

CURSES, FOILED AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN

THE TIME-LOOP OF FILTHY MUDD

Book by Kamron Klitgaard

Music by Derek Myler

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CURSES, FOILED AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN

THE TIME-LOOP OF FILTHY MUDD

Book by Kamron Klitgaard**Music by Derek Myler**

SYNOPSIS: Dastardly Dan wants Miss Sweet Suzanna for his bride and will do anything to achieve his desire, including sawing her in half, throwing her off a cliff, running over her with a train, etc. , etc. , etc. Luckily for Miss Sweet Suzanna, Dudley Do-Gooder, the local hero, is always there to save her at the last second. This happens over and over until one day they decide to go on the offensive and beat Dastardly Dan at his own game. But a local scientist has invented a time machine which threatens to keep all the citizens of the town of Filthy Mudd trapped in a time loop forever.

CAST OF CHARACTERS*(10 females, 9 males, 6 either, 3+extras; gender flexible)*

SWEET SUZANNA (f) The heroine. *(71 lines)*
 DUDLEY DO-GOODER (m)..... The hero. *(92 lines)*
 DASTARDLY DAN (m)..... The villain. *(126 lines)*
 LUSCIOUS LUCINDA (f)..... The sexy saloon girl. *(61 lines)*
 EUGENEER (m)..... The goofy old train engineer. *(67 lines)*
 JAMES (m)..... Sarcastic assistant engineer. *(35 lines)*
 CACTUS (m/f)..... A kid playing a cactus in the town program. *(18 lines)*
 MOTHER (f)..... Mother of the Cactus. *(14 lines)*
 FLORENCE (f)..... Head assistant saloon girl. *(10 lines)*
 EDWARD/EDWINA (m/f)..... Head lackey. *(34 lines)*
 JOHN HALE (m)..... Local theater owner/scientist. *(13 lines)*
 LACKEY 1 (m/f)..... Dan's dastardly assistant. *(2 lines)*
 LACKEY 2 (m/f)..... Dan's dastardly assistant. *(2 lines)*
 LACKEY 3 (m/f)..... Dan's dastardly assistant. *(2 lines)*
 SALOON GIRL 1 (f)..... A saloon girl dancer. *(1 line)*
 SALOON GIRL 2 (f)..... A saloon girl dancer. *(1 line)*
 SALOON GIRL 3 (f)..... A saloon girl dancer. *(2 lines)*
 ANNA (f)..... The maid of honor. *(5 lines)*
 HARRY (m)..... Dudley's new sidekick. *(14 lines)*

RANDOM CACTUS (m/f).....A zombie cactus. (2 lines)
 YOUNG SUZANNA (f).....Young Sweet Suzanna. (10 lines)
 YOUNG DAN (m).....Young Dastardly Dan. (15 lines)
 YOUNG DUDLEY (m).....Young Dudley Do-Gooder. (8 lines)
 YOUNG LUCINDA (f).....Young Luscious Lucinda. (8 lines)
 YOUNG EUGENE (m).....Young Eugeneer. (14 lines)

EXTRAS:

TOWNSFOLK (m/f).....3+ citizens of the town of Filthy Mudd.
 (*Non-Speaking*)
 LACKEYS (m/f).....Optional. Dressed similar to Dan
 (mustache, cape) – some of them played
 by audience members. (*Non-Speaking*)
 SALOON GIRLS (m/f).....Optional. Dressed similar to Lucinda –
 some of them played by audience
 members. (*Non-Speaking*)

CAST DOUBLING

The actors playing the “Young” characters can easily double as Townsfolk in the beginning and the end.

DURATION: 70 minutes

TIME: 1850

SETTING: The old west town of Filthy Mudd

PRODUCTION NOTE

Audience Participation is completely optional. If it is not desired, it can be cut out or the extras can do any of the audience member parts.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES**ACT ONE**

- SCENE 1: The Old Saw Mill
- SCENE 2: The Proposal
- SCENE 3: The Saloon
- SCENE 4: The Bake Sale
- SCENE 5: The Extras
- SCENE 6: The Potion

ACT TWO

- SCENE 1: The Wedding
- SCENE 2: The Chase
- SCENE 3: The Finale

SET

THE TRAIN: Can be made from light plywood or even cardboard. It should look silly and hokey. It needs to be light enough that the actors can carry it on and off and pretend to be riding in it by standing behind it.

SET PIECES:

- Wood table
- A two-dimensional train
- Bake sale table
- A two-dimensional cliff
- Refrigerator-sized box labeled "Time Machine."
- A two-dimensional railroad pump car

COSTUMES

SWEET SUZANNA – A light sun dress

DUDLEY DO-GOODER – Light colored western wear

DASTARDLY DAN – Black clothes (red shirt) with mustache, cape & top hat

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA – Saloon girl outfit with boa and feather in hair

EUGENEER – Striped overalls with engineer hat

JAMES – Striped overalls

CACTUS – A cardboard cactus cut-out with a hole for the face

MOTHER – Pioneer woman dress

FLORENCE – Saloon girl outfit with boa and feather in hair

EDWARD/EDWINA – Dark cap and mustache

JOHN HALE – White lab coat with western bow tie

LACKEYS – Dark clothes with black cape & mustache

SALOON GIRLS – Saloon girl outfit with boa and feather in hair

ANNA – Bridges maid dress

HARRY – Light colored western wear

YOUNG SUZANNA – Similar to Sweet Suzanna’s costume

YOUNG DAN – Similar to Dastardly Dan’s costume

YOUNG DUDLEY – Similar to Dudley Do-Goode’s costume

YOUNG LUCINDA – Similar to Luscious Lucinda’s costume

YOUNG EUGENE – Similar to Eugene’s costume

TOWNSFOLK – General western wear

ZOMBIE CACTUSES – All the characters who turn into the zombie cactuses

have cardboard cut-outs costumes similar to the Cactus Character. They only need to go from the head to the waist and have two cactus arms that stick out, be painted green and a bit demented.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS – Boas, Feathered head bands, Mustaches, Capes

MUSIC

Melodrama piano music is provided but is completely optional. However, the old melodrama piano sound is certainly part of the fun of melodramas.

List of Music

Dan’s Theme

Dudley’s Theme

Eugene’s Theme

Suzanna’s Theme

Lucinda’s Theme

The Chase

Saloon Show

Wedding March

Flashback

PROPS

- Hand Saw
- Rope
- Rental contract
- A Contraption made with:
 - Candle
 - Fuse
 - Firecracker
 - Toy car
 - Mouse Trap
 - Sandpaper
 - Match
 - A Bomb
 - Paper flame
 - A box for pies
 - A sign that reads, "Pies 5 cents."
 - Pies (prop pies)
 - A bag for hot peppers
 - Hot peppers
 - Small two-dimensional cardboard cut-out puppets on a stick of:
Dastardly Dan, Sweet Suzanna, Luscious Lucinda, Dudley Do-
Gooder, Eugeneer, and James
 - Candy bar
 - Vial
 - Bottle of Coca-Cola
 - Blue ribbon
 - Potted cactus
 - Carnation
- Wedding contract paperwork
- Pen
- Folded paper (love note)
- Hanky
- Gag
- 2 whipped cream pies

ACT ONE, SCENE 1*THE OLD SAW MILL*

SETTING: *The sawmill in the town of Filthy Mudd.*

AT RISE: *SWEET SUZANNA lets out a blood curdling scream as she is tied to a wood table where DASTARDLY DAN is using a hand saw to cut the table in half. Piano plays Dan's Theme.*

DASTARDLY DAN: Muhahahahahahahahahahaha! Well, Miss Sweet Suzanna, I'll bet you're sorry you turned down my marriage proposal now! Muhahahahahahaha!

SWEET SUZANNA: I'll never marry you, Dastardly Dan! Not even if you cut me in half.

DASTARDLY DAN: Then I'll marry both of you! Look at it this way, Miss Sweet Suzanna, after this you'll be highly sawed after! Muhahahahaha!

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA enters.

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: Dastardly Dan! That goofy train operator and Dudley Do-Goooder have found us! They're right outside!

SWEET SUZANNA: Help! Someone save me! Help!

DASTARDLY DAN: Quiet you! Or else!

SWEET SUZANNA: Or else what?!

DASTARDLY DAN: Or else I'll cut you in half even more! Luscious Lucinda, my faithful assistant, take this saw and keep sawing the table until you cut Miss Sweet Suzanna in half.

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: (Sawing the table) Alright, but this is gonna be messy.

SWEET SUZANNA: Help! Help! Help!

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: What's this table made out of anyway? It's really hard to cut through.

DASTARDLY DAN: The sawmill's circular saw is out of service, so we have to take turns with the hand saw. It should be able to cut through the table, it's only made out of pine. But it's about to be redwood! Muhahahahahahahahaha!

SWEET SUZANNA: Whaaaaaaa!

EUGENEER enters.

EUGENEER: There they are! I told you I seed 'em come into the old sawmill!

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA saws faster. DUDLEY enters. Piano plays Dudley's Theme.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: You've gone too far this time, Dastardly Dan!

SWEET SUZANNA: Dudley Do-Gooder!

DASTARDLY DAN: Curses! It's that no good Dudley Dog-Doo-Gooder! You'll never stop me! And you'll never stop the saw in time! Keep sawing Luscious Lucinda! Good-bye, Miss Sweet Suzanna. I'm leaving now, but you're the one who's going to split! Muhahahahaha!

DASTARDLY DAN exits. LUSCIOUS LUCINDA continues sawing.

SWEET SUZANNA: Help!

EUGENEER: Holy tarnation! She's doomed! We'll never be able to stop the saw in time!

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Don't worry, I have an idea!

DUDLEY walks over to LUSCIOUS LUCINDA and pushes her away. LUSCIOUS LUCINDA exits running.

EUGENEER: Brilliant!

DUDLEY unties SWEET SUZANNA and helps her off the table.

SWEET SUZANNA: Oh, thank you Dudley Do-Gooder. You saved me from his dastardly puns.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: My pleasure, Miss Sweet Suzanna.

EUGENEER: Well?

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Well what?

EUGENEER: Go ahead, now. You know what to do next.

SWEET SUZANNA puckers up but DUDLEY just looks at EUGENEER blankly.

EUGENEER: You know, after you save a damsel in distress you... you know. (*Motions to SUZANNA.*)

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Oh, yes! I almost forgot!

DUDLEY turns back to SWEET SUZANNA and shakes her hand.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Congratulations, Miss Sweet Suzanna, on not getting sawed in half. Really, it's just fabulous! Well, I guess I ought to be going. I need to put up those signs for the upcoming town celebration. Welp, see ya later. (*Exits.*)

SWEET SUZANNA: Oh, Eugene The Engineer, that Dudley Do-Gooder sure is swell. But when will he figure out that I have a crush on him?

EUGENEER: (*Pointing to his head.*) His wheel's a spinnin', but I'm afraid the hamster's dead.

SWEET SUZANNA and EUGENEER exit. Piano plays Dan's Theme as a playoff.

ACT ONE, SCENE 2

THE PROPOSAL

SETTING: *The streets of the town of Filthy Mudd.*

AT RISE: *MOTHER is pulling her child, CACTUS, through the street.*

MOTHER: Come on, you'll be late for rehearsal!

CACTUS: I don't wanna be a cactus.

MOTHER: I pulled a lot of strings to get you into the program for our town's annual celebration – Filthy Mudd Days.

CACTUS: But I look ridiculous.

MOTHER: You don't look ridiculous. Look out there in the desert. You look just like all those real cactuses.

CACTUS: Cacti.

MOTHER: What?

CACTUS: Cacti. The plural for cactus is cacti.

MOTHER: Watch out; here comes the train.

SFX: Train whistle. EUGENEER enters driving a two-dimensional cardboard cut-out train.

EUGENEER: All stop!

Piano Player plays Eugene's Theme. EUGENEER jumps out of the train and does his silly signature dance to his theme song.

MOTHER: Hello, Eugene The Engineer.

EUGENEER: Why hello, random citizen. I see you're all dressed up for the town's big celebration – Filthy Mudd Days!

MOTHER: Yep. My son [Or daughter] is playing the part of the cactus in the town program, Eugene The Engineer.

CACTUS: I look ridiculous.

JAMES enters from behind the train.

JAMES: I got the brake all set, Eugene.

EUGENEER: That's "Eugene The Engineer." Folks, I'd like you to meet James. He's my new assistant engineer. Show 'em the dance.

JAMES: Hmph. Do I have to?

EUGENEER: It's part of the job.

Piano plays Eugene's Theme. JAMES tries, half-heartedly, to do EUGENEER'S dance.

JAMES: Ta da.

EUGENEER: Needs work, boy.

MOTHER: Well, it was nice to meet you. We've got to get to rehearsal now. Goodbye, Eugene The Engineer.

CACTUS: Is your last name "The Engineer" or something?

EUGENEER: No. Why?

CACTUS: ‘Cause everyone calls you “Eugene The Engineer.” What’s with the “The Engineer” part? It makes your name kinda long doesn’t it?

JAMES: See?! That’s what I was talking about!

MOTHER: Oh, don’t be ridiculous. We call him that because he drives the train. Now come on.

MOTHER pulls CACTUS away and they exit.

EUGENEER: We’ve arrived, Miss Sweet Suzanna; the town of Filthy Mudd!

Piano plays Suzanna’s Theme. SWEET SUZANNA enters from behind the train and poses to her music.

SWEET SUZANNA: Thank you, Eugene the Engineer. I sure am grateful for your train line to rent me a caboose so’s I could have some place to live, even though I’m not sure what to put down for my permanent address.

EUGENEER: Don’t thank me, Miss Sweet Suzanna. Thank Dastardly Dan, he owns the train line.

SWEET SUZANNA: That’s what I’m afraid of, Eugene the Engineer. Ever since my parents died, and I was evicted from my house, and my fiancée ran away with another woman, and my puppy was stolen, and my Bible was burned up, and I was nearly cut in half at the saw mill, Dastardly Dan has been making unwanted, romantic advances towards me. What ever should I do, Eugene the Engineer?

EUGENEER: I’ve been thinkin’, Miss Sweet Suzanna, you don’t have to call me “Eugene the Engineer” every time you say my name. That just takes too much time. Let’s shorten it up a bit; how ‘bout you call me “Eugeneer.”

SWEET SUZANNA: Alright...Eugeneer.

EUGENEER: See, isn’t that better, not having to say a big long title like that, Miss Sweet Suzanna Jacquelyn Cleopatra Bartholomew Brown?

JAMES hits his forehead.

SWEET SUZANNA: Yes, Eugeneer, thank you.

EUGENEER: It was James, my new assistant's idea.

SWEET SUZANNA: Oh, then thank you, James The Assistant Engineer.

JAMES: You guys are weird.

SWEET SUZANNA: Oh, what ever shall I do about Dastardly Dan's unrelenting flirtations?

EUGENEER: Now, you take old Eugeneer's advice and stay away from Dastardly Dan, he's... dastardly. And the last thing you need, living in a caboose and all, is extra aggravation.

Piano plays Dan's Theme. DASTARDLY DAN enters.

DASTARDLY DAN: Muhahahahahahaha! Hello, Miss Sweet Suzanna! Muhahahaha!

JAMES: Is that the guy who tried to saw you in half?

SWEET SUZANNA: Yes, it is. Hello, Dastardly Dan. I'm sorry, but I'm busy Friday night; I can't go out with you.

JAMES: Let's get 'im!

EUGENEER: Now, hold on, buckaroo. You can't just go around "gettin'" people.

DASTARDLY DAN: (*Twisting his mustache.*) Unfortunately, Miss Sweet Suzanna, this is not a social call; I'm here on business. I have your rental contract right here with your signature on it. (*Showing rolled up contract.*) I noticed that you haven't paid your rent on the caboose. You're three payments behind.

SWEET SUZANNA: Oh, if I could just have a little more time...

DASTARDLY DAN: I'm afraid that's something I cannot afford to give you.

JAMES: He's your landlord? Your landlord tried to kill you? Did you at least tell the sheriff?

Piano plays Lucinda's Theme. LUSCIOUS LUCINDA enters and wraps her boa around EUGENEER'S head flirtatiously.

EUGENEER: (*Blushing.*) Garsh, you're a pretty little thing, ain'tcha?

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: (*Super sexy.*) There you are, Dastardly Dan. We're running low on sarsaparilla at the saloon.

DASTARDLY DAN: Ah, Luscious Lucinda, my faithful assistant. Don't you mean my saloon?

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: Alright, we're running low on sarsaparilla at your saloon.

DASTARDLY DAN: Let's not forget that I own ninety-nine percent of everything in the town of Filthy Mudd, which brings me to your caboose.

SWEET SUZANNA: Please, Mr. Dastardly...

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: Whatever. (*Exits.*)

DASTARDLY DAN: Of course, I could be persuaded to suspend your financial obligation if you were to agree to a small personal request.

EUGENEER: Careful, Miss Sweet Suzanna, his small personal requests are usually big evil schemes.

SWEET SUZANNA: And what would this small personal request be?

DASTARDLY DAN: Either you come up with the rent money by the end of the week or you could... marry me! Muhahahahahahaha!

Piano plays Dan's Theme.

EUGENEER: Holy tarnation!

SWEET SUZANNA: Oh, dear. What ever shall I do?

JAMES: It's two on one. We can take him!

Piano plays Dudley's Theme. DUDLEY enters, striking his signature hero pose. EUGENEER cheers.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Not so fast, Dastardly Dan! Oh, and blessed are the meek.

SWEET SUZANNA: Dudley Do-Gooder!

DASTARDLY DAN: Curses! It's that no-good Dudley Dog-Doo-Gooder.

JAMES: Now there're three of us! Come on, let's take him!

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: What do you mean by "take"?

JAMES: You know: Seize, catch, capture, tie him up, punch him in the..., then kick him in the..., then choke him in the...

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: I couldn't be involved in anything like that!

JAMES: Why not?

SWEET SUZANNA: Because he's a good guy!

JAMES: Well isn't there anything we can do?!

EUGENEER: We can "boo" him!

JAMES: What do you mean?

EUGENEER: (*To DASTARDLY DAN.*) Booooo! Boooooo! Hissss! Oh, we can hiss too. Hisssss! Hisssss! See? Every time we hear that music we "boo" him. Everyone try it.

Piano plays Dan's Theme as DASTARDLY DAN eggs on the audience with Muhahas. The other characters boo him and try to get the audience to join in.

JAMES: Sensational; he tries to split Suzanna in two and we "boo" him. What's that supposed to accomplish?

EUGENEER: If we do it enough, his self-esteem will plummet and he'll develop an eating disorder.

JAMES: And what do we do for Dudley, cheer, I suppose?

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: That's right!

DUDLEY strikes his hero pose and piano plays Dudley's Theme as EUGENEER cheers and tries to get the audience to join him.

JAMES: (*Sarcastic.*) Fabulous. Hooray. And her?

EUGENEER: We go, "Aaaaaaaaah," as in, "oh how sweet."

Piano plays Suzanna's Theme and SUZANNA poses as a damsel in distress. They all Aaaaaaaaah her and encourage the audience to join in.

JAMES: Okay, she's sweet. I get it. Continue.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Don't agree to his dastardly plan, Miss Sweet Suzanna. I'll help you get the rent money by the end of the week!

DUDLEY strikes a hero's pose as piano plays Dudley's Theme. He's so into his pose that he doesn't notice DASTARDLY DAN sneaking up behind SUZANNA.

DASTARDLY DAN: Fine. We'll do it the hard way.

DASTARDLY DAN grabs *SWEET SUZANNA*, throws her over his shoulder and exits with her. *DUDLEY* keeps posing.

EUGENEER: Uh, Dudley? He's getting away.

ALL exit chasing *DASTARDLY DAN*. Piano plays *The Chase* as a *playoff*.

ACT ONE, SCENE 3
THE SALOON

SETTING: *The Filthy Mudd Saloon.*

AT RISE: *LUSCIOUS LUCINDA* leads a group of *SALOON GIRLS* in. *LUSCIOUS LUCINDA* and *FLORENCE* go into the audience and grab one or more audience members to join them. *LUSCIOUS LUCINDA* gives the audience members feathered headbands and boas.

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: Right this way, ladies. Everyone ready? The first thing you've got to learn to be a saloon girl is that when you hear this music you be as sexy as you can. Ready?

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA points to the piano and the piano plays *Lucinda's Theme*. *LUSCIOUS LUCINDA* and *SALOON GIRLS* strike sexy poses and encourage the recruited audience members to do the same.

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: Hmm, usually you hear more cat calls than that.

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA and *SALOON GIRLS* ham it up, trying to get the audience to give more cat calls.

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: Excellent, girls. Florence, I want you to teach the new recruits the show dance while I ready the saloon for business.

FLORENCE: Sure, Luscious Lucinda. Hey, could I be called Foxy Florence?

DASTARDLY DAN bursts in carrying SWEET SUZANNA who is tied up.

DASTARDLY DAN: Luscious Lucinda!

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: Dastardly Dan!

Piano plays Dan's Theme and the SALOON GIRLS boo him.

DASTARDLY DAN: Oh, yeah. Muhaha! Luscious Lucinda, grab that chair!

SALOON GIRLS silently teach the audience members the simple show dance in the background while LUSCIOUS LUCINDA sets up a chair.

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: This again, Dastardly Dan?

DASTARDLY DAN: *(Setting SWEET SUZANNA on the chair.)* Yes, but this time it's fool-proof! *(Grabs a contraption and a bomb from behind the bar and sets it up by the chair.)* This candle is hooked to this fuse. When the candle burns down, it lights the fuse which sets off this firecracker, sending the toy car in motion which hits this mouse trap with the match taped to it. As the trap springs, the match strikes across this sandpaper and lights this other fuse which is attached to this bomb that goes right under Miss Sweet Suzanna's chair. And when the fuse hits the bomb, it's curtains for you, Miss Sweet Suzanna. Muhahahahahaha!

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: Why don't you just light the bomb directly?

DASTARDLY DAN: Luscious Lucinda, now you're being ridiculous.

SWEET SUZANNA: Please don't do this, Dastardly Dan!

DASTARDLY DAN: You can put a stop to it, Miss Sweet Suzanna. All you have to do is agree to marry me!

SWEET SUZANNA: I'll never marry you!

DASTARDLY DAN: Have it your way! Light the candle, Luscious Lucinda!

LUCINDA pulls out a paper flame and attaches it to the candle.

DASTARDLY DAN: What is that?

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: The fire marshal won't let us have an open flame on the sta... in the saloon.

SWEET SUZANNA: Help! Help! Whaaaaa!

DASTARDLY DAN: Don't fall to pieces now! Muhahahaha!

Piano plays Saloon Show. The SALOON GIRLS start their dance behind SWEET SUZANNA and help the audience members to do the dance. EUGENEER, JAMES, and DUDLEY enter.

EUGENEER: *(Waving.)* There they are! Hi, Luscious.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Hold on.

DUDLEY pauses to do his hero pose. Piano stops playing the Saloon Show and plays Dudley's theme. The SALOON GIRLS stop dancing and look at DUDLEY.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Blessed are the meek!

EUGENEER cheers. Piano resumes Saloon Show and the dance continues.

DASTARDLY DAN: You're too late, Dudley Doggie-Doo-Gooder! That candle is hooked to that fuse which will set off that firecracker, sending the toy car in motion which will hit that mouse trap with the match taped to it. When the trap springs, the match will strike across that sandpaper and light that other fuse which will explode that bomb which is right under Miss Sweet Suzanna's chair. You can figure out what will happen next. Muhahahahaha!

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: Won't it blow up your saloon too?

DASTARDLY DAN: Oh. Uh... I guess... hmph... Well, it will be worth it just to rid myself of Sweet Suzanna's excruciating existence. Unless, of course, she agrees to marry me?

SWEET SUZANNA shakes her head.

EUGENEER: Jumpin' Jehoshaphat! She's doomed!

DASTARDLY DAN: That's right! And you'll never catch... wait a minute; stop the music!

Piano stops playing the Saloon Show.

DASTARDLY DAN: Who's that?

EUGENEER: This here's my new assistant, James.

DASTARDLY DAN: You have an assistant? Why don't I have an assistant?

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: What am I, chopped cactus?

DASTARDLY DAN: But you don't dress like me. Look at them. They have matching outfits. They look so cute. You don't even have a mustache like me. And look at all these girls. They all look like you. Even you have matching assistants. This isn't fair.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Sometimes life isn't fair, Dastardly Dan.

SWEET SUZANNA: Whaaaaaa! Help! Help!

DASTARDLY DAN: Oh, I almost forgot! You'll never catch me and you'll never stop that bomb in time! And even if you did, she still owes me the rent money by the end of the week – unless you agree to marry me?

SWEET SUZANNA shakes her head.

DASTARDLY DAN: So long, Dog-Doo-Gooder. Don't forget to have a blast! Muhahahahaha!

DASTARDLY DAN exits. LUSCIOUS LUCINDA ducks behind the piano. Piano resumes Saloon Show and the dance continues. DUDLEY, EUGENEER, and JAMES rush to SWEET SUZANNA.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: We've got to stop this bomb before it explodes!

JAMES: What a brilliant idea.

Piano stops playing the Saloon Show and all SALOON GIRLS watch as DUDLEY fiddles with the contraption.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Okay, let's see, candle goes to... then the car, no... the mouse trap strikes the match... uh... ah, here we are! (*Taking the paper flame off the candle.*) That ought to do it.

SWEET SUZANNA: You stopped my impending death!

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Once again the day is saved!

Piano plays Dudley's Theme as DUDLEY poses. They untie SWEET SUZANNA. LUSCIOUS LUCINDA comes out from behind the piano.

SWEET SUZANNA: (*Puckering up.*) Thank you, Dudley Do-Goooder.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: (*Looking at her puckered lips.*) Was Dastardly Dan feeding you lemons or something?

SWEET SUZANNA: Huh?

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: We saved you this time, Miss Sweet Suzanna, but he said that you still owe him the rent money by the end of the week.

SWEET SUZANNA: Yes, I'm afraid I haven't the money to pay him. And if I don't, he'll kick me out of the caboose and I'll have no place to live, unless I agree to marry him.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: You don't want to marry him, do you? Because that would save us a lot of hassle.

SWEET SUZANNA: (*Batting her eyes.*) No, I like someone else... a lot.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Then you shouldn't marry him, Sweet Suzanna. I've always believed that you should only marry someone that you really like... a lot.

JAMES: That's a fine philosophy. You know, if we hurried, we could probably catch him.

EUGENEER: Sorry Dudders, he still doesn't understand that in the town of Filthy Mudd, the fabric of society is very complex.

JAMES: He practically dared us to catch him!

EUGENEER: There's no need to go after him now, he doesn't have Miss Sweet Suzanna. Boy, you got's a lot a learnin' to do. Why don't you just order a slice of pie and go sit in the corner?

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: That's it! We'll hold a pre-Mudd Days Celebration bake sale!

EUGENEER: Well, if you want to.

SWEET SUZANNA: Whatever for?

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA listens in.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: To raise the rent money. You make up some of those delicious pies you always are makin' up and then we'll set up a table and sell 'em to the townsfolk. Your pies are so delicious we'll make a fortune and then you'll have the money to pay the rent!

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA starts to sneak off.

EUGENEER: Where you goin' Luscious?

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: Oh, uh... I gotta go! .

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA exits in a dash.

FLORENCE: When ya gotta go, ya gotta go.

Piano plays Saloon Show and the dance continues. SUZANNA, DUDLEY, JAMES and EUGENEER exit. The SALOON GIRLS finish the dance and pose with audience members. Then they usher the audience members back to their seats but they have them hold onto their costume pieces for later. Piano plays Saloon Show for a payoff.

ACT ONE, SCENE 4

THE BAKE SALE

SETTING: *The Town of Filthy Mudd*

AT RISE: *DUDLEY sets up a table as MOTHER pulls CACTUS on in a hurry.*

MOTHER: Come on! You'll be late for cactus practice. Hello, Dudley.

CACTUS: I don't wanna be a cactus!

MOTHER and CACTUS exit.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Good-bye, random citizens. Have fun at cactus practice. Ha! Cactus practice.

SWEET SUZANNA enters with a box full of pies.

SWEET SUZANNA: Hello Dudley Do-Gooder. I made the pies.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: (*Sets out a sign that reads, "Pies 5 cents".*)
And I made the sign.

Enter JOHN HALE.

JOHN HALE: Hello, Dudley; and if it isn't Sweet Suzanna.

JOHN HALE kisses SWEET SUZANNA'S hand.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: John Hale, our resident theater owner slash weekend father. What have you been up to, John?

JOHN HALE: Funny you should ask. This morning I started building a time machine.

SWEET SUZANNA: A time machine?

JOHN HALE: Yes, you know how, in the theater, during a play, a character might tell a story about something that happened in the past? And so the actors would freeze in place while other actors would act out the scene that happened sometime before?

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: A flashback?

JOHN HALE: Exactly. A flashback. Well, I thought, wouldn't it be fun to have a flashback in real life? So I decided to build a time machine.

SWEET SUZANNA: And how is it coming?

JOHN HALE: It turns out that time travel is much more difficult than you'd expect. Are those pies for sale?

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Yep. Five cents.

EUGENEER and JAMES enter and over-hear.

JOHN HALE: Shame. I never buy a pie if there's no one around eating them and commenting on how good they are. Good day. (*Exits.*)

EUGENEER: Holy tarnation! We've got to create some interest in those pies.

JAMES: Why don't we sit around eating one and comment on how good they are?

EUGENEER: Don't be ridiculous. Come on, I have an idea.

EUGENEER and JAMES exit. DASTARDLY DAN enters followed by LACKEYs 1, 2, and 3 who are dressed similarly. DASTARDLY DAN grabs one or more audience members to join the LACKEYS and gives the audience members fake mustaches and capes. Piano plays Dan's Theme.

DASTARDLY DAN: Muhahahahahahaha! Stop! Hold the music! I told you idiots, when you hear that music you laugh. Like this:

DASTARDLY DAN cues the piano. Piano plays Dan's Theme again.

DASTARDLY DAN: Muhahahahahahaha! Now you try.

LACKEY 1, 2, and 3: Muahahahahahahahahahaha!

DASTARDLY DAN listens and inspects them. He cuts them off and goes to one of his audience member lackeys.

DASTARDLY DAN: Let's hear you.

Waits for an audience member LACKEY to laugh.

DASTARDLY DAN: It's more at the back of the throat. Here; start like this. Mooooo moo moo. Good. Now add the hahas. Moooohaha! Deeper. Mooahahahaha! Good! You got it. Everyone! Muhahahahahahahahaha! Now I have my very own assistants.

EDWARD enters running with a bandage around his head.

EDWARD: Duh, hi everyone.

DASTARDLY DAN: Edward! My most trusted and most intelligent lackey. Where have you been?

EDWARD: Duh, sorry I'm late boss. I just had a brain operation. Duh.

DASTARDLY DAN: A brain operation? Get in there with the other lackeys. You've already missed the Muhahas.

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA enters with the SALOON GIRLS. Piano plays Lucinda's theme. They try to get cat calls from the audience.

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: I'm here Dastardly Dan. What do you want me to do?

DASTARDLY DAN: Did you bring the Cayenne Peppers?

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: (*Holding up a bag.*) Hottest peppers this side of Guadalajara.

DASTARDLY DAN: Good. With these peppers I'll be able to sabotage the bake sale! But I need you to distract that no good Dudley Dog-Doo-Gooder.

EDWARD: Duh, how's she supposed to do that?

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA: By bringing out the big guns.

LUSCIOUS LUCINDA and FLORENCE go into the audience and get the audience member SALOON GIRLS and instruct them to distract DUDLEY and SWEET SUZANNA with sexy poses. She cues the piano and it plays Lucinda's Theme. ALL SALOON GIRLS help create the distraction.

DASTARDLY DAN: Now's my chance. (*While DUDLEY and SUZANNA are distracted, he puts the peppers into the pies.*)
Muhahahahahahaha!

ALL LACKEYS laugh with DASTARDLY DAN. The piano stops playing and the distraction ends. TOWNSFOLK enter.

SWEET SUZANNA: There're a lot of people here now. Maybe we should start the bake sale.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Good idea. Oh, hello Dastardly Dan. Would you like to buy a pie?

DASTARDLY DAN: I think I'll wait and see how everyone likes them.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Pies for sale! Only five cents! Pies for sale!

TOWNSFOLK gather around and buy pies. They taste them and then react to the peppers, screaming, choking, barfing and running around until they all collapse. EUGENEER and JAMES enter.

DASTARDLY DAN: Muhahahahahaha! It looks like your little bake sale is about to burn out!

SWEET SUZANNA: Oh, Dudley Do-Goooder, something's wrong with the pies! We're gonna have to give out refunds!

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: You always make the bestest pies! What could've happened to them?

DASTARDLY DAN: (*Holding up a pepper.*) Let's just say they're hot pepperific! Muhahahahahaha!

EUGENEER: You've gone too far this time, Dastardly Dan.

JAMES: Yeah, trying to blow up Suzanna was pretty far, but sabotaging the bake sale, that's way too far.

DASTARDLY DAN: Now you'll never get the rent money on time! I only see one solution for you, Miss Sweet Suzanna! You'll have to marry me! Muhahahahahaha!

Piano plays Dan's Theme and ALL LACKEYS laugh with DASTARDLY DAN. ALL LACKEYS get carried away so DASTARDLY DAN gets upset at them and cuts them off trying to get the attention back on him.

SWEET SUZANNA: I'll never marry you!

DASTARDLY DAN: Fine! We'll do it the fun way! Lackeys, create a diversion!

ALL LACKEYS, SALOON GIRLS, and TOWNSFOLK all scream, run around and exit, taking the audience members back to their seats. DASTARDLY DAN throws SWEET SUZANNA over his shoulder and exits followed by LUSCIOUS LUCINDA.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Not so fast, Dastardly Dan. The only reason we failed to come up with the rent is that you and Luscious Lucinda sabotaged our bake sale by putting cayenne peppers into the pies so everyone hated them so much they didn't pay us. We would have had the money if you hadn't have interfered and ruined the whole thing and that's just not fair! So, Sweet Suzanna will never marry you!

EUGENEER: Uh, he's gone, Dudders.

Piano plays The Chase. DUDLEY, EUGENEER, and JAMES chase after them. DASTARDLY DAN enters again, carrying SWEET SUZANNA and exits the other way. LUSCIOUS LUCINDA and EUGENEER enter fighting over a pie. EUGENEER wins the struggle and takes a bite. His mouth is on fire! He screams. They exit. MOTHER and CACTUS enter and scurry across the stage. A cut out two-dimensional cliff with a lake at the bottom appears on one side. DASTARDLY DAN runs on carrying SWEET SUZANNA followed by LUSCIOUS LUCINDA. They exit behind the cliff. DUDLEY, JAMES, and EUGENEER enter and look up at the cliff.

EUGENEER: They're heading for that cliff!

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Come on!

They exit behind the cliff. Small two-dimensional cardboard cut-out puppets on a stick of DASTARDLY DAN, SWEET SUZANNA, and LUSCIOUS LUCINDA appear at the top of the cliff. The DASTARDLY DAN puppet is carrying the SWEET SUZANNA puppet over his shoulder. They stop at the edge of the cliff. EUGENEER, JAMES and DUDLEY puppets appear behind them. In the following lines each character acts their line with a puppet that resembles their character while using a puppet voice.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: *(As puppet.)* Not this time, Dastardly Dan!
Hand her over.

DASTARDLY DAN: *(As puppet.)* One more step, Dudley Doggie-Do-Gooder and I toss her over the edge.

EUGENEER: *(As puppet.)* Oh no you don't!

EUGENEER PUPPET charges the DASTARDLY DAN PUPPET but falls over the cliff and into a lake.

EUGENEER: *(As puppet.)* Whaaaaaaaaaaaaa!

DASTARDLY DAN: *(As puppet.)* Just a preview. This is your last chance, Sweet Suzanna. Will you agree to marry me?

SWEET SUZANNA: *(As puppet.)* Never!

DASTARDLY DAN: *(As puppet.)* Fine! We'll do it the high way!

DASTARDLY DAN PUPPET tosses the SWEET SUZANNA PUPPET over the edge.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: *(As puppet.)* No time to lose!

DUDLEY PUPPET exits the cliff. Just before the SWEET SUZANNA PUPPET hits the bottom, the real DUDLEY dives out from behind the cliff and catches it.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Gotcha!

DUDLEY takes the puppet behind the cliff and immediately comes walking on with the real SWEET SUZANNA.

SWEET SUZANNA: You saved me, Dudley Do-Gooder!

DASTARDLY DAN: *(As puppet. Peering over the edge.)* Curses, foiled again!

ALL PUPPETS exit the cliff.

SWEET SUZANNA: However can I repay you? *(Puckers up.)*

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Are you posing for a selfie?

EUGENEER, who is now soaking wet, enters.

SWEET SUZANNA: Are you okay, Eugeneer?

EUGENEER: I may have caught a cold. I'm just glad you're safe.

SWEET SUZANNA: I may be safe for the moment but, woe is me! I still haven't the rent money to pay for my caboose and now Dastardly Dan will take possession of it unless I agree to marry him. *(Sobbing.)* And I don't even love him!

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Don't worry, Miss Sweet Suzanna. I won't let that happen. I'll get the money for your rent.

SWEET SUZANNA: Oh Dudley Do-Gooder, however will you do that? I'm at least three payments behind!

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Three payments behind?! (*Aside to Audience.*) You'd think she was already married! (*Back to SWEET SUZANNA.*) Why, that's more than I realized. This isn't going to be easy.

SWEET SUZANNA: Oh, I can't marry Dastardly Dan because... (*Sobbing.*) I don't even love him!

EUGENEER: Ya know, I's startin' to think that James is right. We can't just sit around and wait for Miss Sweet Suzanna to be evicted or sliced to pieces in one of Dastardly Dan's evil schemes. Maybe it's time to be pro-active.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Hmm. I see you're point. Ah ha! I've got it! Eugeneer will marry him!

EUGENEER and SWEET SUZANNA: What!?

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: We'll trick him!

SWEET SUZANNA: Dudley Do-Gooder, you're not making sense.

EUGENEER: I'll say!

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: It's perfect! You tell Dastardly Dan that you'll marry him and set a date for the wedding. Dastardly Dan will show up ready to marry you, but everyone knows that it's bad luck to see the bride before the wedding, so when the bride comes out in her wedding gown it won't be you, it will be Eugeneer. But his face will be veiled so Dastardly Dan won't be able to tell. Like a decoy!

EUGENEER: (*Sidling up to SWEET SUZANNA.*) We do have roughly the same body type.

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Then he'll think he's marrying you but he'll really end up marrying Eugeneer! You two can load the train car and choo choo off into the sunset. And Dastardly Dan will be none the wiser.

EUGENEER: Until the honeymoon, of course. Hee hee!

SWEET SUZANNA: Do you think it could actually work?

DUDLEY DO-GOODER: Sure, as long as Eugeneer can fit into your wedding gown.

EUGENEER: There's only one problem. (*Sobbing.*) I don't even love him!

Piano plays Eugene's Theme as a playoff.

ACT ONE, SCENE 5
THE EXTRAS

SETTING: *The streets of the town of Filthy Mudd.*

AT RISE: *MOTHER and CACTUS march on.*

MOTHER: Alright Ethel/Ethan, you wait right here, I need to see the chemist. Practice being a cactus until I get back.

CACTUS: I don't wanna be a cactus!

MOTHER: Do it!!!

MOTHER exits and CACTUS just stands there. ALL LACKEYS enter. EDWARD brings up the audience member Lackeys. Piano plays Dan's Theme. They Muhahahahaha it up.

EDWARD: Alright! Alright! Duh, that's enough! I'm getting tired of this!

LACKEY 1: Yeah, everywhere we go people "boo" us.

LACKEY 2: I'm starting to get a low self-esteem.

LACKEY 3: *(Taking a bite of a candy bar.)* Me too.

Piano plays Lucinda's Theme and all SALOON GIRLS enter. FLORENCE grabs the audience member Saloon Girls from the audience. They all strike sexy poses.

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