . .

Annie and Raspy move back into the crowd on stage and begin swaying with them.

RASPY: Taking our rightful place up on stage . . .

ANNIE: Being remembered by hundreds of screaming fans . . .

RASPY: For rescuing the Beatles . . .

ANNIE: And saving western civilization!

AS ANNIE AND RASPY RUN OFF, NARRATORS RUN ON:

**(THERE'S THE) DIRTY SECRET NO ONE'S EVER TOLD
(WE) FACED THE THREAT OF REAL CATASTROPHE
WOULD HAVE BEEN THE MUSHROOM CLOUD OF MUSIC IF
OUR TWO BRAVE HEROES HADN'T SET THE BEATLES FREE**

**OB-LA-DI OB-LA-DA IT'S A SECRET
HIDDEN FROM THE PUBLIC VIEW
OB-LA-DI OB-LA-DA DON'T REPEAT IT
(BUT) EVERY WORD YOU'LL HEAR IS TRUE.**

**NOW THAT WE HAVE SET THE HIS'TRY RECORD STRAIGHT
SHINED A LIGHT ON ALL THOSE NASTY SPIES
TIME FOR US TO GO BACK UNDER COVER SO
WE CAN RETURN TO TELLING EVERYBODY LIES.**

**OB-LA-DI OB-LA-DA IT'S A SECRET
HIDDEN FROM THE PUBLIC VIEW
OB-LA-DI OB-LA-DA DON'T REPEAT IT
(BUT) EVERY WORD WE SAID IS TRUE.**

**(The Girls start to exit)
YES, EVERY WORD WE SAID IS TRUE ...
(The Girls stop and look at the audience.)
(speaking instead of singing)**

Come on! You think we'd LIE to YOU?!

(Bond Girls exit.)

FINALE

CAST:

Medley

I WANNA HOLD YOUR HAND

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE

TWIST AND SHOUT

The End