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The mystery of edwin drood musical script

A two-act musical, 12 scenes. Book, music and lyrics by Rupert Holmes. Suggested by the unfinished novel of the same name by Charles Dickens. Originally produced Off-Broadway 4 August 1985 at the Delacorte Theatre, Central Park, for 27 performances. Late in the Broadway run the title of the show was changed to DROOD. Original Broadway production produced by New York Shakespeare Festival, Joseph Papp Producer. Winner of 5 Tony Awards Including Best Musical Imperial Theatre, Broadway 2 December, 1985 - (608 perfs) Savoy Theatre, London 7 May, 1987 Directed by Wilford Leach. Choreography by Graciela Daniele. Scenery by Bob Shaw. Costumes by Lindsay W. Davis. Lighting by Paul Gallo. Sound by Tom Morse. Magic lantern projections by James Cochrane. Orchestration by Rupert Holmes. Musical direction by Michael Starobin. Synopsis This hilarious musical whodunit was a huge hit on Broadway, where it received stunning reviews. Loosely based on Charles Dickens' famous unfinished novel, it takes audience participation to new heights by letting them directly impact the play's result by voting for whom they believe murdered the unfortunate young Edwin Drood. Presented as a 'first night performance by The Music Hall Royale', a troupe of decidedly hammy Victorian actors, this loving recreation of a bygone theatrical age is sure to prove a huge hit with everyone. The witty and tuneful score includes tracks such as 'There You Are, Moonfall, Perfect Strangers and Off To The Races Story Act I At London's Music Hall Royale, preparations are underway for the premiere performance of the indigenous troupe's version of The Mystery of Edwin Drood. Members of the troupe (who venture into the seats) explain to the audience the historical details of Dickens's untimely death, as well as the role the audience will play in determining the outcome of the mystery. From different locations in the theater, the actors perform the opening number. The President, a kind of Master of Ceremonies, informs the participants that this will be an unusual production, and urges everyone to be as vulgar and uncivilized as legally possible. With this announcement, play-within-the-play gets underway. The first Dickens character introduced is choirmaster John Jasper, a respectable member of the community who shares with the audience the fact that he actually suffers from inner torment. Next to be introduced is Jasper's nephew, Edwin Drood (who the President reveals is being played by the famous male impersonator, Miss Alice Nutting), who discusses his impending arranged marriage to Rosa Bud, as well as his plans to leave for Egypt after the wedding. Drood's fiancée, Rosa Budd, is then introduced at Nun's House (a women's seminar). It's her birthday, and Jasper, her music tutor, has composed a song for Rosa, which he insists on hearing her sing. extras, two orphans from Ceylon, Neville and Helena Landless, in with Pastor Mr. Crisparkle. After Rosa faints from the lustful song of Jasper's song, Helena comes to her aid while Neville shows an attraction to Rosa. Next to introduce herself is Princess Puffer, the mistress of an opium den (The Wages of Sin). We see that respectable Jasper himself is a customer of the cave, and as he dreams of Drood and Rosa, Puffer reacts when she hears Rosa's name. Back in Cloisterham, Durdles and his deputy engrave in to discuss a recently completed grave for the wife of Mayor Thomas Sapsea. It is announced that the actor playing Sapsea is too drunk to perform, so the president himself takes over the role. The following day, the Rev. Crisparkle introduces Edwin and the Landless twins. When Drood shares his plan to pave a desert highway with stones from the Egyptian pyramids, he insults his new rival Neville and his sister: the three then go on to argue. When Jasper comes in with Mayor Sapsea, he points out to the mayor that everything is not always what it seems, a statement the president, confused by his dual roles, agrees. Jasper sneaks around the cemetery, where he gets a key for Mrs. Sapsea's tomb. Afterwards, Edwin and Rosa reveal that they both have strong misgivings about their upcoming wedding, and decide to interrupt their wedding plans, but not to tell anyone until after the Christmas break. At Jasper's home, the big players join forces to celebrate Christmas dinner, but all is not cheerful as the rivalry and dark motives of all are revealed. Edwin and Neville head out to the river while the others depart, and Jasper offers his topcoat to Edwin. The following day, Edwin disappeared, and Crisparkle's assistant Bazzard found Jasper's coat torn and bloody. Drood is presumed murdered, and Neville is the prime suspect. The president stops the show to allow Philip Bax, the actor playing the small role of Bazzard, to briefly take the limelight. Although Neville is trapped, he is soon released after his sister points out that Drood's body has never been found. Meanwhile, Jasper eerily declares his passions to Rosa, who angrily rejects him. Their heated confrontation brings the first act to an end. Act II Six months later, Edwin Drood is still missing and Princess Puffer and a stranger, Dick Datchery, arrive to investigate the mystery of Edwin's disappearance. At this moment, the president returns with the deputy and Durdles to remind the audience to pay attention to the track. While looking for Jasper, Puffer meets Rosa Budd, and along with the rest of the actors, she tells her not to give up on her ambitions. Brat, all stop: this is as far as Dickens got before he died. It is now time for the audience to decide how the story ends. First, it must be determined whether Edwin is dead or not. It turns out that Alice Alice female impersonator, has been wearing Datchery costume to fulfill her contract to appear in two acts of the play, but are Datchery and Drood one and the same? The votes cast unanimously state that Drood is, yes, dead. Alice, before being sent out, angrily tells the cast that they were all jealous of her and that is the only reason she is being dismissed. After her exit, the president reveals the truth: Alice was a pain, but now it's still being determined who Datchery really is. The audience votes for a new Datchery by applause (anyone who has already appeared in scenes with him is excluded), and the actor chosen goes to make a costume change to the finale. Next to be determined is the killer. The President is running down the list of possible murderers and their motives for the crime. The audience is asked to vote by districts for the killer, and while the votes are counted the audience is led to the resolution of Mystery. Puffer finds Rosa and reveals that years before she had been Rosa's nanny. She continues with her revelation and reveals the identity of Datchery (previously chosen by the audience.) Tonight's Datchery (either Bazzard, Reverend Crisparkle, Helena, Neville or Rosa) explains why he or she wants to find the killer and immediately accuses Jasper of being the killer. Jasper soon admits that he strangled his nephew while he was in a laudanum fog. The digger disagrees, however. He witnessed the crime and knows who really killed Edwin Drood. Depending on the audience's voice, the finger is pointed at Bazzard, Crisparkle, Helena, Neville, Puffer, Rosa, or Durdles herself. The killer confesses, then sings a repeat of one of several numbers to admit his or her guilt. (If, though not likely, the audience chooses Jasper as the killer, durdles do not interrupt and another confession is not made.) Still, a happy ending is needed, and the President asks the audience to choose two lovers from among the remaining cast members. The two chosen members declare their love, and then reprise Perfect Strangers. Just then, there comes a noise from the crypt, and a very-very-alive Edwin Drood appears, ready to tell everything that really happened on the night of his disappearance. The mystery is solved, and the members of the company take their bows. Starring: 6 female, 9 male Original Cast (in order of appearance): Mayor Thomas Sapsea / Mr. William Cartwright, your Chairman: GEORGE ROSE. Stage Manager and Barkeep / Mr. James Throttle: Peter McRobbie. John Jasper/Mr. Clive Paget: HOWARD MCGILLIN. Reverend Crisparkle/Mr. Cedric Moncriede: GEORGE N. MARTIN. Edwin Drood / Miss Alice Nutting: BETTY BUCKLEY. Rosa Bud / Miss Deirdre Peregrine: PATTI COHENOUR. Alice/ Miss Isabel Yearsley: Judy Kuhn. Beatrice/Miss Florence Gill: Donna Murphy. Helena Landless/Miss Janet Conover: JANA SCHNEIDER. Neville Landless/Victor JOHN HERRERA. Durdles/Mr. Nick Cricker: JEROME DEMPSEY. Stedfortrædende / Master Nick Cricker: STEPHEN GLAVIN. Prinsesse Puffer / Miss Angela Prysock: CLEO LAINE. Skygge af Drood / Mr. Harry Sayle: Nicholas Gunn. Skygge af Drood / Mr. Montague Pruitt: Brad Miskell. Klienter af Prinsesse Puffer (2): Mr. Alan Eliot: Herndon Lackey. Mr. Christopher Lyon: Rob Marshall. Succubae (4): Miss Gwendolyn Pynn: Francine Landes. Miss Sarah Cook: Karen Giombetti. Miss Florence Gill: Donna Murphy. Miss Isabel Yearsley: Judy Kuhn. Satyr / Master Nick Cricker: STEPHEN GLAVIN. Tjener (3): Mr. Philip Box: JOE GRIFASI. Miss Violet Balfour: Susan Goodman. Miss Gwendolen Pynn: Francine Landes. Harold/Mr. lammer Gasspjæld: Peter McRobbie. Julian/Alan Eliot: Herndon Lackey. Horace/Mr. Brian Pankhurst: Charles Goff. Bazzard/Mr. Philip Bax: JOE GRIFASI. Borgere i Cloisterham: Karen Giombetti, Charles Goff, Susan Goodman, Nicholas Gunn, Judy Kuhn, Herndon Lackey, Francine Landes, Rob Marshall, Peter McRobbie, Brad Miskell, Donna Murphy, Joe Pichette. Instrumentering: Reed I (piccolo/fløjte/klarinet), Reed II (obo/cor anglais/klarinet), Reed III (fløjte, piccolo, klarinet, baskarinet), Reed IV (fagot), 2 horn, 2 trompeter, 2 basmboner, trommer, slagtøj, Keyboard I (klaver/synth), Keyboard II (synth), 3 violinier 2 celloer, bas Musical Numbers ACT 1 There You Are - Formand, Company A Man Could Go Quite Mad - Jasper/Paget Two Kinsmen - B. Buckley, Jasper/Paget Moonfall - Rosa Bud/Deirdre Peregrine Moonfall (reprise) - Rosa Bud/Deirdre Peregrine, Jasper/Paget, Ensemble ACT 2 Settling Up the Score - Dick Datchery, C. Laine, Ensemble Off to the Races - Chairman, J. Dempsey, S. Glavin, Ensemble Don't Quit While You're Ahead - C. Laine, Company (The Voting: Settling Up the Score reprise) - Company The Garden Path to Hell - C. Laine (The Solution) - Entire Company Cast Mayor Thomas Sapsea Chairman William Cartwright Edwin Drood Dick Datchery Miss Alice Nutting Rosa Bud Miss Deirdre Peregrine John Jasper Mr. Clive Paget The Princess Puffer Miss Angela Prysock The Rev. Crisparkle Mr. Cedric Moncrieffe Neville Landless Mr. Victor Grinstead Helena Landless Miss Janet Conover Bazzard / The Waiter Mr. Philip Bax Durdles Mr. Nick Cricker Deputy Master Nick Cricker John Jasper - Jasper was madly in love with Rosa Bud, and his violent split personality happily killed Drood. Rosa Bud - Intended to kill Jasper in revenge for his lustful progress, but killed Drood by accident as Drood was wearing Jasper's coat. Neville Landless - humiliated by Drood, Neville murdered him to regain his pride and also to have a chance with Rosa Bud. Helena Landless - Knowing her brother's hot temper, Helena murdered Drood so Neville would not be tempted to seek revenge. Princess Puffer - Intended to kill Jasper to protect Rosa from his advances, but accidentally killed Drood because he was wearing Jasper's coat. Reverend Mr. Crisparkle - After converting to the priesthood after the death of Rosa's mother, Jasper believed to be the incarnation of Satan and killed Drood mistakenly, for Drood was wearing Jasper's coat. Bazzard - In an attempt to increase his role in the show, murder Drood. This is definitely the most metatheatrical of the ends. Durdles - After Jasper put Drood in the crypt, Durdles thought still-living Drood to be a ghost and then smashed his head in. Scenes and settings The action takes place at the Music Hall Royale tonight. Opening comments from your chairman, Mr. William Cartwright, immediately followed by the Music Hall Royale's presentation of The Mystery of Edwin Drood. Act 1: The situation. Scene 1: John Jasper's home at Minor Canon Corner in the cathedral city of Cloisterham. (England). One morning at the end of December. Scene 2: The Conservatory at Nun's House, a seminary for young women in Cloisterham High Street. Later that morning. Scene 3: Cloisterham High Street, outside mayor Thomas Sapsea's residence. The following afternoon. Scene 4: The Opium Denium of Princess Puffer in the East End of London. Dawn, the next day. Scene 5: Cloisterham High Street. That afternoon. Scene 6: The crypts of Cloisterham Cathedral. Late that night. Scene 7: The Ruins of Cloisterham. Christmas eve. Scene 8: John Jasper's home. Shortly after. Scene 9: Smaller Canon Corner. Christmas Day and night. Act 2: Sleuths. Scene 1: Cloisterham Station. Six months later. Scene 2: Cloisterham High Street. Scene 3: Voting; Solution. Solution.

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