

LOVE OVERBOARD
A One Act Musical

by
Eric P. Schwartz
and
Marty Couch

LIGHTS UP

(The scene is dockside. A young boy runs back and forth the stage yelling. He stops center and sings.)

ALL MY DREAMS

BOY: It's here
it's here!
The Titanic
I really here!

All my dreams have flittered away
like birds on the wing
but now they've returned
'cause I've seen that enormous unsinkable thing

It's here!
It's here!
The Titanic
is really here!!

Smoothly it rides
gallant it dies
Awe is all I know

Unstoppable I say
unsinkable they say
My dreams follow where it goes

The Titanic is really here!!

(PASSENGERS and ONLOOKERS mill about marveling at the enormous ship. Enter HILDA she is a sorrowful wretch, and that's being kind. She walks sadly to the ship)

WALK LIKE A MARTYR

HILDA: Head and eyes down
soul in the ground
my hear refuses to make a sound

I want new life
I want more time
Perhaps I will find my desire

(Enter DEAN. He's a street hood. A ruffian. A thug. He too is sad and lonely.)

DEAN: Always lived 'round the block
Don't want no clock
again on the door I knock.

I want new life
I want more time
Maybe I can find a wife

(Their eyes meet. Slowly, terribly slowly, they move toward each other.)

BOTH: Head and eyes down
don't look around
walk like a martyr until you hit the ground

Together we'll climb
maybe we'll stand
but how can we fail if you take my hand

(They grasp hands and sing to each other.)

DEAN: I've always lived 'round the block
Don't want no clock
Again on the door I knock

You are new life
You are more time
Maybe you can be my wife

HILDA: Head and eyes down
soul in the ground
Can you hear my heart's sound?

You are new life
you are more time
You are my only desire

(They embrace)

UNTIL THERE WAS YOU

(They sing. The other appears in parenthesis.)

DEAN: Until there was you
(Until there was you)
I never knew
(I never knew)
What it meant to love
I was slime

HILDA: Until there was you
(until there was you)
I never knew
(I never knew)
What it meant to breathe
I was a beast

BOTH: Until there was you
I never cared
Where I would go
but now I know
you are my life.

Until there was you (Repeat to end)

(They exit arm in arm)

(Enter Ivan. He carries a lumpy bag protectively under his arm. He sings in Russian)

RISE TO POWER

IVAN: I want to relay a story to you
Of all my pains and my joys
They'll take me where I want to go
or I'm going to make some noise

(He hugs his bag and badly attempts a Russian dance)

I was born a simple farm boy
on the outskirts of Leningrad
I know they'll learn to speak my name
I'll show them all who's bad

I know I'll rise to power
I know I'll rise to fame
Like Napoleon Bonepart
and old George "What's-His-Name"

(He dances again)

I'm doing this one for Pa
I'm doing this one for Mom
If you want to know what's in the bag
It's a freaking bomb!!!

(Two men in dark suits leap out as music stops.)

FBI: STOP!!

IVAN: Who are you?

(They hold out their badges)

THE GOOD GUYS

FBI: FBI

CIA: CIA

BOTH: And we're here to save the day
'cause we're the good guys

(They do a dance of Broadway proportions. Okay not really. But they try. While the two of them are engrossed in their part in this wonderful musical, Ivan pulls a gun and holds it on them for the remainder of the dance. When the dance ends they look to him for approval and he fires two shots.)

BUTTERFLIES
(Instrumental)

(Ivan walks off as the lights go blue. The two agents die in slow motion for nearly 3 minutes in a combination of interpretive dance and pantomime. When the music stops they drop to the floor.)

LIGHTS FADE

ICEBERG
(Instrumental)

LIGHTS UP

(A single light falls on the Captain as he dramatically speaks)

THE CAPTAIN'S PRAYER

CAPTAIN: All my life I have loved the sea
Its crystal blue stillness
its violent temper
and its fish
oh so many fish
Its waves crashing on the shore
Its cloudless skies reaching out for
the sun
I love the way
the sea kisses the distant horizon
and the froth that grows with each ripple
On the ocean I have made my home
I wake to its loud slaps on the hull
its salt brushes the plaque from my teeth
and its air dries my laundered underwear
its life force spills into my soul
its moistness spills onto my shoes
I glide this vessel across the sea
through the maelstrom of sea and spray
Somehow I know I will die here...but not today

LIGHTS UP FULL

(The scene is the ship's lounge. Ivan sits maniacally at one table. Hilda and Dean stare into each other's eyes at another.)

THE FORESHADOW SHUFFLE

CAPTAIN: I know I'm gonna go down
when the skies turn gray
I know I'm gonna go down
I know I'm going to drown someday

I – I know
This – ship is unsinkable
I – know yeah
I'm not going to die today

I know I'm going to eat sand
I know water'll fill my lungs
But break out the shuffle board
There's no reason not to have some fun

(The cast rises and dances)

CAST: He knows he's gonna go down
when the skies turn gray
he knows he's gonna go down
he knows he's gonna die someday

CAPTAIN: Everybody now!

(At this point the attendant runs in hysterically. He tries in vain to get everyone to stop the dance. He finally gives up and waits for his turn to sing.)

CAST: He knows he's gonna eat sand
he knows water'll fill his lungs
But let's all play shuffleboard
We have to have some fun

(The Captain begins to lead the audience in the Wave as the attendant starts singing.)

ATTEN: Hey Cap, could you stop a sec
There's something I've got to say
We should buckle our seat belts
There's an Iceberg coming our way.

(One at a time the cast stops dancing and looks at the Attendant. Finally what the Attendant said registers with the Captain. He turns)

CAPTAIN: WHAT?!

INERTIA
(Instrumental)

(The cast is flung to the floor as the ship strikes the beg. As the sound of the collision dies away, one at a time the cast leans up. The lights go blue)

RECOGNIZE THE END

IVAN: Time to wash your hands
time to make amends
time to walk the line
recognize the end

CAPTAIN: Time to shut the lid
time to turn off the lights
blow all the candles out
Recognize the end

DEAN Time to rest your eyes
time to take my hand
time to declare this love
Do you recognize the end

HILDA: Time to breathe in deep
time to not pretend
when the lights fall low
you recognize the end

(The Attendant stands)

DIE LIKE A HERO
("Walk Like A Martyr" Reprise)

ATTEN: Time to go down
please look around
recognize the world you've found

Please don't cry
You'll have more time
Let it run down in the after life

I want to go back
I want to do it again
But we'll all meet in heaven in the end

(The Cast rises)

CAST: Don't put eyes down
Please look around
Die like a hero when you hit the ground

Don't jump ship
don't give up friends
we'll all meet in Heaven in the end

(They all lay dow.)

LIGHTS FADE SLOWLY

UNTIL THERE WAS YOU
(Solo Piano Instrumental)

LIGHTS GO BLACK
SOULS GO ON

THE END

1990 Eric Schwartz and Martin Couch