

# YOU CAN BANK ON THE NILE .

A musical by Lea Crammond. 2000.

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## SCENE 1

INSIDE THE PYRAMID.

LIGHTS ON STAGE.

DANCE ROUTINE.

### **1 WALK LIKE AN EGYPTIAN**

END ROUTINE.

STAGE LIGHTS DOWN.

SPOT ON NARRATOR.

***Props: King's throne .Bring on while lights are down.***

***Reggie & Cool fanning the King. King sits on throne head in his hands as stage lights come up.***

***Sir Ed and Greedy on side listening.***

SPOT ON NARRATOR.

NARRATOR: It's ancient Egypt a new millennium has just begun and sadly no one was prepared for the Y2K bug.

This so-called bug occurred at the start of the new millennium. That's the end of 1999 as midnight approaches and the year 2000 dawns. No-one quite knew how computers would cope with this new millennium. Boy were they in for a shock! The Pharoah, King Hasalot is in turmoil.

His financial adviser has just told him his money and gold is no longer available through EFTPOS. As if that's not bad enough all the ATM's in the pyramid have shut down. King Hasalot must find somewhere new to stash his loot.

Unfortunately news of this catastrophe has found it's way to Victorian England, which is an entirely different millennium, but that's what you get for messing about with the Y2K bug. The baddie of our story is a native of Victorian England; his name is Sir Edward Gimme. He and his sidekick, Greedy, have heard of the king's dilemma, and they have arrived to try and get their hands on King Hasalot's loot. The story continues.

PHARAOH: Oh woe is I. Whatever shall I do? All this money and nowhere to keep it. I'm really worried fellas. Someone's sure to find out, and I'll get ripped off if I'm not careful.

REGGIE: I say no way my Pharaoh. Not while we are here to protect you. We are your trusted bodyguards. Our job is to keep you safe.

COOL: That's right Oh Great Pharaoh baby. No one can get passed us daddio. Everything's cool man.

PHARAOH: Gee thanks fellas. I don't know what I would do without you. But I still don't have anywhere to store my gold and jewels and other precious stuff.

COOL: How about stashing it into a Pyramid. They're pretty hard to break into.

REGGIE: Pyramid (tapping head) Pyramid. Mmm. That rings a bell. I'm picturing a Spanish villa for some reason. Doesn't sound very safe to me.

COOL: Right, (pause) well how about the Bendigo Bank. I hear they're opening branches everywhere, Kung baby, even in Minyip , Rupanyup and Horsham.

PHARAOH: Great idea Cool! Where can I find one of these banks?

REGGIE: I reckon there might be one in that village down by the Nile.

COOL: Yeah. All we have to do is get down there, daddyo.

PHARAOH: We need a street directory.

REGGIE: You mean a stream directory. *(Laughs at own joke)*

COOL: Reggie you should be in show business.

PHARAOH :Please!. Can we get on with business at hand? We need to go and find the Nileways. Focus please!

*(King H, Reggie and Cool exit)*

*(Sir Edward and Greedy have been listening to all this conversation. They come out of hiding. Move to centre stage)*

SIR ED. **(twisting moustache)** Did you hear that Greedy? King Hasalot needs to move his money.

I told you if we came over here we could become rich, rich, rich.

GREEDY: But Sir Eddy we're in a completely different millennium. How did we get here?

SIR ED: QANTAS jumbo my boy. Safest airline in the world. Wouldn't travel with anyone else. First class service. And that is my own opinion. No one paid me to say that either.

GREEDY: QANTAS? But they don't exist yet either. Oh honestly, this Y2K bug has mucked everything up. I'm so confused.

SIR ED: You're always confused. Just leave it to me my boy. I can smell money millenniums away. I tell you, this time we're going to be rich, rich, rich. (*Twists moustache*)

GREEDY: OK. What do you have in mind Sir Ed? I mean this king has bodyguards everywhere. Fair dinkum, I haven't seen this many hangers on since Barbra Streisand toured.

SIR ED: Don't you worry about a thing Greedy my old friend. Sir Edward Gimme has a fabulously simple, but extremely wicked plan.

GREEDY: You have? What is it?

SIR ED: We are going to pinch it. Da da!

GREEDY: But that's illegal Sir Ed!

SIR ED: Greedy (*puts his arm around Greedy*), we are the bad guys. We are supposed to do illegal things. That is our job in this story.

GREEDY: But what if we get caught and thrown into gaol?

SIR ED: Caught! I don't think so. We are loveable baddies. And besides, these guys wear dresses. How could they possibly chase us in skirts?

*(They walk offstage laughing).*

**BOBBY 1 AND BOBBY 2 FOLLOW BEHIND THE BADDIES AND STAND AT CENTRE STAGE. THEY ROCK BACKWARD AND FORWARDS ON THEIR FEET WITH HANDS BEHIND BACK AS THEY SPEAK ALL THEIR LINES.**

BOBBY 1: Allo, Allo, what do we have here?

BOBBY2: This requires further investigation!

**THEY RUN OFF STAGE AND FOLLOW THE BADDIES WAVING THEIR BATONS.**

LIGHTS OFF STAGE..

SPOT ON NARRATOR.

NARRATOR: Meanwhile the same Y2K glitch has dropped another couple from the wrong millennium into ancient Egypt. Indiana Jones' famous Australian cousin 'Australiana Jones', better known as Aussie Jones, has found himself in the king's

backyard. Fortunately he is a good guy. Now there's a surprise. And I'm sure he'll keep an eye on that nasty Sir Edward Gimme.

By his side is his beautiful assistant, Ruby Jewell. Ruby is an ex nightclub singer turned aerobics instructor. She is fit, strong and has a nice voice. But most importantly she watches over Aussie, who is a little short in the smarts department, 'cos , lucky for him, she likes him...(SIGH)... a lot.

***Mummies walk across the stage, chatting. Aussie and Ruby look shocked at each other.***

AUSSIE: Where do you think we are Ruby?

RUBY: Looks like ancient Egypt to me Aussie. I just saw a couple of mummies.

AUSSIE: Mummy? I hope it wasn't my mummy. She'll try to make me change my undies.

RUBY: Not that sort of mummy Aussie. I'm talking about the sort that wears bandages, are found in pyramids, and discovered in archaeological digs.

AUSSIE: I know that. I am an archaeologist after all as well as a great A.F.L. footballer.

RUBY: Good grief. Sometimes I do wonder about you Aussie.

AUSSIE: Well seeing we're here, let's do some excavating. We might find something that will make me as famous as my American cousin Indiana.

RUBY: Don't you think we should get permission first. After all this back yard must belong somebody.

AUSSIE: You're right as usual Ruby. Let's go find the King of this Pyramid.

***Aussie and Ruby exit stage.***

***Village people enter.***

NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN: Gee that was a great gig. Queen Abba just loves music from the 70's. Lucky for us that we ended up in this particular time in history. Long live the Village People!

BAKER: I'll say. How many encores did we end up doing?

POLICEMAN: Too many for my liking. But at least it pays the bills. I still owe ten payments on this outfit.

BIKIE: Settle down - we have to look suave and sophisticated. After all we are working for royalty now you know. It doesn't look good to talk about money.

BAKER: I get your point. But we still have to make a living. We don't have lots of subjects to get taxes off do we? I wish King Hasalot would share some of his

riches with all the people of the land. That way there wouldn't be any hunger or poverty and the world would be a better place.

NATIVE AMERICAN: And we wouldn't have to sing for our supper, dressed in these ridiculous costumes.

BIKIE That too.

DOCTOR: That is so true. But remember the price of mummification is bound to drop with the GST, we could negotiate a better deal then. But until that time I suggest we keep singing - Nothing can stop us singing!

CHOIR.

## **2. "YOU CAN'T STOP THE MUSIC."**

***Mummy Holds up "ENCORE" card and walks across stage.***

BAKER: Not another encore! Let's get out of here. I've bread to bake!  
***Village people leave stage.***

END SCENE.1.

STAGE LIGHTS DOWN