

2

ANNABELLA. Is this seat taken?

1

HANNAY. Not as far as I know.

3

(Drum roll stops.)

COMPERE. Now then are you ready for the questions Mr. Memory?

4

MR MEMORY. Quite ready for the questions, thankoo.

3

COMPERE. Thankoo.

4

MR MEMORY. Thankoo.

3

COMPERE. Now then ladies and gents. First question please. Come on now please –
(Looks round the audience. Points at someone.)

4

Pardon, sir? What was that, sir? Who won the Cup in 1926?

Who won the Cup in 1926?

MR MEMORY. Who won the cup in 1926? The Tottenham Hotspurs won the cup in 1926 defeatin' the Arsenal Gunners by Five goals to nil in the presence of His Majesty King George the Fifth. Am I right, sir?

3

COMPERE. Quite right, Mr. Memory!!

4

MR MEMORY. Thankoo!

3

(canned applause)

COMPERE.

Thankoo. Next question please!

(Looks round the audience. Finds someone else.)

What was Napoleon's horse called?

4

What was Napoleon's horse called?

MR MEMORY. What was Napoleon's horse called? Napoleon's horse was called Belerophon, what he rode for the final time at Waterloo, June 15th eighteen-fifteen! Am I right, sir?

3

3

COMPERE. Quite right, Mr Memory!!

4

MR MEMORY. Thankoo.

3

(canned applause)

COMPERE. Thankoo.

4

What was that sir? How old's Mae West? How old's Mae West, Mr. Memory?

MR MEMORY. Well, I know sir – but I never tell a lady's age!

3

COMPERE. Very good, Mr. Memory!

4

MR MEMORY. Thankoo.

3

COMPERE. Thankoo. Now then – a serious question please.

1

HANNAY. I say!

3

COMPERE. Who was that? Yes, sir?

1

HANNAY. How far is Winnipeg from Montreal?

4

MR MEMORY. Ah! A gentleman from Canada! You're welcome sir!

1

HANNAY. Thank you.

3

COMPERE. How far is Winnipeg from Montreal, Mr. Memory?

4

MR MEMORY. Winnipeg from Montreal sir? Winnipeg from Montreal? One thousand four hundred and fifty four miles. Am I right sir?

1

HANNAY. Quite right.

4

MR MEMORY. Thankoo sir!!!

3

COMPERE. Thankoo sir!

2

2 (canned applause)

ANNABELLA. Sheisse!

1 **HANNAY.** Are you alright?

2 **ANNABELLA.** Thank you, yes.

3 **COMPERE.** And the next question please!

(**ANNABELLA** pulls a gun out of her handbag. Shoots into the air. Dust falls from the flies. She hides it quickly.)
(Canned audience pandemonium.)

1 **HANNAY.** Did you hear that?

3 **COMPERE.** Calm down, Ladies and Gents! Calm down PLEASE!

2 **ANNABELLA.** Excuse me?

1 **HANNAY.** Yes?

2 **ANNABELLA.** May I come home with you?

1 **HANNAY.** What's the big idea?

2 **ANNABELLA.** Well – I'd like to.

3 **COMPERE.** Calm down PLEASE!!!!

1 **HANNAY.** Well, it's rather tricky at the moment. You see, I've got the decorators in and –

2 **ANNABELLA.** PLEASE! You have to!

1 **HANNAY.** Well, it's your funeral!

(She runs from her seat. He follows her. They exit.)

(**MR MEMORY** hasn't got over the gunshot. He is in shock. He runs up and down the stage.)

4 **MR MEMORY** What was Napoleon's horse called? Win-nipeg. What defeated King George the Fifth by Five goals to nil. Am I right, sir?

4 **COMPERE.** Very good, Mr. Memory.

3 **MR MEMORY** . Next question please!

4 **COMPERE** . That's enough Mr. M!

4

MR MEMORY. Beg pardon sir?

3

COMPERE. Play man, play!!

4

MR MEMORY. I know sir but I never tell a lady's –

(Mr. Memory music.)

3

COMPERE. That was Mr. Memory!

4

MR MEMORY. Thankoo!!

3

COMPERE . Don't forget his name now!

4

MR MEMORY. Thankoo! Thankoo!

3

COMPERE. Mr. Memory!

4

MR MEMORY. Thankoo!

3

COMPERE. Thankoo!

*(The **COMPERE** pushes him off.)*

(Music and applause cuts out.)

(Lights change.)

1

Scene Three: Hannay's Flat. Night.*(We hear HANNAY 's voice in the dark.)***HANNAY.** Never can find the switch. Dammit!**ANNABELLA.** Turn it off! Quickly!*Sheisse! (looks at HANNAY) Bleint!***HANNAY.** Sorry?**ANNABELLA.** Bleint!**HANNAY.** Bleint?**ANNABELLA.** *Bleint! Bleint! Pull the bleint!!***HANNAY.** Oh blind! Of course. Sorry. Blind. Yes.*(Pulls blind down. It snaps back. Pulls it down again. It snaps back. Pulls it down harder. It stays. He walks away. The blind snaps back. He pulls it, wrestles with it, jams it ferociously.)*

Sorry about that.

ANNABELLA . Now the light Mr. Hannay!**HANNAY .** Light. Right.*(He switches on the light. She marches to the drinks cabinet. Pours herself a drink. Downs it in one.)*

Have a drink why don't you?

ANNABELLA. Thank you.*(Pours herself another. Downs it.)*

For you?

HANNAY. Thank you.*(ANNABELLA pours another. Downs this one too.)*