

1

Dissolve to entrance of large room, showing part of staircase.

Assistant Purser: All passengers wishing to go ashore, present your passports for inspection in the lounge room (repeat twice).

There is a general excitement of passengers entering and exiting.

Wipe to Ogden's cabin suite

Professor Clark is seated in an armchair, smoking a cigar and reading a magazine. Enter Harvey Davenport.

Harvey: Hallo Clark! Where's Ogden?

Clark: He's in the lounge with the immigration officers. Are you all fixed up?

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Harvey: Hours ago. I wish he'd hurry up. We'll never get ashore (looking through port hole). By gosh. I can see a [xxx] out there.

Clark: I guess there's several.

Harvey: I wouldn't be at all surprised. He should be through in the lounge by now.

Clark: Maybe he's being interviewed by the press anyway. What's your hurry?

Harvey: Hurry! Don't be supercilious. There's a vast world of sinful pleasure going

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on out there, and I'm not in it.

It's not as sinful as you think.

Now don't spoil my illusions. There is a Santa Claus.

Enter Ogden Fellows

Ogden: Something must be wrong with those immigration officers. They were most polite.

It's your own fault, you shouldn't be kind to them. Well, is everybody ready?

4

No, we'll have to wait for Hudson. I sent him to the Purser to get some Shanghai money.

I wish he'd hurry up. We're going to go places and do things tonight.

Is that so? What on? The music?

You can take your choice. There's Hong Seas, the Whippoorwill, the Bird Cage or Portuguese Mike's. Then if you want the real low down, then Squint Annie's place.

That's enough. Where did you get all this information?

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I've been talking to that minister aboard. He lives here. A nice chap. His heart and soul is in his work.

(There's a knock at the door.)

Come in.

(Four members of the press crowd into the room.)

Press: Mr. Ogden Fellows

Ogden: What is it?

Press: Sorry to intrude. We're members of the press. Will you spare us a few moments?

Ogden: We're in a hurry, shoot.

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Press: I understand your wife is in Reno.

Ogden: Is that news to the Chinese?

Press: Did she go there to get a divorce?

Ogden: I wouldn't say. She went to study falconry.

Press: Then you confirm the fact that she's getting a divorce?

Ogden: I confirm nothing.

Press: Sorry, Mr. Fellows, but we have to ask these questions.

Ogden: Go ahead, if they amuse you.

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Press: Are you staying long in Shanghai?

Ogden: No, we're on our way to Indo China, big game hunting. Professor Clark, Mr. Davenport and myself.

Press: Professor Clark and Mr. Davenport are in your party, eh?

Ogden: Quite so.

Press: When will you return to the States?

Ogden: We intend to be away for three months, collecting specimens for the Zoological Society of New York.

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Press: Is Professor Clark a zoologist?

Ogden: Yes.

Press: And Mr. Davenport, who's he?

Harvey: Nobody, thank God. Just a friend, a spirit of whimsy.

Ogden: Well, gentleman, that will be about all I've to say.

Press: Sorry to trouble you, Mr. Ogden, just one more question. Are you engaged to any--?

Harvey: No, gentlemen. That's enough.



(Ogden and Harvey move them toward the door.)

Press: I suppose you'll be visiting our nightclubs while you are here?

Harvey: That will be all.

Press: Mr. Davenport, is this your first visit to Shanghai?

Harvey: That's all.

Press: What do you think of our city?

Harvey: Sorry, I forgot to look.

(After door has closed, Harvey sighs.)

I think I need a drink after that.

(Enter Hudson)

H: Sorry, sir. The office was closed and I had to find the Purser.

Harvey: Hu Ray. Let's go.

Ogden: Where are we going?

Harvey: The Bird Cage might be interesting. They have some pretty girls there. They call them white Russian taxi dancers. Let's see what they look like.

Clark: Before we see anything, we should decide whether  
11 c.

Clark: we are going to sleep aboard tonight or go to a hotel.

Harvey: Don't worry. You'll get no sleep tonight.

Fade

1

All those who wish to go ashore tonight, show your passport to the immigration officer I the lounge.

Wipe to Fellows' suite

Hallo, Clark. Where's Ogden?

He's in the lounge fixing up his passport.

The press were looking for him in the smoke room.

He may as well see them and get it over with. Otherwise, they'll be annoying us all night.

Something strange has suddenly happened to the world.

What's wrong?

Those immigration officials were almost polite to me.

Oh, they're human once in a while.

The moment I mentioned I was in your party, it was "open sesame."

Did you see Clark upstairs?

Yes. He'll be down in a minute.

Who was that you were talking to up on deck?

2

(enter Ogden)

Ogd: Something must be wrong with those immigration officers. They were most polite.

Harvey: It's your own fault. You shouldn't be nice to them.

At that, it's decent of those fellows. They usually quit work at six. We might have had to wait until morning for them and we would have stayed on the boat all night.

Not me. I'd have gone ashore hidden in the cargo.

What are we waiting for now

~~{xxx}~~

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I'm waiting for Hudson. I sent him to the purser to get some Shanghai money.

I wonder what's holding him up.

What's your hurry, Harvey?

There, don't be supercilious. We're only staying here twenty four hours. Do you think I'd miss seeing the night life of Shanghai?

You wouldn't miss much. Night clubs and cabins are pretty much the same all over the world.

Now don't spoil my illusions. You know

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there is a Santa Clause. However, I'm going places and doing things tonight.

Where are you going?

I have it all fixed. There's Hong Lu's, the Whippoorwill, the Bird Cage and Portuguese Mike's. Then, of course, if you want the real low down, there's Squint Annie's place and the cabaret.

You'd better look out there. You might get lost.

Where did you get all this information?

(Hudson enters breathless)

Sorry, sir. The office was closed and I had to wait for the purser.



7

Mr. Ogden Fellows.

What is it?

You'll pardon me. We're members of the press. Will you spare us a few moments?

We're in a hurry. Shoot ahead.

I understand your wife is in Nevada getting a divorce.  
Is that news to the Chinese? Our foreign policy has grown quite domestic.

But she is in Reno.

So I understand.

Then she is getting a divorce.

I don't suppose she's studying botany there.

(Little Chinese Press Man): Did you say botany?

Are you staying long in Shanghai?

No, we are on our way to Indo China, big game hunting.  
Professor Clark, Mr. Davenport and myself.

When will you return to America.

We intend to be away for three months collecting specimens  
for the Zoological Museum of New York.

Is Professor Clark and Mr. Davenport in your party?

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Yes.

Professor Clark is he a zoologist?

Quite so.

And Mr. D.? Who is he?

Nobody, thank God. Just a spirit of whimsy. Little Lord Fauntleroy grown up.

Now gentleman. I think that's about all. You don't mind.  
It's getting late and we have to go ashore.

(Press are moving towards the door.)

Are you going to visit our night clubs?

Sorry, but that's all, gentlemen.

Mr. D. is this your first visit to Shanghai?

Yes. That's all.

What do you think of our city?

Sorry, I forgot to look.

Dissolve to staircase and entrance to lounge room.

Voice: All passengers wishing to go ashore tonight, show your passport to the immigration officer in the lounge room.

Repeat twice.

Harvey: Hours ago. I wish he's hurry. We'll never get ashore.

Clark: What's your hurry, Harry?

Hurry! Don't be supercilious. There's a vast world of sinful pleasures going on out there and I'm not in it.

Is it as sinful as you think?

Now, don't spoil my illusions. You know there really is a Santa Clause.

You can take your choice. There's Hong Lu, the Whippoorwill, the Bird Cage, the Round About and Portuguese Mike's. Then, of course, if you want the real low down, there's Squint Annie's place, the Cabaret, oh, a hundred and one.

Did you get all this information

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Are you traveling around the world?

Yes, we're on a hunting trip.

Oh, yes. They all come here for that.

Oh, no. We just returned from Indo China.

What do you expect to hunt there, animals?

Why, of course.

You see, I'm a good guesser.

As a matter of fact, we're on a scientific expedition for the Zoological Museum of New York.