

OH, JOHNNY

Gary Cherpakov
music and lyrics

Paul Streit
book and lyrics

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INT. NIGHT, USO CANTEEN - NIGHT

Trio appears in front of 1940's radio microphone. The crowd is full of sailors, soldiers, marines. They are dancing to the music.

TRIO

I LOVE A LACKEY IN KHAKI,
OR A NAVY BLUE MARINE.
THE NEW RECRUIT IN A BRAND NEW SUIT,
IS CUTE ALTHOUGH HE'S GREEN.
AND WHEN WE GO OUT TOGETHER,
WE'LL DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY,
TO THE "I LOVE A MAN WITH A UNIFORM
ON" POLKA

I LOVE THE MEN IN THE TRENCHES,
TO THE CAPTAIN OF THE FLEET.
I'LL EVEN TOY WITH THE BUGLE BOY,
UNTIL HE BLOWS RETREAT.
SO AS WE MARCH ON TO VICTORY,
JUST TELL THE BAND TO PLAY,
THE "I LOVE A MAN WITH A UNIFORM ON"
POLKA.

YIPES, THOSE STRIPES CAN MAKE ME
QUIVER.
VETS WITH EPAULETS GIVE ME A SHIVER.
CIVVY SKIVVIES DON'T EXCITE ME.
BUT STARS AND SILVER BARS DELIGHT
ME.

SO HERE'S A TOAST TO THE COAST GUARD.
A SALUTE TO MEN AT SEA.
AND, WE'LL OF COURSE CHEER THE ARMY,
AIR FORCE, AND THE INFANTRY.
BECAUSE THE GREATEST SENSATION ON
THE HIT PARADE TODAY,
IS THE "I LOVE A MAN WITH A UNIFORM
ON," POLKA!

FIRST GIRL--TRIO

Did you go out with a sailor last
night?

SECOND GIRL--TRIO

No. He was in the infantry.

THIRD GIRL--TRIO

How could you tell?

FIRST GIRL--TRIO
 Because he kept doing tactical
 maneuvers (Pause.) over my terrain.

THIRD GIRL--TRIO
 Yeah, going out with those soldiers
 can be rough.

SECOND GIRL--TRIO
 Oh, I don't care....

'CAUSE EVERY FLYBOY IS MY BOY,
 WHEN I GET HIM ON THE GROUND.
 BUT I AM FREE I THE CAVALRY SHOULD
 CARE TO HORSE AROUND.
 I USE THE NEWEST MANEUVER ON THE
 BATTLEFIELD TODAY.

TRIO
 THE "I LOVE A MAN WITH A UNIFORM ON"
 POLKA.

FIRST GIRL--TRIO
 I WAS SO BAD WITH AN ADMIRAL,
 THAT HE CALLED ME JEZEBEL,
 AND IN THE LAP OF THE CHAPLAIN,
 I CONFESS I RAISED SOME HELL.
 'CAUSE I TAKE AFTER MY GRANNY WHO
 TAUGHT THE BLUE AND GRAY.

TRIO
 THE "I LOVE A MAN WITH A UNIFORM ON"
 POLKA.
 WHO, THOSE CLOTHES ARE SIMPLY
 SMASHING.
 WOW, AN EISENHOWER SURE IS DASHING.
 SWELL LAPELS WITH DECORATIONS, SURE
 INVITE A GIRL'S FLIRTATIONS.

THIRD GIRL--TRIO
 OH, I YEARN FOR A COLONEL

SECOND GIRL--TRIO
 AND FOR ME A G.I. JOE.

FIRST GIRL--TRIO
 AND GEE, I'D SPOON WITH THE WHOLE
 PLATOON,
 TO FIND A G.I. BEAU.

TRIO
 BECAUSE THE DANCE THAT THEY'RE PLAYING
 AT USO TODAY,
 THE "I LOVE A MAN WITH A UNIFORM ON"
 POLKA.

SO HERE'S A TOAST TO THE COAST GUARD.
 A SALUTE TO MEN AT SEA,
 AND WE'LL OF COURSE CHEER THE ARMY,
 AIR FORCE, AND THE INFANTRY.
 BECAUSE THE GREATEST SENSATION ON
 THE HIT PARADE TODAY,
 IS THE "I LOVE A MAN WITH A UNIFORM
 ON," POLKA!
 P-O-L-K-A, HEY!

Exit Trio.

EXT. RANCH IN WYOMING - DAY

Enter Johnny, Gopher

JOHNNY
 Hear that, Gopher?

GOPHER
 Yep.

JOHNNY
 Women love a man in uniform.

GOPHER
 Yep.

JOHNNY
 All those women falling for you.
 That should make you want to enlist.

GOPHER
 Nope.

JOHNNY
 I suppose you want to be stuck on
 this ranch for the rest of your life?

GOPHER
 Yep.

JOHNNY
 That's right.
 (MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Marry some small town girl with ribbons in her hair. Spend the rest of your life looking at cows.

GOPHER

Yep.

JOHNNY

Don't you want a little adventure?

GOPHER

Nope.

JOHNNY

Besides, you'll be drafted anyway. Well, what are you going to do with your life? Be a professional cowboy?

GOPHER

Gary Cooper does all right. On second thought, maybe I will enlist.

JOHNNY

Now you're talking.

GOPHER

In the forest rangers.

JOHNNY

What?

GOPHER

Yep. In times of national emergency, somebody's got to watch the trees. Read this.

Hands him magazine. Johnny reads.

JOHNNY

"Yes. You can be a professional forest ranger. Train at home in your spare time for an exciting career in the wilderness." This is ridiculous.

GOPHER

They give you a big hat.

JOHNNY

Very funny. Look.
(MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

We've been pals a long time, right?
We went to school together. I helped
you with your geometry.

GOPHER

I flunked.

JOHNNY

We played baseball together. I taught
you how to slide.

GOPHER

I broke my leg.

JOHNNY

Small details. What does matter is
that there's a war going on. And
we're going to fight it together, in
the United States Army Air Corps.
Gopher, I was born to be a pilot....

EVEN AS A KID I ALWAYS TOOK TO THE
SKY.

GOPHER

I KNOW YOU DID, YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO
FLY.

JOHNNY

THE CRAZY THINGS I DID, WHEN I WAS
THIS HIGH.

GOPHER

A CRAZY LITTLE KID WHO THOUGHT HE
COULD FLY.

JOHNNY

I'VE GOT THAT FEELING AGAIN, LIKE
WHEN I WAS A KID OF TEN, WHEN...

I'D RIDE MY MARE, TO THE CHEYENNE
STATE FAIR, TO SEE DAREDEVILS LOOP
THROUGH THE SKY.

CRAZY FOR AIRCRAFT, I'D SPEND ALL MY
SPARE AFTERNOONS, WONDERING HOW I
COULD FLY.

I KNEW IT MEANT I WAS BENT ON
ADVENTURE, TEN THOUSAND FEET IN THE
AIR.

(MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

PA SAID, "HE'S CRAZY." AND MA SAID,
"JUST LAZY," A PHASE HE WILL SURELY
OUTGROW."

BUT IN MY EYES THEY SAW WIDE OPEN
SKIES,
AND WERE WISE THAT I'D SOON HAVE TO
GO.
SO BYE, BYE, WYOMING, IT'S TIME TO
GO ROAMING,
TEN THOUSAND FEET IN THE AIR.

YOU LEAVE YOUR WORRIES ON THE GROUND.
NOTHING BUT YOU AND THE BLUE.
WITH LIGHTENING AND THUNDER,
HEIGHTENING THE WONDER,
OF THIS NEW PARADISE YOU'VE FOUND.

GOPHER

THOUGH I'D RATHER BE A FOREST RANGER,
IN THE FOREST FACING DANGER,
UNDERNEATH THE TREES WHERE I BELONG,
YOUR OFFER IS EXCITING,
AND I'M SO GLAD THAT YOU'RE INVITING
ME ALONG.

BUT I'M SO AFRAID OF HEIGHTS,
THAT I GET DIZZY FLYING KITES,
DO YOU BELIEVE THAT I COULD REALLY
LEARN TO FLY?

JOHNNY

Why not?

GOPHER

I ALWAYS LOSE MY BLADDER,
EVERY TIME I CLIMB A LADDER, BUT
I'LL TRY.

JOHNNY

That's the spirit.

GOPHER

WHEN WE'RE FLYING PAST A COMET,
I MIGHT HAVE TO STOP AND VOMIT.
HIT AN UNSUSPECTING PERSON IN THE
EYE.
BUT I'LL TRY.

Enter Trio with pilots' jackets. Johnny, Gopher change from
cowboys to Air Force pilots.

Next song in counter point as they change into uniforms.

JOHNNY

YOU LEAVE YOUR WORRIES
ON THE GROUND.
NOTHING BUT YOU AND THE BLUE.
WITH LIGHTENING AND THUNDER.
HEIGHTENING THE WONDER,
OF THIS NEW PARADISE,
YOU'VE FOUND.

GOPHER

I'M SO AFRAID OF HEIGHTS,
THAT I GET DIZZY FLYING KITES.
DO YOU BELIEVE THAT I COULD REALLY
LEARN TO FLY.
I ALWAYS LOSE MY BLADDER,
EVERY TIME I CLIMB A LADDER.
BUT I'LL TRY.

WHEN WE'RE FLYING PAST A COMET,
I MIGHT HAVE TO STOP AND VOMIT. HIT
AN UNSUSPECTING PERSON IN THE EYE.
BUT I'LL TRY.

JOHNNY, GOPHER

GEE, IT'S TERRIFIC, TO SEE THE
PACIFIC, SPECIFICALLY FROM YOUR OWN
PLANE.
SO HERE WE GO, BUT JUST WHERE WE
DON'T KNOW.
COULD BE OVER FORMOSA OR SPAIN.
THIS LUCKY LAD'LL BE FLYING HIS
SADDLE. TEN THOUSAND FEET IN THE
AIR.

Trio comes in and gives them hats, leather jackets and
scarves.

JOHNNY, GOPHER (CONT'D)

OH, BOY THE THRILL OF IT,
CAN'T GET MY FILL OF IT,
TEN THOUSAND FEET YOU KNOW WHERE,
(salute.)
TEN THOUSAND FEET IN THE AIR.

Enter Colonel Sitright

COLONEL
 Lt. Powers, Lt. Higgs, welcome to
 China and the Fourteenth Air Force,
 the Flying Tigers.

JOHNNY, GOPHER
 (Salute.)
 Yes, sir.

COLONEL
 (Returns salute.)
 There will be plenty of action for
 you two. You two might be just the
 men I've been looking for.

JOHNNY
 To do what sir?

COLONEL
 A top secret mission. Are you prepared
 to sacrifice wine, women and song
 for the good of your country?

GOPHER
 Two out of three sir!

COLONEL
 What?

JOHNNY
 He said, "You can count on me, sir!"

COLONEL
 Like your spunk, Higgs. That will
 be all, men. Keep your noses clean.

JOHNNY, GOPHER
 Yes sir. (Salute.)

Colonels salute, exits.

JOHNNY, GOPHER (CONT'D)
 OH, BOY THE THRILL OF IT,
 CAN'T GET MY FILL OF IT,
 TEN THOUSAND FEET, YOU KNOW WHERE,
 (salute.)
 TEN THOUSAND FEET IN THE AIR.

INT. PALACE OF WHITE LOTUS - NIGHT

Enter The White Lotus, General Ko, One China

GENERAL KO

Yes, the peasants still tremble in fear when I walk past.

ONE CHINA

Yes, the Chinese Generals are very good at terrorizing peasants. It is too bad they were not as good at terrorizing the Japanese.

General Ko, The White Lotus ignore this remark.

THE WHITE LOTUS

The Japanese occupation of the Yunnan Province is not a pleasant situation. We must use whatever means we can to make the occupation more bearable.

GENERAL KO

Sometimes madame, your kindness has made us appear weak. The people need discipline.

ONE CHINA

You always talk about discipline. But what is this discipline to be used for? Only so people will fear you.

THE WHITE LOTUS

One China, my sister, I wish to speak to General Ko, alone.

ONE CHINA

Yes, my sister.

One China exits.

GENERAL KO

Your sister has a spirit that needs to be tamed.

THE WHITE LOTUS

She is young, my general.

GENERAL KO

Sometimes, the old ways are the best. Family and society must respect discipline.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 Discipline alone will not bring a
 troubled people to one's side.
 Temperance and understanding are
 equally important.

GENERAL KO
 But my power, our power, should not
 be in question.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 In the five years since my father's
 death, I have relied on your counsel.

GENERAL KO
 Ah, when you father was alive, the
 name General Ko struck a peasant
 with fear...but now,....now...

YOU MUST ADMIT THAT THINGS LOOK BLEAK.
 I HAVEN'T SLIT A THROAT ALL WEEK,
 I HAVE AN IRON MAIDEN, BUT THERE'S
 NO ONE TO IMPALE.
 OH, TO STICK A BAMBOO SPLINTER IN A
 FINGERNAIL.

THAT'S BUSINESS AS USUAL.
 TORTURING AND SUCH
 BUSINESS AS USUAL.
 I LOVE IT MUCH TOO MUCH.

BUSINESS AS USUAL.
 TICKLING THEIR FEET.
 IT'S BUSINESS AS USUAL, THAT MAKES
 MY LIFE COMPLETE.

I GET UPSET WHEN THINGS ARE SLOW.
 I HAD TO LET MY COBRA GO.
 MY VIPER'S ON VACATION,
 AND MY BOA WON'T CONSTRICT.
 THIS WILL RUIN MY REPUTATION.
 TELL ME, WHEN DO YOU PREDICT.

BUSINESS AS USUAL.
 FILLING UP THE JAIL.
 BUSINESS AS USUAL.
 I LOVE TO FLOG AND FLAIL.

BUSINESS AS USUAL.
 PUNISHMENT WITH PAIN.

(MORE)

GENERAL KO (CONT'D)
 BUSINESS AS USUAL.
 THEY'LL BEG FOR NOVOCAINE.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 GENERAL, REMEMBER WHY WE'RE HERE.
 NOT TO DISMEMBER THOSE WE FEAR.
 THE CHINESE BUILT THEIR DYNASTIES
 WITH DIPLOMATIC SKILL.
 THE BASIC TRICKS OF POLITICS,
 WHO TO KISS....

GENERAL KO
 AND WHO TO KILL.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 IN BUSINESS AS USUAL.
 WE HAVE TO BE DISCREET.
 BUSINESS AS USUAL,
 IS MORE THAN TICKLING FEET.

BUSINESS AS USUAL.
 DIPLOMACY AND TACT.
 BUSINESS AS USUAL.
 WE'LL PUT ON QUITE AN ACT.

Enter One China.

ONE CHINA
 WE JUST RECEIVE A TELEGRAM.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 WHO IS IT FROM?

ONE CHINA
 YOUR UNCLE SAM.
 AMERICANS ARE COMING.
 THEY'LL BE SHORTLY ON THE SCENE.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 THIS SHOULD GET THINGS HUMMING.

GENERAL KO
 I'LL GO CLEAN THE GUILLOTINE.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 NO. BUSINESS AS USUAL.
 REMEMBER WHAT I SAID.

GENERAL KO
 BUSINESS AS USUAL.
 MEANS CHOPPING OFF A HEAD.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 NO. BUSINESS AS USUAL.
 DIPLOMACY AND TACT.

WHITE LOTUS, GENERAL KO, ONE CHINA
 BUSINESS AS USUAL.
 AMERICANS, HELLO.
 BUSINESS AS USUAL.
 WE'LL PUT ON QUITE A SHOW.

GENERAL KO
 Americans are being sent here? We
 should execute the Americans and
 turn their bodies over to the
 Japanese. We should be well rewarded
 for killing spies.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 The Americans are being sent to us
 for a reason. There is nothing we
 can give them. We have no troops.

 We are occupied by the Japanese.
 Today we must not offend the Japanese.
 But tomorrow we do not want to be
 labeled traitors by the Nationalists.

ONE CHINA
 What will we do?

THE WHITE LOTUS
 We will treat the Americans as honored
 guests. After we find out why they
 are here, we can decide what to do
 with them. Feminine charm can be
 used to soothe their fears, and then
 they will completely trust us.

GENERAL KO
 If the Japanese find out about this,
 they will have you (Pause)
 ..us..executed.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 Who will tell them, General?

ONE CHINA

Perhaps, the Americans will be handsome Hollywood stars. Like we saw in the American movies.

GENERAL KO

Madame, it is time I excused myself. I see you wish to discuss movie stars, handsome Americans, and other female concerns.

General Ko bows, exits.

INT. PEARL OF THE ORIENT BAR AND GRILL - NIGHT

Trio is dressed as dance hall girls. Soldiers, pilots, etc. drinking.

Enter Johnny, Gopher.

GOPHER

C'mon Johnny. This is the Pearl Of The Orient Bar and Grill. A real hot spot.

JOHNNY

Gopher, you know this place is off-limits.

GOPHER

Aw, Johnny. A little adventure.

FIRST GIRL--TRIO

How you doing flyboys?

THIRD GIRL--TRIO

What are you doing tonight, handsome?

Johnny pulls Gopher over to a table. Second Girl--Trio comes over to get drink order.

SECOND GIRL--TRIO

What it be fly-boys?

GOPHER

A beer, with a whiskey chaser. A double whiskey.

SECOND GIRL--TRIO

And what'll you have.

JOHNNY

A coke.

SECOND GIRL--TRIO

Got it. A beer, with a double whiskey chaser. And a coke.

JOHNNY

If the Colonels us here, we'll be pulling guard duty for a month.

GOPHER

Keep your shirt on. The Colonel never comes here.

Lili enters. Makes big entrance. Nobody pays any attention to her.

LILI

Lili sees a new face in the crowd.
A very handsome face.

Lili heads toward Johnny's table.

LILI (CONT'D)

And how are you doing, handsome?

GOPHER

Thank you mam.

LILI

Not you. This one. Who might you be? You man of mystery?

JOHNNY

I'm Lt. Johnny Powers, and this is my co-pilot, Lt. Gopher...Lawrence Higgs.

LILI

Well, aren't you going to invite Lili to sit down for a drink?

GOPHER

Why certainly, ma'am, Sit right down.

Second Girl--Trio comes over to take order.

GOPHER (CONT'D)

What would you like ma'am?

LILI

A light aperitif might quench Lili's thirst. A double bourbon and a beer chaser.

Second Girl--Trio exits.

LILI (CONT'D)

So, how is the war treating you Lieutenant?

JOHNNY

You know what they say, "War is hell."

GOPHER

Truth is, ma'am, there's not much happening right now. But we may on an exciting mission real soon.

JOHNNY

Gopher!

GOPHER

Top secret. Can't talk about it.

JOHNNY

Right. Loose lips, sink ships.

GOPHER

So Lil, how'd a dame like you, end up in dump like this?

JOHNNY

Gopher!

LILI

It's all right. The rodent did not hurt Lili's feelings. You see, Lili was in Singapore and the Japanese invaded. So Lili had to pack up her makeup case and flee inland.

But that is, how you say, the way the croissant crumbles.

JOHNNY

You'll be back at the top again.

LILI

Perhaps it is not meant for Lili.
(MORE)

LILI (CONT'D)

Singapore was to be Lili's last stop before Hollywood. All this talent wasted, kaput, finis, gone with the winds. But Lili will not miss the excitement, the glamour, the amour. If Lili had a rich man to take her away from all this.

JOHNNY

Not many rich men around here.

LILI

Lili could always be interested in a younger man.

GOPHER

Why, that's downright flattering ma'am.

LILI

Not you, squirrel. Lili could be interested in this Lt. Johnny.

JOHNNY

But you need a man with more experience.

LILI

Oui, Lili needs an experienced man.

JOHNNY

A man who is mature.

LILI

Oui, Lili needs a man who is mature.

JOHNNY

Right, Lili needs a man with that "continental touch."

LILI

Lili needs a man, period. Who'd you have in mind?

GOPHER

What about the Colonel

FIRST GIRL--TRIO

Yeah, he's always hanging around here.

LILI

That old fuddy duddy. He comes around here. But he never talks to Lili. He even wanted to arrest here for indecent exposure.

GOPHER

Nothing indecent about that exposure, ma'am.

(Looking at Lili's
bosom.)

JOHNNY

He must be doing something right. After all, he is a Colonel

LILI

That is true. The Colonel could marry Lili. And take her away from all this. Perhaps Johnny will put in a good word for Lili?

SECOND GIRL--TRIO

Lili, are you going to sing, or what?

FIRST GIRL--TRIO

Where's the entertainment? We need a little entertainment?

LILI

Enough of this teeny talk. I must go.

Lili gets up and walks around.

LILI (CONT'D)

How are you soldier? You do not like being so far away from home. And you, flyboy, somebody clip your wings?

NOW YOU'RE DOWN IN DUMPS I CAN TELL.
'CAUSE WE ALL KNOW THAT WAR IS,
WELL...HELL. YOU'RE SO STARVED FOR
LOVE,
THE DOUGHNUT DOLLIES,
PASS FOR FIRST CLASS HOT TAMALES.
IT'S TIME A REAL LIVE GAL,
CAME TO BOOST UP YOUR MORALE.

(MORE)

LILI (CONT'D)

WE'RE GOING TO BOOST, BOOST, BOOST
THE MORALE,
WE'RE GOING TO BOO, BOO, BOO, BOOST
THE MORALE.
WE'RE GOING TO BOOST, BOOST, BOOST
THE MORALE.
BOOSTING THE MORALE.
TELL ME HOW MANY MEN LIKE A DAME?

JOHNNY, GOPHER

Yeah. Yeah.

LILI

I THOUGHT SO, SO THAT'S WHY I CAME,
TO BRING YOU BOYS A FULL GROWN PINUP,
GUARANTEED TO KEEP YOUR CHIN UP.
TONIGHT YOU'VE GOT A PAL.
TO BOOST UP YOUR MORALE.

WE'RE GOING TO BOOST, BOOST, BOOST
THE MORALE.
WE'RE GOING TO BOO, BOO, BOO, BOO,
BOOST THE MORALE.
WE'RE GOING TO BOOST, BOOST, BOOST
THE MORALE.
BOOSTING THE MORALE.

Lili dances.

LILI (CONT'D)

EVERYBODY.

ALL

BOOST THE MORALE.

LILI

YOU CAN DO IT.
BOOST THE MORALE.

ALL

BOOST THE MORALE,
BOO, BOO, BOO, BOOSTING THE MORALE.
GET IT UP, UP, UP, UP, UP, UP.
GET IT UP, UP, UP, UP, UP, UP.
GET IT UP, UP, UP.

(Dance.)

ALL (CONT'D)

BOOST, BOOST, BOOST. BOOST, BOOST,
BOOST. BOOST, BOOST, BOOST THE
MORALE.

HEY, BOOST, BOOST, BOOST THE MORALE.
BOOST, BOOST, BOOST THE MORALE.
BOOSTING THE MORALE.

BOOST, BOOST, BOOST THE MORALE.
BOOST, BOOST, BOOST THE MORALE.
BOOSTING THE MORALE. BOOSTING,
BOOSTING, BOOSTING, THE MORALE, THE
MORALE, THE MORALE.

Third Girl--Trio, Second Girl-Trio go over to Johnny.

THIRD GIRL--TRIO

I think this girl, needs a little
boosting.

SECOND GIRL--TRIO

You kidding. He's mine.

THIRD GIRL--TRIO

Oh yeah, who says?

Girls start pulling on Johnny. Fight breaks out.

LILI

Get out of here you two.

FIRST GIRL--TRIO

Don't talk to her like that.

TRIO

JOHNNY IS A VERY SPECIAL GUY.
HE'S MOTHER'S DAY AND CHEVROLET
AND APPLE PIE.
ALL I HAVE TO DO IS THINK OF HIM AND
ME OH MY.
JOHNNY IS THE MAN FOR ME.

I LOVE TO FEEL HIS KISSES 'NEATH THE
MOON.
HE'S SWEETER THAN THE SUGAR ON A
SPOON.
I'VE SET MY CAP TO MARRY HIM.
YOU KNOW WHEN? JUNE.
YES, JOHNNY IS THE MAN FOR ME.

Gopher stands on chair as fight continues.

TRIO

I DON'T MIND SITTING AND WAITING
 AROUND FOR A FELLAH,
 ESPECIALLY IF HE SPINS A MEAN
 PROPELLER.
 I LOVE THE WAY HE BLUSHES WHEN I
 TEASE.
 HE'S SWEETER THAN A PACK OF HONEY
 BEES.

IF JOHNNY IS THE POD,
 THEN I'M THE PEAS.
 IF JOHNNY IS THE ELBOWS, I'M THE
 KNEES.
 I HOPE THAT SOMEDAY, HE AGREES,
 THAT JOHNNY IS THE MAN FOR ME.

Colonel.

GOPHER

Attention!

Everyone scrambles to attention. They stand in a line as
 Colonel passes by, inspecting them.

JOHNNY

Hat!

Lili throws him his hat. Embarrassed he puts it on in front
 of Colonel

COLONEL

Lt. Powers. Lt. Higgens. Report to
 my office, now, at once, on the
 double.

JOHNNY, GOPHER

Yes, sir.

LILI

Colonel you stay for a drink with
 Lili?

COLONEL

No. No. There's work to be done.
 To be done.

LILI

Colonel

She holds out her hand for kiss. Colonel shakes it. Colonel exits.

LILI (CONT'D)
Continental???

TRIO
IF JOHNNY IS THE THANK YOU,
I'M THE PLEASE.
IF JOHNNY IS THE FLU,
THEN I'M THE SNEEZE.
IF JOHNNY'S AT ATTENTION,
I'M AT EASE.
'CAUSE JOHNNY IS THE MAN FOR ME.
MY HERO.
JOHNNY IS THE MAN FOR ME.

Exit everyone.

INT. COLONEL'S OFFICE - DAY

Colonel is behind a desk. Enter Johnny and Gopher.

JOHNNY
Lt. Johnny Powers reports, sir!
(Salutes.)

GOPHER
Lt. Gopher Higgins reports, sir!
(Salutes.)

COLONEL
(Returns salutes) Now tell me, what
the "hell" were you doing getting in
some brawl?

JOHNNY
Couldn't help it sir. The women got
into a fight. Over..over...

GOPHER
They were arguing over whether you,
Colonel, or Eroll Flynn was the
handsomest.

COLONEL
They were?

JOHNNY
Right sir.

GOPHER

Lili was arguing for you, Colonel you were the best looking. Much better than Erroll Flynn, or Gary Cooper.

COLONEL

She said that about me?

JOHNNY

Yes sir.

GOPHER

What about that mission, sir?

COLONEL

You can forget about that now. You're too inexperienced. Can't control yourselves. Inexperienced.

Lili, said that? About me?

GOPHER

Why last night sir, Lili was saying....

COLONEL

Lili. Lili. That woman is a disgrace to this command. Singing and dancing till all hours. Flaunting herself around like (makes woman's shape with hands, melts.) ...like a woman. We're here to fight a war. Not to learn how to...boogie.

JOHNNY

Why, that's exactly what she said. She gave us quite a lecture on soldier's responsibility.

COLONEL

She did?

JOHNNY

She said that you, Colonel, were the best thing to happen to the Air Force since...

GOPHER

Charles Lindbergh.

JOHNNY

Right, Charles Lindbergh. That a
mature, experienced, continental....

COLONEL

Continental?

JOHNNY

Continental man, like yourself would
surely lead us to victory.

COLONEL

She said that? About me?

GOPHER

Yes sir. Now I think you should go
right down to that Pearl Of The Orient
Bar and Grill and tell her a thing
or two.

COLONEL

Oh, I don't know. I wouldn't want
to be too aggressive. My military
training and good moral fiber. Why
don't I send her a sharp memo?

JOHNNY

No sir. You've got to get her alone.
Talk to her privately.

COLONEL

Privately?

JOHNNY

Right sir. Then you can explain the
officer's code. There are just a
few things to keep in mind....

WHEN YOU'RE TAKING HER OUT TO DINE,
BUY HER STEAK AND A VINTAGE WINE.
A NICE CHABLIS.

GOPHER

OR A BURGUNDY.

JOHNNY

FRENCH CHAMPAGNE IS FINE.
WHEN YOU TAKE A WOMAN OUT TO DINE.

WHEN YOU'RE WALKING BENEATH THE MOON.
(MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
 CUT THE TALKING, AND HUM A TUNE.
 A SIMPLE SONG, SHE CAN HUM ALONG.

GOPHER
 THE FRENCH LIKE CLAIRE DE LUNE.

JOHNNY
 WHEN YOU WALK A WOMAN NEATH THE MOON.

JOHNNY, GOPHER
 YOU CAN HANDLE WOMEN,
 YOU'LL KNOW WHAT TO DO.
 YOU CAN HANDLE WOMEN, SIR.
 HAVE WE GOT FAITH IN YOU.

COLONEL
 IF SHE TELLS ME SHE WANTS A KISS.

JOHNNY
 MADEMOISELLE IS EXPECTING THIS.
 A GENTLE PECK.

GOPHER
 ABOVE THE NECK.

COLONEL
 OH, WHAT THE HECK.

JOHNNY
 WHEN A SEXY WOMAN WANTS A KISS.
 BUT IF HER PASSION JUST GROWS AND
 GROWS,
 THE FASHION IS TO REMOVE THE CLOTHES.

GOPHER
 UNZIP HER GOWN, AND GO TO TOWN.

JOHNNY
 AND THAT'S LA VIE EN ROSE.

JOHNNY, GOPHER
 WHEN A JUICY FRENCH CHANTEUSEY,
 WANTS A LITTLE GOOSEY,
 WHEN A WOMAN'S PASSION OVERFLOWS,
 YOU CAN HANDLE WOMEN.
 YOU'LL KNOW WHAT TO DO.
 YOU CAN HANDLE WOMEN, SIR!

COLONEL
 NOW, LET ME JUST REVIEW. WHEN WE GO
 OUT TO DINE,
 WITH THE STEAK AND THE WINE.
 AND THE MAN IN THE MOON, IS DECLARING
 THE LOON.
 WHAT THE HECK, I SUSPECT,
 I'LL BE PECKING HER NECK,
 WHEN I UNZIP HER GOWN,
 IN THE MIDDLE OF TOWN.
 HEAVEN KNOWS, I SUPPOSE,
 I'LL PROPOSE,
 WHEN I TAKE OFF MY CLOTHES.

JOHNNY, GOPHER
 YOU CAN HANDLE WOMEN.

COLONEL
 I'LL KNOW WHAT TO DO.

JOHNNY, GOPHER
 YOU CAN HANDLE WOMEN, SIR!

COLONEL
 I'LL HANDLE ONE FOR YOU.

JOHNNY, GOPHER, COLONEL
 WE CAN HANDLE WOMEN,
 WE'LL KNOW WHAT TO DO.
 WE CAN HANDLE WOMEN,

COLONEL
 MEN.

JOHNNY, GOPHER, COLONEL
 FOR THE RED, AND THE WHITE
 AND THE BLUE.

COLONEL
 You know, on second thought, you two
 might be just right for this type of
 mission.

JOHNNY
 What mission, sir?

COLONEL
 To meet The White Lotus? (Gong)

JOHNNY, GOPHER
 The White Lotus? (Gong)

COLONEL
The White Lotus.

They wait for another gong. It's late. Then the Gong. And they continue.

COLONEL (CONT'D)
A mission behind enemy lines.

JOHNNY
Why sir?

Colonel goes over and pulls down map.

COLONEL
(At map.)
THE JAPANESE OCCUPY MOST OF THE COAST,
WHICH IS HERE.
NO, I MEAN HERE.
INCLUDING THE PROVINCE IN QUESTION.
WHICH USED TO BE HERE.
WHY IS IT THERE.
WELL, HERE'S OUT BASE.
NO, HERE'S OUR BASE.
I CIRCLED IT CLEARLY IN BROWN.

JOHNNY
PERHAPS IT'S THE MAP, SIR?
YOU'RE READING THE THING UPSIDE DOWN.

COLONEL
UPSIDE DOWN?

GOPHER
UPSIDE DOWN.

COLONEL
NOW, THIS LITTLE SPACE, IS THE
JAPANESE BASE IN YUNNAN.

JOHNNY, GOPHER
BASE IN YUNNAN.

COLONEL
IT'S BAD FOR THE ALLIES,
BUT TERRIBLY GOOD FOR JAPAN.

JOHNNY, GOPHER
GOOD FOR JAPAN.

COLONEL
THEY CAN LAUNCH AIR ATTACKS,
DESTROYING THE BURMA ROAD.
WE MUST KEEP IT OPEN FOR FOOD, AND
SUPPLIES TO UNLOAD.

JOHNNY
BURMA ROAD.

GOPHER
TO UNLOAD.

JOHNNY
What has this got to do with The
White Lotus?

COLONEL
WE NEED AGENTS WATCHING THE BASE,
IN CASE THEY ATTACK,
WE'LL HAVE WARNING.
YOUR MISSION, IN SHORT,
IS TO GET HER SUPPORT,
BE READY TO LEAVE IN THE MORNING.

GOPHER
But sir....

COLONEL
I know it's impossible. But it's
not difficult.

YOU LAND UNDERCOVER.
OUR AGENT DISCOVERS YOU THERE,
OR MAYBE THERE.
HE'LL TAKE YOU TO MEET THE WHITE
LOTUS,
YOU NOTICE WHO'S WHERE.

JOHNNY
SHE'S OVER THERE.

COLONEL
Good.
MAKE HER SEE AND THEN AGREE.

GOPHER
IF NOT?

COLONEL
YOU'LL BE SHOT AS A SPY.

GOPHER
WELL, JOHNNY HAVE FUN NOW,
'CAUSE I GOTTA RUN NOW,
GOOD-BYE!

JOHNNY
Gopher!
HAVE NO FEAR, SIR!
WE'LL VOLUNTEER.
AND WE'LL HANDLE THE MISSION WITH
EASE, SIR.

GOPHER
BUT DIPLOMACY ISN'T MY CUP OF TEA,
BESIDES WHICH I DON'T SPEAK CHINESE,
SIR!

COLONEL
The White Lotus speaks fluent English.

GOPHER
Sir, may I ask a question?

COLONEL
Go right ahead.

GOPHER
How do we get out?

COLONEL
Good question.

WE'LL GIVE YOU A RADIO,
THAT WILL BE PART OF THE PLAN.

GOPHER
PART OF THE PLAN.

COLONEL
CALL US THE MINUTE YOU'RE DONE,
AND WE'LL COME IF WE CAN.

GOPHER
IF YOU CAN?

COLONEL
YOU NEVER KNOW, THERE MIGHT BE SNOW.
OR ENEMY AIRCRAFT AND SUCH.
BUT THERE'S NOTHING TO FEAR,
JUST AS LONG AS WE'RE KEEPING IN
TOUCH.

JOHNNY, GOPHER
KEEP IN TOUCH.

COLONEL
KEEP IN TOUCH.

Dance break.

JOHNNY, GOPHER
WE KNOW WHAT TO DO, SIR.
AND WE'LL SEE IT THROUGH, SIR.
FOR THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE,
AND THE NATION.

COLONEL
WELL, GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK MEN.
AND IF YOU GET STUCK,
KEEP IN MIND WHERE TO FIND
INSPIRATION.

Holds little flag from desk over heart.

JOHNNY, GOPHER
WE CAN HANDLE WOMEN.
WE KNOW WHAT TO DO.
WE CAN HANDLE WOMEN,
FOR THE RED, AND THE WHITE, AND THE
BLUE.

INT. PALACE OF WHITE LOTUS - NIGHT

White Lotus is pacing about. General Ko is standing there.
Enter One China

ONE CHINA
My sister, the guards have two
American pilots at the gate.

GENERAL KO
I still think it best to turn them
over to the Japanese commander.

THE WHITE LOTUS
We will carry on as planned. One
China, go bring the Americans here.
(Exit One China.)

GENERAL KO
We will let your wisdom guide us
through these difficult times.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Yes. In the meanwhile General, I think it best that you not be seen by the Americans. This is a time for diplomacy and tact.

GENERAL KO

I agree madame. Your methods of interrogation are more subtle.

General Ko exits. Enter Johnny.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Welcome to my humble dwelling. I am The White Lotus. (Gong.)

Gopher stumbles in, wearing an absurd aviators cap, carrying radio.

GOPHER

We reckoned it might be you.

JOHNNY

I am Lt. Johnny Powers and this is my copilot, Lt. Lawrence Higgens.

GOPHER

But you can call me "Gopher."

THE WHITE LOTUS

If you insist, I will call you "Gopher." Isn't that a small rodent?

Lt. Powers, Lt. Gopher, this is my sister, One China.

Johnny and Gopher bow awkwardly.

GOPHER

Is that a garden out there?

THE WHITE LOTUS

Yes it is. Would you like to take a walk in the garden? One China, escort Lt. Gopher into the garden.

GOPHER

You sure we're safe up here?

THE WHITE LOTUS

We have many sentries. If the Japanese approach we will know well in advance.

GOPHER

Johnny, I think I'll go check around. Might be some interesting trees.

Exit Gopher, One China.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Please sit down. (Raises pot of tea.) Would you care for some tea?

JOHNNY

Thank you.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Instead of tea, perhaps you would prefer coffee?

JOHNNY

No, tea is fine.

THE WHITE LOTUS

We do have a small supply of coffee. It is very hard to obtain.

JOHNNY

I didn't know you grew coffee around here.

THE WHITE LOTUS

We don't. It comes in a can.

JOHNNY

Oh.

THE WHITE LOTUS

I am pleased to meet an American pilot. We see the planes of the Flying Tigers overhead, But never have I had the opportunity to meet someone who flies such a plane.

JOHNNY

Yes, I've flown over this Province a few times. Its real beautiful country.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Thank you.

JOHNNY

Look, I expect you got our message.
I'm here on a mission about....

THE WHITE LOTUS

There is sufficient time for that.
I would prefer to talk about things
other than war and politics. Tell
me, where are you from in the United
States? No, let me guess. Are you
from Chicago? Are you a gangster
from Chicago?

JOHNNY

No, I'm not a gangster from Chicago.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Detroit. You are a gangster from
Detroit. There are always gangsters
from Detroit who are hired by
gangsters from Chicago as ...hit
men. They rub people out in Chicago,
and then they go back to Detroit.
Have you...ever rubbed anyone out?

JOHNNY

No, can't say that I have. Say, how
do you know so much about gangsters.

THE WHITE LOTUS

I watched many American movies before
the war in Shanghai. Do you like
Mr. George Raft? He was my favorite
gangster. He showed no pity on his
rivals.

If you are not from Chicago, or
Detroit, where are you from?

JOHNNY

Rock River. Rock River, Wyoming.

THE WHITE LOTUS

I am not familiar with the Rock River.
But the capitol of Wyoming is
....Cheyenne.

(MORE)

THE WHITE LOTUS (CONT'D)

I had to learn the capitols of all the states when I went to an American missionary school. My father believed that there was a certain value to a Western education. But I am not so sure. You memorize many facts, and when you grow up you can hardly remember any of them.

JOHNNY

Sure you do. Texas...?

THE WHITE LOTUS

...Austin.

JOHNNY

New York.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Pough, Poughkeepsie. No...Albany.

JOHNNY

Nebraska.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Washington. No, no, Lincoln. I am confusing the capitols with the Presidents. I was very good with the capitols, but I always mix up the Presidents. Except for Andrew Johnson, number fifteen, because he was almost a peach.

JOHNNY

Impeached.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Yes, when someone is impeached, it means that he is a "rotten apple."

JOHNNY

I never thought of it that way.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Perhaps, there is something to be said for Western education. Do you know your Presidents, Lieutenant?

JOHNNY

Washington, Jefferson, Adams,
uh...sure, sure I know them.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Washington was always my favorite.
Because he was first, he is very
easy to remember.

JOHNNY

That's right. Father of our country.
Chopped down the old cherry tree.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Why would anyone chop down anything
as beautiful as a cherry tree?

JOHNNY

That part was never very clear. But
when his father asked him who did
it, he confessed right away. He
said, "I cannot tell a lie."

WHITE LOTUS

That was before he was President.

JOHNNY

Listen, I really think we should
talk about why I am here.

THE WHITE LOTUS

It is beautiful in China.

INT. CLASSICAL CHINA - NIGHT

Scene shifts to show the splendors of China, mountains,
buildings, etc.

THE WHITE LOTUS

COME HEAR THE SONG OF THE ORIENT,
THAT FAR MANDOLIN.
WHEN HEARD IN THE WORLD OF THE ORIENT,
IT BECKONS, PLEASE COME IN.

COME SEE THE STARS OF THE ORIENT,
BEHOLD THEIR DESIGN.
WHEN SEEN THROUGH THE EYES OF THE
ORIENT,
THEY APPEAR TO INTERTWINE.

(MORE)

THE WHITE LOTUS (CONT'D)
 COME CLOSER AND TOUCH THE MYSTERY,
 MANY DREAMS TO PURSUE.
 A WORLD THAT'S FILLED WITH MYSTERY,
 WAITS FOR YOU.

Enter handmaidens. Dance. They bring in robe. Put robe on JOHNNY.

WHITE LOTUS
 The brocades are a design six hundred years old. The silk was spun by a seamstress who has dedicated her life to the service of my family. I wish you to wear this robe, so you will never forget your stay with us.
 COME TOUCH THE SILK OF THE ORIENT,
 A FABRIC SO FINE, WHEN TOUCHED BY THE HANDS OF THE ORIENT,
 IT'S SAYING, COME BE MINE.

Exit White Lotus carrying Johnny's hat.

INT. PALACE OF THE WHITE LOTUS, GARDEN - DAY

Two days later. Enter Gopher with radio.

GOPHER
 HE THINKS WE'RE ON VACATION, SUN AND FUN AND RELAXATION,
 LIKE THIS PLACE IS AN EXOTIC KIND OF SPA.
 THERE'S DANGER ALL AROUND,
 AND YET HE THINKS THAT HE HAS FOUND,
 HIS SHANGRLA.

NO THOUGH I'M JUST A ROOKIE,
 I CAN READ A FORTUNE COOKIE,
 AND THE SAGES THROUGH THE AGES ALL ADVISE,
 MAN SHOULD DO HIS DUTY,
 NOT GO OFF IN SEARCH OF BEAUTY...VERY WISE.

BUT THE FOREST RANGER SEES.
 HE'S OFF ON MARS,
 WITH ROMANTIC GUITARS,
 AND TWO STARS WHERE HIS EYES USED TO BE.

(MORE)

GOPHER (CONT'D)
 IN HIS CONDITION,
 THE FATE OF THIS MISSION,
 IS UNDER SUSPICION WITH ME.
 THERE'S NO DENYING MY COPILOT'S
 FLYING, TEN THOUSAND FEET IN THE.....

Enter One China. Gopher sees her.

GOPHER (CONT'D)
 Oh, I didn't see you there.

One China does not reply.

GOPHER (CONT'D)
 How-are-you-this-fine-day?

(No reply.)
 How-are-you-this-fine-day?

ONE CHINA
 I'm fine. How are you?

GOPHER
 Hey, I didn't think you spoke English.

ONE CHINA
 Yes, I speak English, French and
 four dialects of Chinese.

GOPHER
 Oh, oh. Why didn't you talk to me
 before?

ONE CHINA
 My sister does not want me to become
 too friendly with the Americans.

One China starts to exit.

GOPHER
 Hey, don't go. How'd you get the
 name One China.

ONE CHINA
 In Chinese, the character for China
 is also the character for flower. I
 can be called One China or One Flower.
 My sister prefers One China.

Enter General Ko

GENERAL KO
Ah, hah. Good afternoon.

GOPHER
Who's he?

GENERAL KO
I am General Ko. I am the ranking
military officer here.

GOPHER
Glad to meet you. Whose side you on
anyway?

GENERAL KO
I intend to be on the winning side.

Walks around.

GENERAL KO (CONT'D)
I see you have your radio here.

GOPHER
Yes, we do.

GENERAL KO
One China, I would like to talk to
the American Lieutenant. Alone.

ONE CHINA
But....

GENERAL KO
Do not argue.

ONE CHINA
Good afternoon, Lieutenant. I hope
your stay here will be comfortable
and safe.

Exit One China.

GOPHER
See you later.

GENERAL KO
Of course, you have all the
frequencies of the Allies and the
Nationalists.

GOPHER

We got the ones we need all right.

GENERAL KO

And you have the codes of the Allies
and the Nationalists.

GOPHER

Got all the codes we need. Right up
here. (Points to head.)

GENERAL KO

I understand you are a pilot?

GOPHER

That's right. Got my wings to prove
it.

GENERAL KO

And your home base is Kunming?

GOPHER

Yeah, I think so. You know, it's
hard to tell these Chinese cities
apart.

GENERAL KO

Remarkable. Such intelligence. I
can see why we...why the Americans
will eventually....win the war.

Enter The White Lotus.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Why General Ko? It is a surprise to
see you here.

GENERAL KO

I unexpectedly met the Lieutenant
and your sister in the garden.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Well, now that you have met the
Lieutenant, I think that is enough.

GENERAL KO

Yes, madame.

Exit General Ko

THE WHITE LOTUS

You have been talking with my sister?

GENERAL KO

Yes ma'am. She's real sweet.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Lieutenant, we are of two different cultures. Different cultures are not meant to mix.

GOPHER

Eleanor Roosevelt (Midwestern accent) would never say anything like that.

THE WHITE LOTUS

I would not be mistaken for Eleanor Roosevelt. (Upper class)

Lieutenant, my sister is a young girl. She often has romantic infatuations. I am responsible for seeing these infatuations do not lead to undesired consequences.

GENERAL KO

I reckon. Listen, ma'am, when do you think we're going to get out of here? I don't exactly like the idea of staying in Japanese occupied territory.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Neither do we.

GOPHER

You know what I mean. We're supposed to be flying planes. Not...not....

THE WHITE LOTUS

Not what?

GOPHER

Not engaging in international diplomacy.

THE WHITE LOTUS

You Americans are too impatient. You expect everything to happen in a day.

(MORE)

THE WHITE LOTUS (CONT'D)

It is important for you to understand our position. I would not want you to make any hasty report back to the Nationalists.

GOPHER

Well, I don't know.

THE WHITE LOTUS

I am doing the best I can in a difficult situation, with men not all of my own choosing. You will simply have to be patient. If you see Lieutenant Powers, tell him I wish to speak to him.

Exit The White Lotus.

GOPHER

I don't know about this.

Enter Johnny.

JOHNNY

Have you seen The White Lotus? She was suppose to meet me here.

Johnny starts to exit. Gopher stops him.

GOPHER

Johnny, I met this General Ko fellow. He's her Chinese general. He started asking a lot of military questions. What codes we have, that sort of stuff.

JOHNNY

You're just being suspicious.

GOPHER

You'd better not trust him, or her.

JOHNNY

She's done nothing to harm us.

GOPHER

You've got to corner her and get some kind of answer.

JOHNNY

This is a diplomatic mission. I
can't tell her what to do.

GOPHER

She's got something up her silk
sleeve. She's nice to you cause
you're the handsome cowboy, and all
that.

I'M SURE THAT SHE NEVER RODE A HORSE,
OR EVER MENDED A FENCE.
SHE'S NEVER BRANDED A COW OF COURSE,
SO THIS WHOLE THING DOESN'T MAKE
SENSE.

I'M SURE THAT SHE NEVER COOKED A
MEAL,
IN A KETTLE OVER A FIRE.
AND I'M SURE SHE WAS NEVER MEANT TO
FEEL, A COWBOY'S BURNING DESIRE.

JOHNNY

I DON'T CARE IF SHE EVER BUILT A
BARN,
OR MILKED A COW OR A GOAT.

GOPHER

YEAH, BUT IF YOU GAVE HER A SOCK TO
DARN,
SHE'D END UP SLITTING YOUR THROAT.

JOHNNY

SO WHAT IF SHE NEVER PLOWED A FIELD,
SO SANG IN THE GIRL SCOUT CHOIR.
'CAUSE SHE'S ALL I NEED TO SATISFY,
THIS COWBOY'S BURNING DESIRE.

GENERAL KO

ALL-AMERICAN BOYS NEED ALL-AMERICAN
GIRLS.
DON'T LOOK IN OYSTERS FOR ORIENTAL
PEARLS.
ALL-AMERICAN CREWCUTS NEED ALL-
AMERICAN CURLS.

I KNOW THAT IT ITCHES, INSIDE OF
YOUR BRITCHES,
BUT THE HITCH IS,
I'M SURE SHE COULD NEVER LOVE A MAN.
(MORE)

GENERAL KO (CONT'D)
 OR EVEN CARE FOR A PET.
 AND IF SHE'S GOT YOU CONVINCED SHE
 CAN,
 BEHIND YOUR EARS, YOU'RE ALL WET.

I'M SURE THAT TO HER IT'S JUST A
 GAME.
 AND SHE LOVES PLAYING WITH FIRE.
 SO DON'T LET THAT WOMAN FAN THE FLAME,
 OF A COWBOY'S BURNING DESIRE.

JOHNNY
 ALL-AMERICAN BOYS NEED MYSTERY AND
 THRILLS,
 NOT A HEAD FULL OF RIBBONS, AND
 DRESSES FULL OF FRILLS.

GOPHER
 ALL-AMERICAN JACKS NEED ALL-AMERICAN
 JILLS,
 I KNOW THAT IT ITCHES, INSIDE OF
 YOUR BRITCHES.

JOHNNY
 BUT THE HITCH IS,
 THEY DON'T MAKE THEM LIKE THAT IN
 WYOMING.
 SHE'S GOT THEM ALL BEAT BY A MILE.
 COMPARE HER HAIR TO GIRLS BACK THERE,
 SHE'S CLEOPATRA ON THE NILE.

THEY DON'T MAKE THEM LIKE THAT IN
 WYOMING.
 NO THEY'RE NOTHING, NO NOTHING, LIKE
 HER.
 THEY DON'T MAKE THEM LIKE THAT IN
 WYOMING, NO-OH-SIR.

Sung in counter point.

GOPHER
 I'M SURE SHE COULD NEVER
 LOVE A MAN.
 OR EVEN CARE FOR A PET.
 AND IF SHE'S GOT YOU CONVINCED SHE
 CAN.
 BEHIND YOUR EARS, YOU'RE ALL WET.

JOHNNY

THEY DON'T MAKE THEM LIKE THAT IN
WYOMING.
SHE'S GOT THEM ALL BEAT BY A MILE.
COMPARE HER HAIR TO GIRLS BACK THERE.
SHE'S CLEOPATRA ON THE NILE.

GOPHER

I'M SURE THAT TO HER, IT'S JUST A
GAME,
AND SHE LOVES PLAYING WITH FIRE,
SO DON'T LET THAT WOMAN, FAN THE
FLAME OF A COWBOYS'S BURNING DESIRE.

JOHNNY

THEY DON'T MAKE THEM LIKE THAT
WYOMING.
NO THEY'RE NOTHING, NO NOTHING LIKE
HER.
THEY DON'T MAKE THEM LIKE THAT IN
WYOMING.
No-OH-SIR!

JOHNNY, GOPHER

OH, NO, NO.
I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT WILL TAME.

GOPHER

A COWBOY'S,

JOHNNY

COWBOY'S,

JOHNNY, GOPHER

BURNING DESIRE.

Exit Gopher. Enter the White Lotus.

THE WHITE LOTUS

How is the young lieutenant tonight?

JOHNNY

I'm fine.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Do you think these are interesting
flowers? Do you not have such flowers
in the United States?

JOHNNY

I've never seen any like that.
Listen, we should talk about why I'm
here.

THE WHITE LOTUS

We will have time to talk of why you
were sent here. But later.

Did your army force you to enter the
military service?

JOHNNY

No, I volunteered.

THE WHITE LOTUS

That is either very noble, or very
foolish.

JOHNNY

You see, there was this kid who was
couple of years younger than me. He
quit school and enlisted in the Navy.
He was killed at Pearl Harbor. They
brought his body back home. And
they buried him up by the Methodist
church. On the hill outside of town.
It was December and it was freezing
cold. The wind was whipping up the
snow. It was blowing snow on his
casket. Blowing snow in this hole
in the ground. I cried. Everybody
cried. I guess old folks know about
death. They're better prepared.

THE WHITE LOTUS

I would think that would make you
want to avoid the military.

JOHNNY

Why haven't you formed a resistance
to the occupation?

THE WHITE LOTUS

The Japanese are too powerful. It
would only invite reprisals on the
part of the Japanese commander. I
have tried to use my personal
influence on the commander to make
life more bearable for the people of
the Yunnan Province.

JOHNNY

Listen, the reason I came here was to ask you to set up agents around the Japanese air base. To give us early warning against air attack.

THE WHITE LOTUS

That is very risky. It not only involves those who would be agents. Many Chinese citizens might be killed if the Japanese found out.

JOHNNY

I know that. But something must be done. The U.S. Fourteenth Air Force is trying to keep the Burma road open. That road is vital to keeping the Nationalists supplied.

THE WHITE LOTUS

We appreciate the help the Americans are giving the Chinese people. But I am in very difficult circumstances. This may not be the proper time for such resistance.

JOHNNY

You can't keep sitting on the fence forever.

THE WHITE LOTUS

"Sitting on the fence?" I have never heard that expression before.

JOHNNY

It means not to make a decision. Not getting on one side or the other.

THE WHITE LOTUS

I will consider what you have said. And I will give you my answer.

INT. PALACE OF WHITE LOTUS - EVENING

Lights become more romantic.

JOHNNY

I must say, the Yunnan Province has a very beautiful...war lord.

THE WHITE LOTUS

The lieutenant is very flattering.
I can see now why they sent you on
such a diplomatic mission.

JOHNNY

What would you do if I tried to kiss
you?

THE WHITE LOTUS

I have my men all around.

JOHNNY

Do you shoot men for kissing you?

THE WHITE LOTUS

Only if I don't like their kisses.

JOHNNY

And if they don't try to kiss you?

THE WHITE LOTUS

They are shot for lack of passion.

JOHNNY

I don't think I'll be shot for that.
(Kisses her.)

THE WHITE LOTUS

Kisses like that can lead one to the
delusion of love and romance.

JOHNNY

DANCE AROUND THE WORLD WITH ME, WE
CAN WATCH IT TURN.
DANCE AROUND THE WORLD WITH ME, SO
MANY THINGS TO LEARN.

DANCE AROUND THE WORLD WITH ME, CATCH
A STAR, PASSING BY.
DANCE AROUND THE WORLD WITH ME,
SHOW THE WORLD WE CAN FLY.

WE DON'T NEED A BAND,
IF WE'RE HAND IN HAND.
WE DON'T NEED AN ORCHESTRA TO PLAY,
IF YOU JUST, DANCE AROUND THE WORLD
WITH ME.

LET THE BREEZE TOSS YOUR HAIR.

(MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

DANCE AROUND THE WORLD WITH ME,
SUCH A WIDE WORLD TO SHARE.
OUT THROUGH TIME AND SPACE,
SEARCHING FOR A PLACE, WHERE WE CAN
BE IN LOVE TO STAY.

WE'LL SAIL THROUGH THE NIGHT,
ON A MAGICAL FLIGHT. HOLD ON TIGHT,
HOLD ON TIGHT,
HOLD ON TIGHT, AND,

Johnny starts to dance few steps with her. Finds he doesn't know the steps.

THE WHITE LOTUS

It's a waltz Lieutenant. One, two,
three. One, two, three....
(She leads him.)

JOHNNY

WE'LL SAIL THROUGH THE NIGHT, ON A
MAGICAL FLIGHT.
HOLD ON TIGHT, HOLD ON TIGHT, HOLD
ON TIGHT,
AND, DANCE AROUND THE WORLD WITH ME.
DANCE AROUND THE WORLD, WITH ME.

General Ko spies on them for a moment at end.

EXT. AMERICAN PARK - EVENING

TRIO

I'D LOVE TO BE IN LOVE WITH YOU.
TILL THE END AND BACK AGAIN.
YOU'RE LIKE A BRACELET FULL OF CHARMS,
SWEETHEART.

I'D LOVE TO KISS YOU EVERY NIGHT,
AND HOLD YOU TIGHTLY IN MY ARMS.

I'D LOVE TO BE IN LOVE WITH YOU.
PLEASE BE MINE, MY VALENTINE.
I'VE SAVED MY KISSES FOR GUESS WHO,
DARLING. I'D LOVE TO SETTLE DOWN IN
SOME SMALL TOWN, AND LIVE MY LIFE
WITH YOU.

I NEED YOU NEAR ME, ONLY YOU CAN
CHEER ME.

ME OH MY, OH DEAR ME. WHAT'S THE
MATTER, CAN'T YOU HEAR ME.

(MORE)

TRIO (CONT'D)
 I KNOW THAT I'M IN LOVE WITH LOVE,
 BUT BABY, YOU ARE LOVE TO ME.

Dance break.

TRIO (CONT'D)
 BA-DAT'N DAT 'NDAT AND DAT'N DOO
 DAY.
 YOUR PURSUIT WOULD SUIT ME, COME ON
 AND RECRUIT ME.
 PLEASE DON'T PERSECUTE ME.
 MISTER CUPID, WHY'D YOU SHOOT ME?
 I KNOW THAT I'M IN LOVE WITH LOVE,
 BUT BABY, YOU ARE, LOVE TO,
 I KNOW THAT I'M IN LOVE WITH LOVE,
 BUT BABY, YOU ARE LOVE TO ME.

INT. PEARL OF THE ORIENT BAR AND GRILL - NIGHT

LILI
 What is going on around here? It is
 no wonder we are losing the war.

Lili goes over and kicks the chair out from underneath a
 sleeping soldier.

Musical intro.

LILI (CONT'D)
 We need a little spirit. Some life.
 You know what you can do for me?

SECOND GIRL--TRIO
 No, what?

LILI
 EVERYBODY BOOST THE MORALE.
 YOU CAN DO IT, BOOST THE MORALE.
 BOO, BOO, BOO, BOOSTING THE MORALE.
 GET IT UP, UP, UP, UP, UP, UP, UP.

ALL
 GET IT UP, UP, UP, UP, UP, UP, UP.

LILI
 WHEN YOU'VE GOT IT UP, WHERE IT SHOULD
 BE, YOU KNOW WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR ME.
 (MORE)

LILI (CONT'D)

WIN THE WAR FOR LILI.
LILI'S COUNTING ON YOU. EVERY
MOTHER'S SON, MUST GET THIS BATTLE
WON, SO THINK OF LOVELY LILI, EVERY
TIME YOU DRAW YOUR GUN.

WIN THE WAR FOR LILI. LILI'S WORTH
FIGHTING FOR.
WHEN THE BOMBS START TO FALL,
AND ON YOUR KNEES YOU CRAWL,
JUST THINK OF MY SOFT SKIN,
AND YOU'LL BEGIN TO STAND UP TALL.

WHEN YOU'RE OUT THERE, FIGHTING IN
"LA GUERRE."
LILI WILL FORGET YOU NOT. SHE'LL BE
SITTING BY THE FIRE,
BURNING WITH DESIRE, OR, HOW YOU SAY
IN ENGLISH? ...GETTING HOT.

MAKE THE WORLD SAFE FOR LILI.
LILI'S COUNTING ON YOU.
DO IT FOR HER LIPS, A FACE THAT
LAUNCHES SHIPS,
HER UNCANNY LITTLE FANNY,
NOT TO MENTION LILI 'S HIPS.

LILI (CONT'D)

GO TO WORK FOR LILI,
AND LILI WILL GO TO WORK FOR YOU.
EVERYBODY!

ALL
WIN THE WAR FOR LILI.
LILI'S COUNTING ON YOU.

LILI
AND YOU AND YOU!

ALL
EVERY MOTHER'S SON, MUST GET THIS
BATTLE WON, SO THINK OF LOVELY LILI,
EVERY TIME YOU DRAW YOUR GUN.
WIN THE WAR FOR LILI.
LILI'S WORTH FIGHTING FOR.

LILI
WHEN THE BOMBS START TO FALL,
AND ON YOUR KNEES YOU CRAWL.

ALL
 JUST THINK OF HER SOFT SKIN, AND
 YOU'LL BEGIN TO STAND UP TALL.

Dance break.

ALL (CONT'D)
 MAKE THE WORLD SAFE FOR LILI.
 LILI'S QUITE A GOOD CAUSE.

LILI
 DO IT FOR HER LIPS, A FACE THAT
 LAUNCHES SHIPS.

ALL
 HER UNCANNY LITTLE FANNY, NOT TO
 MENTION LILI'S HIPS.
 DO THE JOB FOR LILI,

Soldiers pick up Lili, hold her on shoulders.

LILI
 AND LILI WILL DO A JOB FOR YOU, FOR
 YOU.

Enter Colonel.

FIRST GIRL--TRIO
 Attention!

COLONEL
 At ease. Carry on.

LILI
 What a pleasant surprise Colonel.)

THIRD GIRL--TRIO
 Colonel this is Miss Lili....Lili....

LILI
 Bernstein. (Pause.) My family comes
 from a small village near Paree, le
 Flushing Meadows.

COLONEL
 Pleased to make your acquaintance,
 Miss Bernstein. I think it's time
 we had a little chat.

LILI

Why certainment, Colonel, please sit down?

They sit down.

LILI (CONT'D)

Lili knows why you are here.

COLONEL

You do?

LILI

Yes. Certainment. You are here to tell Lili that the Army has received her application and she will star in a U.S.O. tour.

COLONEL

No, I'm afraid not.

LILI

Well, the application must be delayed in the mail.

COLONEL

What I called about is you, and your, your...performance at the Pearl Of The Orient Bar and Grill.

LILI

We must do what we can for the war effort, Colonel in our own way. For me, the stage is my battlefield, the audience my allies, and my body, an arsenal of secret weapons.

COLONEL

Yes, yes. that's what I want to talk to you about. Your arsenal, your secret weapons, your performance.

Third Girl--Trio brings over some wine.

LILI

Wine? Oh, wine. Why don't we have some wine? Just a drop -- as a digestive aide.

Mon general is not going to pour Lili some wine?

COLONEL

Oh, yes. Certain, certain-Lili.

LILI

Here's to romance, mon general.

COLONEL

Here's to the Allies.

LILI

Tell me, Colonel you heard anything about Johnny and the little squiggly one...Beaver, no, Gopher, on the secret mission behind enemy lines to the Yunnan Province to meet The White Lotus (gong), and set up agents to watch the Japanese air base, and protect the Burma Road.

COLONEL

First I've heard of it.

LILI

Really, it's yesterday's newsreel. Thought you know about it.

Tell me, Colonel why do you

LILI (CONT'D)

You sit like theese?

She sits at attention.

LILI (CONT'D)

Are you afraid to ruin the press in your pants?

She looks at the Colonel's lap.

LILI (CONT'D)

Ohhhhhh!

Crosses legs. Puts hat on lap.

COLONEL

Lovely evening, don't you think, Miss Bernstein?

LILI

You can call me Lili. (Exaggerates her name.)

COLONEL

Lovely evening, don't you think...Lili? (Exaggerates her name more.)

LILI

Mon general, are you not going to give Lili a kiss?

COLONEL

I....I....I...of course.

Colonels up. Takes off glasses. Warms up. And then kisses her on the neck.

LILI

Mon general, what is this, hmmmmm, hmmmm, hmmmm. Haven't you ever kissed a woman before?

COLONEL

Yes. My moth...

LILI

Lili knows. Lili think mon general has much the sense of humor. Ha, ha!

She hits him on the arm. Colonel hits Lili on arm. Lili slams him back.

COLONEL

Ahhhhh. (Pain.)

LILI

Lili think mon general is a very passionate kisser. (spits in his eye.) He does not want to knock Lili out with one of his passionate kisses. (spits in his eye again.)

COLONEL

(Spitting back.) Yes, passionate kisses can be dangerous. I have to restrain myself.

LILI

Did mon general know that Lili was on her way to Hollywood before the war broke out? But Lili is tired of the theatrical life. The international travel, the glamour, the crowds, the applause. Lili is tired of it all.

COLONEL

Oh, really.

LILI

Yes. Lili is very attracted to the military man. So handsome, so dashing.

COLONEL

Yes.

LILI

Lili needs a mature man.

COLONEL

That would be nice.

LILI

An experienced man.

COLONEL

That would be splendid.

LILI

Someone who knows what he is doing.

COLONEL

Let's see, who do I know?

LILI

Perhaps we can have another bottle of wine. Some place more private. Where we can discuss Lili's future.

COLONEL

That would be very nice of you. Very kind of you both. (Looking directly at Lili's bosom.)

LILI

Perhaps you do not understand.
(MORE)

LILI (CONT'D)

Lili is making, how you say, a pass
at the Colonel

COLONEL

I....I....I...must be getting back
to the base. Responsibilities.
Curfew. The men.

LILI

The hell with the men.

COLONEL

No. No. I'm afraid I can't.

LILI

You what?

COLONEL

I can't, can't.

LILI

You what, what?

COLONEL

Can't, can't.

LILI

WHEN THE GIRL IS FRENCH,
YOU DON'T SAY, "CAN'T, CAN'T."
HER TEETH BEGIN TO CLENCH WHEN SHE
HEARS, "CAN'T, CAN'T."
TRY TO BE A MENSCH.
DON'T MENTION CAN'T, CAN'T.

WE DO NOT SAY, "CAN'T, CAN'T."
THE FRENCH PREFER, I CAN, CAN, CAN.

COLONEL

I'M VERY SORRY.

LILI

NO REASON WHY YOU CAN'T, CAN'T.
I KNOW YOU WANT TO TRY.

COLONEL

I, I, I CAN'T, CAN'T.

LILI

YOU WANT TO MAKE ME CRY.

COLONEL
OH, NO, I DON'T DON'T.

LILI
VERY WELL, I WON'T, WON'T.
IF YOU SAY, 'I CAN, CAN, CAN!"
DON'T YOU KNOW MY HEART IS BREAKABLE.
YOU'RE MY AMOUR DU JOUR,
THAT'S UNMISTAKABLE.
SO WHY FORSAKE THE UNFORESAKEABLE.

COLONEL
CAN'T YOU SEE MY PALMS ARE SWEATING.

LILI
SO WE'LL SKIP THE HEAVY PETTING,
ONLY DON'T SAY. "CAN'T, CAN'T,"
TO ME.

TELL ME I'M A BORE,
BUT DON'T SAY, "CAN'T, CAN'T."
THROW ME ON THE FLOOR, BUT DON'T
SAY, "CAN'T, CAN'T."
SAY YOU LOST IT IN THE WAR, BUT DON'T
SAY, "CAN'T, CAN'T."

COLONEL
I WOULD IF COULD, COULD,
BUT I REALLY CAN'T, CAN'T, CAN'T!

ALL
HER LOVE IS, OH, SO VERY PASSIONATE.

COLONEL
I THINK THE GOVERNMENT HAD BETTER
RATION IT.

LILI
YOUR LIFE YOU USE SOME MORE PANACHE
IN IT.

COLONEL
DON'T YOU SEE MY SKIN IS BREAKING
OUT?

LILI
I'M ACHING TO BE MAKING OUT.
SO DON'T SAY, "CAN'T, CAN'T" TO ME.

Enter COMPANY for dance.

COLONEL
WHY FORSAKE THE UNFORESAKABLE?

LILI
LOOK HOW I SHOOK A MAN WHO WAS
UNSHAKABLE.

COLONEL
AWAKENING WHAT WAS UNWAKEABLE.

LILI
NOW I KNEW THAT YOU COULD, "CAN,
CAN."
JUST AS WELL AS ANY MAN CAN.
AND IT'S TRES, TRES BON, MON AMI.

COLONEL
I LOVE YOUR CAN-CAN, CAN-CAN,
MON CHERI.

LILI
I CAN WITH YOU.

COLONEL
YOU CAN WITH ME.

BOTH
AH, OUI.

EXT. PALACE OF THE WHITE LOTUS, GARDEN - EVENING
Johnny, White Lotus in the garden.

TRIO
I'D LOVE TO BE IN LOVE WITH YOU.
TILL THE END AND BACK AGAIN.
YOU'RE LIKE A BRACELET FULL OF CHARMS.

THE WHITE LOTUS
I have something for you. A present.
This bottle was given to me by my
father. I have kept my perfume in
it these last few years. I want you
to have it. Sometime in the future,
perhaps you will open it. And think
of me.

TRIO
I'D LOVE TO BE IN LOVE WITH YOU.
PLEASE BE MINE, MY VALENTINE.
(MORE)

TRIO (CONT'D)
I'VE SAVED MY KISSES FOR GUESS WHO,
DARLING.

JOHNNY
I feel embarrassed. I don't have
any present to give you.

THE WHITE LOTUS
I understand.

Johnny takes pilot's wings off shirt.

JOHNNY
As an officer in the U.S. Army air
corps, I'm officially authorized to
make you a co-pilot in Johnny's air
force.

TRIO
I NEED YOU NEAR ME.
ONLY YOU CAN CHEER ME.
ME, OH MY, OH DEAR ME.
WHAT'S THE MATTER,
CAN'T YOU HEAR ME.

THE WHITE LOTUS
The sun is beginning to set.

JOHNNY
And I thought that dusk was beautiful
in the Rockies.

THE WHITE LOTUS
Someday, I may see these Rocky
Mountains for myself.

TRIO
I KNOW THAT I'M IN LOVE WITH LOVE,
BUT BABY, YOU ARE LOVE TO,
I KNOW THAT I'M IN LOVE WITH LOVE,
BUT BABY, YOU ARE LOVE TO ME.

THE WHITE LOTUS
I have duties to attend to.

Exit The White Lotus.

JOHNNY

THEY DON'T MAKE THEM LIKE THAT IN
WYOMING, NO, SIR.

OH, JOHNNY, THE PRO, JOHNNY,
YOU WIN THE BLUE RIBBON PRIZE.

SO, STEP RIGHT UP, JOHNNY,
CLAIM YOUR CUP, JOHNNY,
FOR THE BRIGHTEST PAIR OF STARRY
EYES.

YOU WON HER HEART AT THE START OF
LOVE,
BOY, ARE YOU SMART AT THE ART OF
LOVE.

SO, JOHNNY. HERE YOU GO, JOHNNY.
WHAT A LUCKY GUY YOU ARE.

ROMEO, JOHNNY, YOU WERE THE COY
CAVALIER.
WITH JULIET, JOHNNY, YOU'RE ALL SET,
JOHNNY,
TO PLAY THE ROLE OF YOUR CAREER.

YOU'RE FLYING HIGH, ALL IS FAIR IN
LOVE.
TEN THOUSAND FEET IN THE AIR, IN
LOVE.

SO, JOHNNY,
NOW YOU KNOW, JOHNNY, GOOD-BYE TO
GOATS AND COWS, AND CHICKENS,
SMALL TOWN AND GIRLS AND SLIMMER
PICKENS.
IT'S LOVE, THAT'S WHY YOUR HEARTBEAT
QUICKENS.
SO, JOHNNY,
WHOA, JOHNNY, OH, JOHNNY, OH.

EXT. PALACE OF THE WHITE LOTUS, GARDEN - EVENING

GOPHER

Ok....the coast is clear.

Enter One China with Gopher's hat on.

ONE CHINA

Lt. One China reporting sir.

GOPHER

That's very good.

ONE CHINA

I know one more. "Attention! At ease."

She goes to attention, at ease.

GOPHER

Terrific. You know, some guys don't get that far after four weeks of basic training.

ONE CHINA

Basic training.

GOPHER

Yeah. That's when they teach you to be a soldier. First of all, you got to do a lot of exercises. Right?

Jumps down to do push-ups.

GOPHER (CONT'D)

One, two, three, four.

Then he does jumping jacks. Pounds chest.

GOPHER (CONT'D)

Got to get your body in shape. Then they teach you how to handle a rifle.

You say, "Yes, sir!" a lot. And next thing you know, you're flying a plane.

ONE CHINA

You do basic training very nice.

GOPHER

Comes natural. I was born to be a pilot.

ONE CHINA

Someone who looks so good in a uniform must be a very good pilot indeed. Oh, your tie is crooked.

She straightens it out.

GOPHER

I sure appreciate all this personal attention.

ONE CHINA
 ANCIENT ORIENTAL CUSTOM.
 SHOW A MAN AROUND THE GARDEN.
 SHOW HIM PRETTY THINGS TO PLEASE
 HIM,
 AND THAT'S THE ANCIENT ORIENTAL WAY.

GOPHER
 ANCIENT ORIENTAL CUSTOM.
 SOUNDS VERY AMERICAN TO ME.

ONE CHINA
 NONETHELESS, IT'S ORIENTAL,
 AND AS ANCIENT AS THE MOUNTAINS AND
 THE SEA.

GOPHER
 ANCIENT AMERICAN CUSTOM,
 WHEN YOU MEET A LOVELY LADY.
 PRESENT HER WITH A PRETTY FLOWER,
 AND THAT'S THE OLD AMERICAN WAY.

ONE CHINA
 ANCIENT AMERICAN CUSTOM,
 SEEMS VERY ORIENTAL TO ME.
 BUT WHEREVER CUSTOM COMES FROM,
 IT'S A CUSTOM THAT'S AS PLEASANT AS
 CAN BE.

ONE CHINA, GOPHER
 EAST MEETS WEST,
 AND I CAN SEE.
 A CERTAIN SIMILARITY.

ONE CHINA
 I LIKE THE WAY YOU LOOK AT ME.

ONE CHINA, GOPHER
 A CUSTOM ON WHICH WE BOTH AGREE.

ONE CHINA
 ANCIENT ORIENTAL CUSTOM,
 WHEN YOU MEET A HANDSOME SOLDIER,
 DO A PRETTY DANCE TO PLEASE HIM.
 AND THAT'S THE ANCIENT ORIENTAL WAY.

DANCE BREAK.

GOPHER
 IF THAT'S AN ANCIENT CUSTOM,
 IT'S ONE I NEVER KNEW.

ONE CHINA
IT'S A CUSTOM THAT I JUST MADE UP
FOR YOU.

ONE CHINA, GOPHER
WE HAVE MANY DIFFERENT CUSTOMS,
THAT WE LEARN IN OUR YOUTH.
BUT ALL OF THEM SAY NICE TO KNOW
YOU,
AND THAT'S THE ANCIENT ORIENTAL TRUTH.

ONE CHINA
Hurry, we must leave. General Ko.

Exit One China, Gopher. Enter General Ko, sees them.

GENERAL KO
She's not the only one, who sings of
love.
Her sister plays the lover's part
too well,
And showers the young American with
affection,
Beyond what is needed to make him
play the fool.
She is blinded by the light from his
blue eyes.
And listens only to his soft love
songs.
This growth of young emotion promises,
To remove her most loyal commander
from her side. I, General Ko, who
have served her so well,
Through dangerous and difficult times.
And shown her loyalty, when others
were traitors,
Shown her courage when others were
cowards.
Shall the charm of tender youth,
replace my wisdom?
Never!

KO starts to exit. Enter THE White Lotus.

THE WHITE LOTUS
Did I hear One China?

GENERAL KO
Yes madame. But she is gone

THE WHITE LOTUS

I see.

GENERAL KO

Madame, may I speak?

White Lotus nods assent.

GENERAL KO (CONT'D)

Have you found out why the Americans were sent here?

THE WHITE LOTUS

Yes. They want us to set up an espionage ring around the Japanese air base. To give them early warning against air attack. They wish to protect the Burma road.

GENERAL KO

Setting up such agents would be extremely dangerous. Foolish. Certainly, the Japanese would find out.

We must execute them. Kill them immediately and turn their bodies over to the Japanese. (No reply.) Won't madame give an answer? Say the word, and they will be dead men. Madame, you endanger yourself.

THE WHITE LOTUS

It would be unwise to kill them. While we must consider the Japanese, we must also consider the Nationalists. We cannot be perceived as collaborators.

GENERAL KO

Does madame have some personal interest in the Americans?

THE WHITE LOTUS

I have no personal interest in the Americans. I think it best that the Americans be secretly sent back to the Nationalists. You will arrange to have them taken through enemy lines.

GENERAL KO
Madame is kind hearted, as expected.

THE WHITE LOTUS
Those are orders, General.

GENERAL KO
Yes, madame.

THE WHITE LOTUS
General. Bring the American
Lieutenant to me.

GENERAL KO
Yes, madame.

General Ko exits, returns with Johnny, exits.

THE WHITE LOTUS
Lieutenant, I have thought over your
request for agents to watch the air
base. It is far too dangerous.

JOHNNY
You mean you are not going to do it?

THE WHITE LOTUS
That is correct.

JOHNNY
I don't think you're doing the right
thing. The Burma Road is vital for
the Nationalists.

THE WHITE LOTUS
I can understand. But I do not want
to see many innocent people of the
Yunnan province killed.

JOHNNY
This is a war. A lot of innocent
people get killed. The sooner this
gets over, the better.

THE WHITE LOTUS
Nevertheless, my answer remains,
"no."

JOHNNY
You're making a mistake.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Also, Lieutenant, I would like to say that these last few days have been pleasant.

JOHNNY

Pleasant?

THE WHITE LOTUS

Yes. In this otherwise brutal war, the time we spent together will always be remembered fondly.

JOHNNY

Oh, I get it. First, you're not going to set up the agents. And now you're giving me the brush-off.

THE WHITE LOTUS

That is a very crude way of putting it.

JOHNNY

It's true, though.

THE WHITE LOTUS

I think it is time that you were escorted back the Nationalists. I will arrange to have you sent through enemy lines. .

JOHNNY

Look, somehow this isn't turning out the way I thought it would.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Lieutenant, you are a very romantic young man. Romantic men sometimes see only what they want to see.

JOHNNY

Look, I know this sounds crazy, but this way isn't going to last forever. Maybe when it is over....

THE WHITE LOTUS

That is a romantic delusion.

JOHNNY

I didn't think you'd be a coward.

(MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Afraid to care for me. Afraid to do what you should for your country. To hell with this concern about your people business.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Do not talk to me of cowardice. Every day of my life I am in danger. A wrong step to either side and I am dead. You mistake your foolishness for courage. What I do requires a determination that you cannot understand.

JOHNNY

You're too smart for your own good. You can convince yourself of anything and you're wrong. Now is the time for action.

THE WHITE LOTUS

General Ko!

JOHNNY

I know this wasn't a delusion.

Grabs her and kisses her.

Enter General Ko.

THE WHITE LOTUS

General, it is time to take out American friends back to the Nationalists. Go find the other American, and then come back for this Lieutenant Powers.

GENERAL KO

Yes, madame.

Exit General Ko, The White Lotus.

EXT. SURREAL STAGING AS A DREAM - EVENING

Enter Gopher, Lili, White Lotus, Colonel as chorus behind Johnny.

GOPHER

YOU WERE NAIVE TO BELIEVE IN HER,
WEARING YOUR HEART ON YOUR SLEEVE
FOR HER.

LILI

SO YOU GOT BURNED, JOHNNY.
NOW YOU'VE LEARNED, JOHNNY.
WHAT A CLEVER FOOL YOU WERE.

THE WHITE LOTUS

OH, JOHNNY, ROMEO, JOHNNY.
YOU WERE THE COY CAVALIER.
BUT JULIET, JOHNNY.
WOULDN'T LET JOHNNY, PLAY THE ROLE
OF HIS CAREER.

COLONEL

YOU WERE THE SMART AT THE ART OF
LOVE,
BUT YOU WERE STOPPED,
AT THE START OF LOVE.

JOHNNY

SO, JOHNNY, NOW YOU KNOW, JOHNNY,
WHAT A CLEVER FOOL YOU WERE.

TRIO

OH, JOHNNY, G.I. JOE, JOHNNY.
YOU WIN THE MEDALS TODAY.
A PURPLE HEART, JOHNNY,
FOR YOUR PART, JOHNNY,
IN THIS ORIENTAL PASSION PLAY.

JOHNNY

YOU LOST THE LUCKIEST CHANCE AROUND.
NOW FIND A NEW WORLD TO GO DANCE
AROUND.
SO BETTER GO, JOHNNY.
WESTWARD HO, JOHNNY.

GOPHER, COLONEL

BACK TO GOATS AND COWS AND CHICKENS,

TRIO

AND SMALL TOWN GIRLS AND SLIMMER
PICKENS.

ALL
 SO, NEXT TIME THAT YOUR HEARTBEAT
 QUICKENS, WHOA, JOHNNY.
 SLOW, JOHNNY.
 OH, JOHNNY OH.

EXT. PALACE OF THE WHITE LOTUS, GARDEN - EVENING

THE WHITE LOTUS
 Perhaps I was too hasty. I should
 have said something different. It
 is too late now. He is gone.
 Perhaps, on day, I will see his plane
 overhead.

Enter One China.

ONE CHINA
 My sister.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 Yes.

ONE CHINA
 General Ko has taken the Americans
 to the Japanese.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 General Ko has finally betrayed me.

ONE CHINA
 What will happen to the Americans?

THE WHITE LOTUS
 The Japanese will execute them as
 spies.
 (Pause.)

ONE CHINA
 We must save them.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 Such attempts would be foolish. Our
 lives are already in jeopardy.

ONE CHINA
 But the Americans will die.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 Unfortunately, there are many deaths
 in a war.

ONE CHINA

But they do not have to die. We must save them.

THE WHITE LOTUS

(To herself.)

How will I deal with the Japanese commander? (Pause.) I will tell him that I ordered General Ko to bring the Americans to him. That General Ko is lying in order to become the war lord of the province. Given the choice between believing General Ko and believing me, the commander will believe me.

ONE CHINA

We must try to save them.

THE WHITE LOTUS

No. Put that out of your mind.

ONE CHINA

Put it out of mind! That is what you do. Anything you do not want to think, you put out of your mind. Anything you don't want to feel, you put out of your mind.

THE WHITE LOTUS

That is enough.

ONE CHINA

You are afraid to love the American Lieutenant.

THE WHITE LOTUS

My dear sister. My displays of affection to the American Lieutenant were merely calculations.

ONE CHINA

I don't think so. You took long walks with him in the garden. You gave him long looks. You kissed him.

THE WHITE LOTUS

You've been spying on us.

ONE CHINA

You are afraid.

THE WHITE LOTUS

That is enough out of you. Get out of here.

ONE CHINA

Yes, my sister.

Exit One China.

THE WHITE LOTUS

Foolish girl. She mistakes a romantic flirtation for love.

She hesitates. Pauses. Walks about.

THE WHITE LOTUS (CONT'D)

WHY AM I AFRAID TO LOVE?
ISN'T THIS WHAT I'VE BEEN DREAMING
OF,
SOMEONE TO HOLD ME WHEN I FEEL ALONE,
SOMEONE TO SHARE THE PRECIOUS THINGS
I OWN.

WHY AM I AFRAID TO GIVE,
WITH SO LITTLE TIME WE HAVE TO LIVE.
THE DAYS PASS QUICKLY AND WE ALL
GROW OLD,
BUT TIME MEANS NOTHING WITH NO HAND
TO HOLD.

ISN'T THIS A CRAZY THING WAITING ALL
THESE YEARS.
FOR THE MAGIC CONCERT THEY SAY A
LOVER HEARS.
NOW THERE IS MUSIC LOUD AND STRONG,
WHAT MAGIC DOES IT BRING?
WHO'D HAVE THOUGHT THEY WOULD PLAY
MY SONG,
AND I'D BE AFRAID TO SING.

WHY AM I AFRAID TO TOUCH,
SOMETHING THAT I THOUGHT I'D WANT SO
MUCH.
SOMEONE WHO IS WAITING WHO IS WARM
AND WISE.

(MORE)

THE WHITE LOTUS (CONT'D)
 UNTIE MY HANDS NOW AND UNBLIND MY
 EYES.
 SHOW ME THE WAY LOVERS FLOAT LIKE
 THE CLOUDS UP ABOVE,
 CUT THE ROPES THAT BIND ME UP.
 TAKE THE KEY AND WIND ME UP,

 AND WE'LL SHARE THE MOMENTS LIFE IS
 MADE OF.
 I WON'T HAVE TO BE AFRAID OF...

One China!

Enter One China.

ONE CHINA
 Yes.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 We will get the Americans out.

ONE CHINA
 How?

THE WHITE LOTUS
 I'm not sure.

ONE CHINA
 We must use General Ko. I must use
 General Ko. I will go to the prison
 and ask to see him. I will tell him
 I had to act like I despised him
 because of you. He is vain and ugly.
 And he will believe me because he
 wants to believe me.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 Be careful.

ONE CHINA
 Yes, my sister. I must hurry.

Embrace. Exit One China.

THE WHITE LOTUS
 SHARE THE MOMENTS LIFE IS MADE OF,
 I WON'T HAVE TO BE AFRAID OF LOVE.

INT. PRISON - NIGHT

JOHNNY
YOU LEAVE YOU WORRIES ON THE GROUND.

GOPHER
NOTHING BUT YOU AND THE BLUE.

JOHNNY
WITH LIGHTENING AND THUNDER,

JOHNNY, GOPHER
HEIGHTENING THE WONDER,
OF THIS NEW PARADISE YOU'VE FOUND.
GEE, IT'S TERRIFIC TO SEE THE PACIFIC,
SPECIFICALLY, WHEN YOU'RE IN JAIL.
SO HERE WE GO, BUT WITH GENERAL KO,
YOU DON'T KNOW IF IT'S FLOG,

GOPHER
OR IF IT'S FLAIL.

JOHNNY
THIS LUCKY COWBOY, NEED LUCK NOW.

GOPHER
AND HOW BOY.

JOHNNY
TEN THOUSAND WINGS AND A PRAYER.

JOHNNY, GOPHER
TEN THOUSAND FEET IN THE AIR.

JOHNNY
How could she do this to me? They're
going to execute us for being spies.

GOPHER
Naw, they wouldn't do that, JOHNNY.

JOHNNY
Yes, they would, Gopher.

GOPHER
I only regret I don't have two lives.
(Pause.) One for my country, (Pause)
and one for me.

There I was, sitting quietly on a
(MORE)

GOPHER (CONT'D)
ranch in Wyoming. Wanted to be a
forest ranger. But no. I had to go
and listen to you.

JOHNNY
Do you hear something?

Enter One China.

GOPHER
How'd you get here?

ONE CHINA
General Ko is an evil fool. I
obtained the keys from him. I have
some men outside. They will help
us. Hurry. Here, take these.

Hands guns to Johnny, Gopher.

JOHNNY
Does the White Lotus know about this?

ONE CHINA
Yes, she sent me. She did not betray
you. General Ko did.

Everyone starts to exit.

ONE CHINA (CONT'D)
General Ko!?

GENERAL KO
Ha, ha.

One China jumps in front of Gopher. General Ko fires shot
and hits her. One China falls into Gopher's arms. Johnny
fires and General Ko falls. Johnny pulls Gopher away from
the dead One China.

GENERAL KO (CONT'D)
I can't leave her here, Johnny.

JOHNNY
You can't do anything now.

EXT. SURREAL STAGING AS A DREAM - EVENING

FIRST GIRL--TRIO

SOLDIER BOY, PLEASE DON'T TOY WITH
MY AFFECTION.
IN A DAY, MAYBE TWO, YOU'LL BE GONE.
THOUGH I KNOW YOU'D BE JOY AND
PERFECTION.
I CAN'T LOVE A MAN WITH A UNIFORM
ON.

SECOND GIRL--TRIO

SILVER WINGS, YOU'VE THINGS THAT I'D
PINE FOR.
I WOULD CRY MUCH TOO MUCH WHEN YOU'RE
GONE. FOR SOME SWEETIE WHO CLINGS,
YOU'D BE FINE FOR.
BUT I CAN'T LOVE A MAN WITH A UNIFORM
ON.

THIRD GIRL--TRIO

IT WAS ONLY A LARK, A WALK IN THE
PARK, A KISS AFTER DARK, THAT WAS
ALL.
SO WHEN YOU'RE FAR ACROSS THE SEA.
DON'T GIVE A THOUGHT TO ME.
WE DIDN'T REALLY FALL IN LOVE,
AT ALL, IN LOVE.

TRIO

NAVY BLUE, YOU'LL MAKE DO WITHOUT MY
KISSES,
FOR THE YEAR, MAYBE TWO THAT YOU'RE
GONE.
TRY FORGETTING THIS WOMAN WHO MISSES,
LOVING A MAN WITH A UNIFORM ON.
I'D LOVE TO LOVE A MAN WITH A UNIFORM
ON.
A MAN WITH A UNIFORM ON.

INT. PEARL OF THE ORIENT BAR AND GRILL - NIGHT

GOPHER

(At table.)

Why her, Johnny? You. Me. This is
a goddamn game. We're heroes if we
die. We're heroes if we live. Who
is she a hero for? She didn't ask
to be part of this war. She wasn't
out to prove anything to anybody.
Goddamn it, Johnny.

Enter Colonel

GOPHER (CONT'D)

At ease.

COLONEL

Carry on.

JOHNNY

What are you doing here, sir?

COLONEL

I was in the neighborhood. Though I'd check on troop morale. (Pinches Lili.) How's the ol' morale booster?

LILI

Mon general!

JOHNNY

Sir, have you heard anything about The White Lotus?

COLONEL

No. We haven't heard anything about her in weeks. Not sure what happened to her. She set up the agents, though. The Japanese can't move a fly off that base without us knowing about it.

Unusual woman, that White Lotus. No one knows where she is now.

LILI

Mon general, the boys seem very down.

COLONEL

Not good. Not good. No spirit. You men have to get out once in a while. Get some spirit. Learn how to enjoy yourself. Lili!

LILI

Hit it!

LILI THINKS YOU'RE CUTE.
IN YOU KHAKI SUIT.
YOU'RE A GOOD LOOKING GUY.
IT'S TIME TO FLY, FLY, FLY.

FIRST GIRL--TRIO
LILI THINKS WE'RE HOT.

SECOND GIRL--TRIO
LET'S SHOW HER WHAT WE'VE GOT.

THIRD GIRL--TRIO
IT'S TIME TO TAKE A CHANCE.

ALL
AND WE'RE GONNA DANCE, DANCE, DANCE.

COLONEL
I'VE BEEN BIT BY THE BOOGIE BUG.
REALLY HIT BY THE BOOGIE BUG. RIGHT
WHERE I SIT BY THE BOOGIE BUG.
THE BOOGIE BUG'S BEEN BUGGING ME.

ALL
I'VE BEEN STUNG BY THE SONG HE SUNG,
REALLY STUNG BY THE SONG HE SUNG,
MADE SO YOUNG BY THE SONG HE SUNG,
THE SONG HE SUNG'S A SERENADE TO ME.

GOPHER
HEAR THAT DRUMMER POUND. WHAT A
HAPPY SOUND. IT'S TIME TO CUT THE
RUG, ALONG WITH BOOGIE BUG.

TRIO
HEAR THAT SLIDE TROMBONE, AND THAT
SAXOPHONE.
THE BUG IS IN MY PANTS, AND I'M GOING
TO DANCE, DANCE, DANCE.

ALL
'CAUSE I GET HIGH ON HIS HARMONY, I
COULD FLY ON HIS HARMONY, RIGHT TO
THE SKY ON HIS HARMONY, HIS HARMONY
IS HEAVENLY TO ME.

LILI
I'M A BLAZE WITH THE BOOGIE BUG,
LOVE THIS CRAZE CALLED THE BOOGIE
BUG.

COLONEL
NOWADAYS, IT'S THE BOOGIE BUG.

ALL
THE BOOGIE BUG HAS BROUGHT THE BEAT
TO ME.

Dance Break

ALL (CONT'D)
THE BOOGIE BUG HAS COME TO TOWN.

TRIO
COME AND MEET HIM.

ALL
EVERYONE'S A DANCING CLOWN.

TRIO
WHEN THEY GREET HIM.

ALL
YOU'RE GOING TO GET A GREAT BIG HUG.

TRIO
THAT'S HOW WE TREAT HIM.

ALL
C'MON AND BITE YOUR BABY, MISTER
BOOGIE BUG.
PEOPLE JUMPING ON THE FLOOR.

TRIO
TO BOOGIE WOOGIE.

CAST
BEGGING FOR MORE, MORE, MORE.

TRIO
BOOGIE WOOGIE, PUT YOU NICKEL IN AND
CHOOSE, BOOGIE WOOGIE.

ALL
THE BOOGIE BUG CAN HELP YOU BEAT THE
BLUES.

Main dance break.

ALL (CONT'D)
HUBBA, HUBBA, HUBBA, HUBBA, HUBBA.

I'VE BEEN BIT BY THE BOOGIE BUG,
REALLY HIT BY THE BOOGIE BUG.

(MORE)

ALL (CONT'D)
 RIGHT WHERE I SIT BY THE BOOGIE BUG.
 THE BOOGIE BUG'S BEEN BUGGING ME.

I'M ABLAZE WITH THE BOOGIE BUG, LOVE
 THIS CRAZE CALLED THE BOOGIE BUG,
 NOWADAYS IT'S THE BOOGIE BUG. SO
 BLESS YOU BOOGIE BUG, FOR BRINGING
 THE BEAT TO ME.
 DO-WAH.

COLONEL
 Lili, I think it's time I took you
 on a tour of the base and showed you
 a few night maneuvers.

LILI
 But it's dark out.

COLONEL
 Lili!

LILI
 Ohhh!

COLONEL
 Come along, mon cheri!

LILI
 Continental???

Colonel and Lili exit.

GOPHER
 Johnny, I think we'd better get headed
 back. It's getting late.

JOHNNY
 I will in a while.

GOPHER
 Don't be so down. She might be ok.

JOHNNY
 And if not?

GOPHER
 We've been though a lot together.
 If you need somebody to talk to,
 talk to me.

Johnny, Gopher embrace. Exit Gopher. Johnny takes out perfume bottle.

JOHNNY
WE'LL SAIL THOUGH THE NIGHT, ON A
MAGICAL FLIGHT.

Enter The White Lotus.

THE WHITE LOTUS
DANCE AROUND THE WORLD WITH ME.
CATCH A STAR, PASSING BY.

How is my young Lieutenant tonight?

JOHNNY
Older.

I'm sorry about One China. (Pause.) You risked your life.

THE WHITE LOTUS
I have spent my life doing what had
to be done. But now... does Johnny's
air force still need its co-pilot?

Her hand goes to wings on jacket. Johnny extends his hands to her. Embrace. Music reprise of DANCE AROUND THE WORLD." Fade to black.

THE END
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