

ANASTASIA

37

Scene Seven
Same Park

(Only now its grand view of the river is revealed.)

DMITRY. My father used to bring me here. He'd put me on his shoulders so I could have a better view. "Bet you can see all the way to Finland from up there, Dima!"

ANYA. Dima.

DMITRY. That's what he called me. There isn't a day I don't miss him.

ANYA. So neither of us has a family.

DMITRY. You don't know that yet. The answer is in Paris.

(Breaking an awkward moment by going back to her "Anastasia lessons.")

Now, tell me about her little dog.

ANYA. His name was Toby.

(She falters at the memory.)

DMITRY. Go on.

ANYA. I loved him so much.

DMITRY. Don't stop.

ANYA. I'm not as strong as you think I am!

(DMITRY reaches into his satchel.)

DMITRY. Close your eyes.

ANYA. Why?

DMITRY. Just do it. Put your hand out.

(ANYA closes her eyes and puts her hand out.)

Open. You've worked hard. You've earned it.

ANYA. What is it?

(It is the music box from the Prologue. It looks very battered.)

DMITRY. A music box.

ANYA. It's beautiful.

DMITRY. It's broken. I can't even open it.

**[MUSIC NO. 10 "ONCE UPON A
DECEMBER (ENSEMBLE)"]**

(ANYA easily opens it, winds it, and it begins to play. We will hear a familiar tune. Only this time perhaps some of the notes don't sound properly or they are out of tune. No matter, ANYA is entranced.)

How did you do that? Anya?

(But ANYA is transported into another world, another time.)

ANYA.

DANCING BEARS,
PAINTED WINGS,
THINGS I ALMOST REMEMBER.
AND A SONG SOMEONE SINGS
ONCE UPON A DECEMBER.
SOMEONE HOLDS ME SAFE AND WARM.
HORSES PRANCE THROUGH A SILVER STORM.
FIGURES DANCING GRACEFULLY
ACROSS MY MEMORY...

RUSSIAN CHORUS.

AH...

*(Through them weave the royal family...
as they were once upon a time. They waltz
gloriously, as if at a ball in 1906.)*

ANYA.

SOMEONE HOLDS ME SAFE AND WARM.
HORSES PRANCE THROUGH A SILVER STORM.
FIGURES DANCING GRACEFULLY

ANYA.

ACROSS MY MEMORY...
FAR AWAY, LONG AGO,
GLOWING DIM AS AN
EMBER,

RUSSIAN CHORUS.

AH...
AH...
AH...

ANYA.

THINGS MY HEART
USED TO KNOW
THINGS IT YEARNs TO
REMEMBER

AND A SONG
SOMEONE SINGS
ONCE UPON A DECEMBER.

RUSSIAN CHORUS.

AH...

AH...

ANYA. How soon do you think we can go? They're canceling trains right and left. Here, I worked an extra shift this week.

(She hands him some rubles.)

It's not much but every little bit helps.

DMITRY. We're not even close, Anya.

ANYA. What are you saying?

DMITRY. I thought I could get us out before they closed the borders for good.

ANYA. You were the only hope I had.

DMITRY. There must be someone who can help you. I'm sorry.

(He hands her rubles back.)

ANYA. I don't want your money.

DMITRY. It's your money.

ANYA. It's our money. I trusted you.

DMITRY. I said I was sorry!

ANYA. But I didn't trust you enough. Now you close *your* eyes.

DMITRY. What for?

ANYA. You're the stubbornest person I ever met, almost as stubborn as me.

(DMITRY closes his eyes.)

Put your hand out.

(ANYA puts something in DMITRY's open palm.)

All right, open.

(DMITRY opens his eyes.)

[MUSIC NO. 10A "A SECRET SHE KEPT"]

DMITRY. It's a diamond.

ANYA. A nurse at the hospital found it sewn in my underclothes.

~~SHE HID IT FOR ME
TILL THE DAY I COULD GO.
A SECRET SHE KEPT,
ALTHOUGH WHY, I DON'T KNOW.
SHE SAID, "DON'T TELL A SOUL
TILL THE MOMENT YOU MUST."
I HAD TO MAKE SURE I FOUND
SOMEONE I TRUST...~~

DMITRY. You've had it all this time without telling me?

ANYA. Yes.

DMITRY. Why?

ANYA. It's the only thing I have. Without it, I have nothing.

DMITRY. How do you know I won't take it now and you'll never see me again?

ANYA. I don't think you will.

DMITRY. If you weren't a girl, I'd – **END HERE**

(Instead he hugs ANYA tightly and kisses her on both cheeks. She's not accustomed to such spontaneous expressions of emotions, especially coming from such a roughneck as DMITRY. VLAD enters with great urgency.)

**[MUSIC NO. 10B "VLAD UNDERSCORE /
TRANSITION TO TRAIN STATION"]**

VLAD. Disaster! The Yusupov Palace has been raided. We're done for if we go back there.

(DMITRY has produced the diamond. VLAD's eyes grow large.)

Mother of Moses!