

ANASTASIA

V
45

Scene Nine
A Train Compartment

(ANYA is reading. DMITRY and VLAD in conversation. They are sharing the compartment with quite a few other people. It's been a long day. They show it.)

[MUSIC NO. 12 "WE'LL GO FROM THERE"]

VLAD. *(Indignant.)* This is outrageous. I paid for first-class. We should be having champagne and caviar.

DMITRY. *(Approvingly.)* There is no more first-class. Everyone is equal now.

VLAD. *(With some admiration.)* You don't have to sound so damn happy about it.

(A SMOKER strikes a match.)

ANYA. How dare you smoke without my permission?

SMOKER. Who the hell do you think you are?

ANYA. I am the Grand Duchess Anastasia Romanov.

SMOKER. I'm in a compartment with a crazy woman!

(He gets up and leaves the car.)

DMITRY. Warn us next time before you do that!

ANYA. I wanted to see what it felt like, saying I was her.

START HERE → **VLAD.** It's a long trip. You have plenty of time to practice. In Paris, your first challenge will be the Dowager Empress's lady-in-waiting, Lily, the Countess Malevsky-Malevitch. No one has access to Her Majesty without her.

DMITRY. She sounds like a dragon.

VLAD. Quite the opposite. Lily was beautiful, voluptuous, married – everything I look for in a woman. She gave me a watch studded with diamonds.

ANYA. Did you love her?

VLAD. Madly, darling. But I loved the watch more.

(Shaking her head at the two men, ANYA goes



back to her book.)

DMITRY. What happened to it?

VLAD. Gone with the old Russia, like everything else. I hope Lily's happy to see me.

(To himself, preening but insecure.) Be honest, Vlad Popov, how could she not be?

END HERE

I MAY HAVE GOTTEN FATTER,
BUT MAYBE THAT WON'T MATTER.
BOTTOM LINE... I'LL WIN HER.

WE'LL DO SOME REMINISCING.
SHE'LL SEE WHAT SHE'S BEEN MISSING
OVER WINE...
AND DINNER!

AND THOUGH I KNOW I'VE GROWN A TINY BIT GRAY,
SOME WOMEN SAY I LOOK DISTINGUISHED THIS WAY.
I'LL BOW AS IF I'M STILL A FRISKY YOUNG PUP.
LET'S HOPE THAT I CAN STRAIGHTEN UP!
IF SHE SAYS NO
WE'LL ALL LAY LOW
AND WE'LL GO FROM THERE!

(The train spins, revealing ANYA.)

ANYA.

HANDS SHAKING.
HEART THUND'RING!
MEET THE ROYAL... MESS!
START SMILING.
STOP WOND'RING:
WHY DID I SAY... YES?

*(The train spins, overlapping lines, to reveal
DMITRY.)*

ANYA & DMITRY.

THIS CHANCE IS ALL I'VE GOT.

(Spin lands on this line.)

DMITRY.

KEEP A GRIP AND TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND