

CATS LIBRETTO

Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER.

Based on "Old Possum's Book Of Practical Cats" by T.S. ELIOT.

Additional Lyrics by TREVOR NUNN and RICHARD STILGOE.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE: "When Cats Are Maddened By The Midnight Dance"

OVERTURE *

PROLOGUE: JELLCLE SONGS FOR JELLCLE CATS

THE NAMING OF CATS

THE INVITATION TO THE JELLCLE BALL

THE OLD GUMBIE CAT

THE RUM TUM TUGGER

GRIZABELLA, THE GLAMOUR CAT

BUSTOPHER JONES

MUNGOJERRIE AND RUMPLETEAZER

OLD DEUTERONOMY

THE AWFUL BATTLE OF THE PEKES AND THE POLLICLES

THE SONG OF THE JELLCLES/THE JELLCLE BALL*

MEMORY

ACT TWO: "Why Will The Summer Day Delay - When Will Time Flow Away"

THE MOMENTS OF HAPPINESS

MEMORY

GUS, THE THEATRE CAT

GROWLTIGER'S LAST STAND

SKIMBLESHANKS, THE RAILWAY CAT

MACAVITY

MISTER MISTOFFOLEES

MEMORY

THE JOURNEY TO THE HEAVYSIDE LAYER

THE AD-DRESSING OF CATS

FINALE *

*** Denotes Instrumental numbers.**

ACT ONE

"When Cats Are Maddened By The Midnight Dance"

OVERTURE

PROLOGUE: JELlicle SONGS FOR JELlicle CATS

MUNKUSTRAP

Are you blind when you're born?

DEMETER

Can you see in the dark?

ASPARAGUS

Can you look at a king?

SKIMBLESHANKS

Would you sit on his throne?

TUGGER

Can you say of your bite that it's worse than your bark?

ALONZO

Are you cock of the walk

GRIZABELLA

When you're walking alone?

COMPANY

Because Jellicles are and Jellicles do
Jellicles would and Jellicles could
Jellicles would and Jellicles can
Jellicles can and Jellicles do

JELLYLORUM

When you fall on your head, do you land on your feet?

SCORICOPAT

Are you tense when you sense there's a storm in the air?

SILLABUB

Can you find your way blind when you're lost in the street?

DEUTERONOMY

Do you know how to go to the Heavyside layer?

COMPANY

Because Jellicles can and Jellicles do
Jellicles do and Jellicles can
Jellicles can and Jellicles do
Jellicles do and Jellicles can
Jellicles can and Jellicles do

TANTOMILE

Can you ride on a broomstick to places far distant?

JENNYANYDOTS

Familiar with candle, with book, and with bell?

BOMBALURINA

Were you Whittington's friend?

POUNCIVAL

The Pied Piper's assistant?

PLATO

Have you been an alumnus of heaven or hell?

TUMBLEBRUTUS

Are you mean like a minx?

VICTORIA

Are you lean like a lynx?

MUNGOJERRIE & RUMPLETEAZER

Are you keen to be seen when you're smelling a rat?

CASSANDRA

Were you there when the pharaohs commissioned the Sphinx?

COMPANY

If you were and you are, you're a Jellicle cat!

Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats
Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats
Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats
Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats
Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats

We can dive through the air like a flying trapeze
We can turn double somersaults, bounce on a tire
We can run up a wall, we can swing through the trees
We can balance on bars, we can walk on a wire

Jellicles can and Jellicles do
Jellicles can and Jellicles do
Jellicles can and Jellicles do
Jellicles can and Jellicles do

Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats
Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats
Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats
Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats

Can you sing at the same time in more than one key?

Duets by Rossini and waltzes by Strauss?
And can you as cats do begin with a 'C'?
That always triumphantly brings down the house?

Jellicle cats are queen of the nights
Singing at astronomical heights
Handling pieces from the 'Messiah'
Hallelujah, angelical Choir

The mystical divinity of unashamed felinity
Round the cathedral rang 'Vivat'
Life to the everlasting cat!
Feline, fearless, faithful and true
To others who do what

Jellicles do and Jellicles can
Jellicles can and Jellicles do
Jellicle cats sing Jellicle chants
Jellicles old and Jellicles new
Jellicle song and Jellicle dance

Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats
Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats
Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats
Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats

Practical cats, dramatical cats
Pragmatical cats, fanatical cats
Oratorical cats, Delphic-Oracle cats
Sceptical cats, Dyspeptical cats
Romantical cats, Pedantical cats
Critical cats, parasitical cats
Allegorical cats, metaphorical cats
Statistical cats and mystical cats
Political cats, hypocritical cats
Clerical cats, hysterical cats

Cynical cats, rabbinical cats

Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats
Jellicle bells that Jellicles ring
Jellicle sharps and Jellicle flats
Jellicle songs that Jellicles sing

Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats
Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats
Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats
Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats
Jellicle songs for Jellicle cats

ASPARAGUS

There's a man over there with a look of surprise
As much as to say well now how about that?

MUNKUSTRAP

Do I actually see with my own very eyes
A man who's not heard of a Jellicle cat?
What's a Jellicle cat?

COMPANY

What's a Jellicle cat?

THE NAMING OF CATS

COMPANY

The naming of cats is a difficult matter
It isn't just one of your holiday games
You may think at first I'm mad as a hatter
When I tell you a cat must have three different names

First of all, there's the name that the family use daily
Such as Peter, Augustus, Alonzo or James
Such as Victor or Jonathan, George or Bill Bailey

All of them are sensible, everyday names

There are fancier names if you think they sound sweeter,
Some for the gentleman, some for the dames,
Such as Plato, Admetus, Electra, Demeter,
But all of them sensible everyday names.

But I tell you a cat needs a name that's particular
A name that's peculiar and more dignified
Else how can he keep up his tail perpendicular?
Or spread out his whiskers or cherish his pride?

Of names of this kind, I can give you a quorum
Such as Munkustrap, Quaxo or Coricopat
Such as Bombalurina, or else Jellylorum
Names that never belong to more than one cat

But above and beyond there's still one name left over
And that is the name that you will never guess
The name that no human research can discover
But the cat himself knows and will never confess

When you notice a cat in profound meditation
The reason, I tell you, is always the same
His mind is engaged in rapt contemplation
Of the thought, of the thought, of the thought of his name
His ineffable, effable, effanineffable
Deep and inscrutable singular name
Name, name, name, name, name, name

THE INVITATION TO THE JELLCLE BALL

MUNUSTRAP

Jellicle cats come out tonight
Jellicle cats come one, come all
The Jellicle moon is shining bright

Jellicles come to the Jellicle ball
Jellicle cats come out tonight
Jellicles come to the Jellicle ball

COMPANY

Jellicle cats come out tonight
Jellicle cats come one, come all
The Jellicle moon is shining bright
Jellicles come to the Jellicle ball
Jellicle cats come out tonight
Jellicle cats come one, come all
The Jellicle moon is shining bright
Jellicles come to the Jellicle ball

MUNUSTRAP

Jellicle cats meet once a year
At the Jellicle ball where we all rejoice
And the Jellicle leader will soon appear
And make what is known as the Jellicle choice
When Old Deuteronomy just before dawn
Through a silence you feel you could cut with a knife
Announces the cat who can now be reborn
And come back to different Jellicle life
Because waiting up there is the Heaviside layer
With wonders one Jellicle only will see
Jellicles ask because Jellicles dare
Who will it be?

COMPANY

Who will it be?

THE OLD GUMBIE CAT

MUNUSTRAP

I have a Gumbie Cat in mind, her name is Jennyanydots
Her coat is of the tabby kind with tiger stripes and leopard spots

MATHEW = All day she sits beneath the stairs or on the steps or on the mat
BOTH - She sits and sits and sits and sits and that's what makes a Gumbie Cat

TRIO (DEMTER, BOMBALURINA, JELLYLORUM)

But when the day's hustle and bustle is done
Then the Gumbie Cat's work is but hardly begun
And when all the family's in bed and asleep
She tucks up her skirts to the basement to creep
She is deeply concerned with the ways of the mice

JENNYANYDOTS

Their behaviour's not good and their manners not nice

TRIO12

So when she has got them lined up on the matting
She teaches them Music, crocheting and tatting

MUNUSTRAP

I have a Gumbie Cat in mind, her name is Jennyanydots
The curtain cord she likes to wind and tie it into sailor knots
MAT - She sits upon the window sill or anything that's smooth and flat
BOTH - She sits and sits and sits and sits and that's what makes a Gumbie Cat

TRIO12

But when the day's hustle and bustle is done
Then the Gumbie cat's work is but hardly begun
She thinks that the

JENNYANYDOTS

Cockroaches need employment
To prevent them from idle and wanton destruction

TRIO12

So she's formed from that lot of disorderly louts

A troop of well disciplined helpful boy scouts

JENNYANYDOTS

With a purpose in life and a good deed to do

TRIO12

And she's even created a beetles tattoo!

COMPANY

For she's a jolly good fellow!

JENNYANYDOTS

Thank you my dears!

THE RUM TUM TUGGER

COMPANY

The Rum Tum Tugger is a curious cat

TUGGER

If you offer me pheasant, I'd rather have grouse

If you put me in a house, I would much prefer a flat

If you put me in a flat, I would rather have a house

If you set me on a mouse, then I only want a rat

If you set me on a rat, then I'd rather chase a mouse

COMPANY

The Rum Tum Tugger is a curious cat

TUGGER

And there isn't any need for me to shout it

COMPANY

For he will do as he do do

TUGGER

And there's nothing doing about it

MISTOFFOLEES

The Rum Tum Tugger is a terrible bore

TUGGER

When you let me in, then I want to go out
I'm always on the wrong side of every door
And as soon as I'm at home, then I'd like to get about
I like to lie in the bureau drawer
But I make such a fuss if I can't get out

COMPANY

The Rum Tum Tugger is a curious cat

TUGGER

And there isn't any need for me to shout it

COMPANY

For he will do as he do do

TUGGER

And there's nothing doing about it

COMPANY

The Rum Tum Tugger is a curious beast

TUGGER

My disobligng ways are a matter of habit
If you offer me fish, then I always want a feast
When there isn't any fish, then I won't eat rabbit
If you offer me cream, then I sniff and sneer
For I only like what I find for myself
So you'll catch me in it right up to my ears
If you put it away on the larder shelf

The Rum Tum Tugger is artful and knowing
The Rum Tum Tugger doesn't care for a cuddle
But I'll leap upon your lap in the middle of your sewing
For there's nothing I enjoy like a horrible muddle!

COMPANY

The Rum Tum Tugger is a curious cat
The Rum Tum Tugger

TUGGER

Doesn't care for a cuddle

COMPANY

The Rum Tum Tugger is a curious cat

TUGGER

And there isn't any need for me to shout it

COMPANY

For he will do as he do do

TUGGER

And there's nothing doing about it

GRIZABELLA THE GLAMOUR CAT

GRIZABELLA

Remark the cat who hesitates toward you
In the light of the door which opens on her like a grin
You see the border of her coat is torn and stained with sand
And you see the corner of her eye twist like a crooked pin

DEMETER

She haunted many a low resort
Near the grimy road of Tottenham Court
She flitted about the No Man's Land

From "The Rising Sun" to "The Friend at Hand"
And the postman sighed as he scratched his head
"You really had thought she'd ought to be dead
And who would ever suppose that that
Was Grizabella, the Glamour Cat?"

BOMBALURINA

Grizabella, the Glamour Cat

BOMBALURINA & DEMETER

Grizabella, the Glamour Cat

COMPANY

Who' would ever suppose that that
Was Grizabella the Glamour Cat?

BUSTOPHER JONES

JENNYANYDOTS

Bustopher Jones is not skin and bones

BOMBALURINA

In fact, he's remarkably fat

JELLYLORUM

He doesn't haunt pubs

JENNYANYDOTS

He has eight or nine clubs

ALL THREE

For he's the St. James Street cat!

JENNYANYDOTS

He's the cat we all greet as he walks down the street
In his coat of fastidious black

BOMBALURINA

No common-place mousers have such well-cut trousers

JELLYLORUM

Or such an impeccable back

COMPANY

In the whole of St. James's the smartest of names is
The name of this Brummell of cats
And we're all of us proud to be nodded or bowed to
By Bustopher Jones in white spats

BUSTOPHER JONES

My visits are occasional to the Senior Educational
And it is against the rules
For any one cat to belong both to that
And the Joint Superior Schools

When I'm seen in a hurry there's probably curry
At the Siamese or at the Glutton
If I look full of gloom then
I've lunched at the Tomb
On cabbage, rice pudding and mutton

COMPANY

In the whole of St. James's the smartest of names is
The name of this Brummell of cats
And we're all of us proud to be nodded or bowed to
By Bustopher Jones in white spats

JENNYANYDOTS

So much in this way passes Bustopher's day
At one club or another he's found
It can be no surprise that under our eyes
He has grown unmistakably round

He's a twenty-five pounder

BUSTOPHER JONES

Or I am a bounder

JENNYANYDOTS

And he's putting on weight every day

BUSTOPHER JONES

But I'm so well preserved because I've observed
All my life a routine and I'd say
I am still in my prime, I shall last out my time

JENNYANYDOTS

That's the word from this stoutest of cats

COMPANY

It must and it shall be spring in Pall Mall
While Bustopher Jones wears white,
Bustopher Jones wears white,
Bustopher Jones wears white spats

DEMETER

Macavity!

MUNGOJERRIE AND RUMPLETEAZER

MUNGOJERRIE

Mungojerrie

RUMPLETEAZER

And Rumpelteazer

MUNGOJERRIE & RUMPLETEAZER

We're a notorious couple of cats
As knockabout clowns, quick change comedians

Tight-rope walkers and acrobats

MUNGOJERRIE

We have an extensive reputation
We make our home in Victoria Grove
That is merely our centre of operation

MUNGOJERRIE & RUMPLETEAZER

For we are incurably given to rove

MUNGOMATES

If the area window is found ajar
Or the basement looks like a field of war
If a tile or two comes loose on the roof
Which presently fails to be waterproof

MUNGOJERRIE

If the drawers are pulled out from bedroom chests
And you can't find one of your winter vests

RUMPLES CHUMS

If after supper one of the girls
Suddenly misses her Woolworth pearls

ALL

Then the family will say, "It's that horrible cat!"

MUNGOJERRIE

"Was it Mungojerrie

RUMPLETEAZER

Or Rumpelteazer!"

ALL

And most of the time they leave it at that

MUNGOJERRIE & RUMPLETEAZER

Mungojerrie and Rumpelteazer have a very unusual gift of the gab

RUMPLETEAZER

We are highly efficient cat burglars as well
And remarkably smart at the smash and grab

MUNGOJERRIE

We make our home in Victoria Grove
We have no regular occupation
We are plausible fellows who like to engage

MUNGOJERRIE & RUMPLETEAZER

A friendly policeman in conversation

When the family assembles for Sunday dinner
Their minds made up that they won't get thinner
On Argentine joint, Potatoes and greens
Then the cook will appear from behind the scenes
And say in a voice that is broken with sorrow
"I'm afraid you must wait and have dinner tomorrow
For the joint has gone from the oven like that!"
Then the family will say, "It's that horrible cat!

MUNGOJERRIE

"Was it Mungojerrie

RUMPLETEAZER

Or Rumpelteazer!"

MUNGOJERRIE & RUMPLETEAZER

And most of the time they leave it at that

Mungojerrie and Rumpelteazer have a wonderful way
Of working together
And some of the time you would say it was luck

And some of the time you would say it was weather
We go through the house like a hurricane
And no sober person could take his oath

MUNGOJERRIE

Was it Mungojerrie?

RUMPLETEAZER

Or Rumpelteazer?

MUNGOJERRIE & RUMPLETEAZER

Or could you have sworn that it mightn't be both?

And when you hear a dining room smash
Or up from the pantry there comes a loud crash
Or down from the library there comes a loud ping
From a vase that was commonly said to be Ming
Then the family will say: "Now which was which cat?"

MUNGOJERRIE

It was Mungojerrie

RUMPLETEAZER

And Rumpelteazer!"

MUNGOJERRIE & RUMPLETEAZER

And there's nothing at all to be done about that!

OLD DEUTERONOMY

TANTOMILE

I believe it is Old Deuteronomy.

COMPANY

Well of all things! Can it be, really!
Yes...No...Ho...Hi! Oh my eye!

My mind may be wandering but I confess
I believe it is Old Deuteronomy

MUNKUSTRAP

Old Deuteronomy's lived a long time
He's a cat who has lived many lives in succession
He was famous in proverb and famous in rhyme
A long while before Queen Victoria's accession

TUGGER

Old Deuteronomy's buried nine wives
And more I am tempted to say ninety-nine
And his numerous progeny prospers and thrives
And the village is proud of him in his decline

MUNKUSTRAP

At the sight of that placid and bland physiognomy
When he sits in the sun on the vicarage wall
The oldest inhabitant croaks,

MUNKUSTRAP & TUGGER

Well of all things! Can it be, really!
Yes...No...Ho...Hi! Oh my eye!
My mind may be wandering but I confess
I believe it is Old Deuteronomy

ASPARAGUS

Old Deuteronomy sits in the street
He sits in the High Street on market day
The Bullocks may bellow, the sheep they may bleat
But the dogs and the herdsmen will turn them away

ASPARAGUS & MUNKUSTRAP

The cars and the lorries run over the curb
And the villagers put up a notice: "Road Closed"
So that nothing untoward may chance to disturb

Deuteronomy's rest when he feels so disposed
The digestive repose of that feline's gastronomy
Must never be broken, whatever befall
And the oldest inhabitant croaks,

COMPANY

Well of all things! Can it be, really!
Yes...No...Ho...Hi! Oh my eye!
My mind may be wandering but I confess
I believe it is Old Deuteronomy

Well of all things! Can it be, really!
Yes...No...Ho...Hi! Oh my eye!
My mind may be wandering but I confess
I believe it is Old Deuteronomy
Well of all things! Can it be, really!
Yes...No...Ho...Hi! Oh my eye!

DEUTERONOMY

My legs may be tottery, I must go slow
And be careful of Old Deuteronomy!

DEUTERONOMY

Pollicle dogs and cats all must
Jellicle cats and dogs all must
Like undertakers, come to dust

MUNKUSTRAP

Jellicle cats meet once a year
On the night when we make the Jellicle choice
And now that the Jellicle leader is here,
Jellicle Cats can all rejoice!

THE AWFUL BATTLE OF THE PEKES AND THE POLLICLES

MUNKUSTRAP

Of the awful battle of the Pokes and the Pollicles
Together with some account of the participation
Of the Pugs and the Poms
And the intervention of the Great Rumpus Cat

The Pokes and the Pollicles, as everyone knows.
Are proud and implacable passionate foes
It is always the same, wherever one goes
And the Pugs and the Poms, although most people say
That they do not like fighting, yet once in a way
They will now and again join in to the fray

And they

PEKES & POLLICLES

Bark bark bark bark
Bark bark BARK BARK!

MUNKUSTRAP

Until you can hear them all over the park

Now on the occasion of which I shall speak
Almost nothing had happened for nearly a week
And that's a long time for a Pol or a Peke
The big Police Dog was away from his beat
I don't know the reason, but most people think
He'd slipped into the Wellington Arms for a drink
And no one at all was about on the street
When a Peke and a Pollicle happened to meet
They did not advance, or exactly retreat
But they glared at each other, and scraped their hind feet

And started to:

PEKES & POLLICLES

Bark bark bark bark

Bark bark BARK BARK!

MUNKUSTRAP

Until you could hear them all over the park

Now the Peke, although people may say what they please
Is no British Dog, but a heathen Chinese
And so all the Pekes, when they heard the uproar
Some came to the window, some came to the door
There were surely a dozen, more likely a score
And together they started to grumble and wheeze
In their huffery-snuffery heathen Chinese
But a terrible din is what Pollicles like
For your Pollicle Dog is a dour Yorkshire tyke
And is braw Scottish cousins are snappers and biters
And every dog-jack of them notable fighters
And so they stepped out, with their pipers in order
Playing When the Blue Bonnets Came Over the Border
Then the Pugs and the Poms held no longer aloof
But some from the balcony, some from the roof
Joined in to the din
With a

PEKES & POLLICLES

Bark bark bark bark

Bark bark BARK BARK!

MUNKUSTRAP

Until you could hear them all over the park

POLLICLES

There are dogs out of every nation
The Irish, the Welsh and the Dane
The Russian, the Dutch the Dalmatian
And even from China and Spain
The Poodle, the Pom, the Alsatian

And the mastiff who walks on a chain

MUNKUSTRAP

And to those that are frisky and froliccal
Let my meaning be perfectly plain

POLLICLES

That my name it is Little Tom Pollicle
And you'd better not do it again

MUNKUSTRAP

Now when these bold heroes together assembled
The traffic all stopped, and the Underground trembled
And some of the neighbours were so much afraid
That they started to ring up the Fire Brigade
When suddenly, up from a small basement flat
Why who should stalk out but the Great Rumpus Cat!
His eyes were like fireballs fearfully blazing
He gave a great yawn, and his jaws were amazing
And when he looked through the bars of the area
You never saw anything fiercer or hairier
And what with the glare of his eyes and his yawning
The Pekes and the Pollicles quickly took warning
He looked at the sky and he gave a great leap
And they every last one of them scattered like sheep
And when the Police Dog returned to his beat,
There wasn't a single one left in the street

THE SONG OF THE JELLICLES/THE JELICLE BALL

DEUTERONOMY

Jellicle cats come out tonight

DEUTERONOMY, VICTORIA & SILLABUB

Jellicle cats come one, come all

DEUTERONOMY, VICTORIA, SILLABUB & MUNKUSTRAP

The Jellicle moon is shining bright
Jellicles come to the Jellicle ball

ALONZO

Jellicle cats are black and white
Jellicle cats are rather small

VICTORIA & SILLABUB

Jellicle cats are merry and bright
And pleasant to hear when we caterwaul

SKIMBLESHANKS

Jellicle cats have cheerful faces

POUNCIVAL

Jellicle cats have bright black eyes

TANTOMILE & CORICOPAT

We like to practice our airs and graces

COMPANY

And wait for the Jellicle moon to rise

ALONZO, MUNKUSTRAP & PLATO

Jellicle cats develop slowly

TUMBLEBRUTUS

Jellicle cats are not too big

ASPARAGUS

Jellicle cats are roly-poly

MISTOFFOLEES, SKIMBLESHANKS & POUNCIVAL

We know how to dance a gavotte and a jig

DEMETER

Until the Jellicle moon appears

BOMBALURINA

We make our toilette and take our repose

JELLYLORUM

Jellicles wash behind their ears

JENNYANYDOTS

Jellicles dry between their toes

TANTOMILE & CORICOPAT

Jellicle cats are white and black

RUMPLETEAZER

Jellicle cats are of moderate size

SKIMBLESHANKS & POUNCIVAL

Jellicles jump like a jumping jack

CASSANDRA

Jellicle cats have moonlit eyes

COMPANY

We're quiet enough in the morning hours

We're quiet enough in the afternoon

MISTOFFOLEES & MUNKUSTRAP

Reserving our terpsichorean powers

COMPANY

To dance by the light of the Jellicle moon

PLATO

Jellicle cats are black

VICTORIA, SILLABUB & RUMPLETEAZER

And white

SKIMBLESHANKS, POUNCIVAL & MISTOFFOLEES

Jellicle cats, as we said, are small

ALONZO, PLATO & MUNKUSTRAP

If it happens to be a stormy night

SKIMBLESHANKS, POUNCIVAL & MISTOFFOLEES

We will practice a caper or two in the hall

COMPANY

If it happens the sun is shining bright

TUGGER

You would say we had nothing to do at all

COMPANY

We are resting and saving ourselves to be right
For the Jellicle Moon and the Jellicle ball

Jellicle cats come out tonight
Jellicle cats come one, come all
The Jellicle moon is shining bright
Jellicles come to the Jellicle ball

(Here follows "The Jellicle Ball")

MEMORY

JELLYLORUM

You see the border of her coat is torn
And stained with sand

SILLABUB

You see the corner of her eye
Twist like a crooked pin

GRIZABELLA

Silence, not a sound from the pavement
Has the moon lost her memory?
She is smiling alone
In the lamplight the withered leaves collect at my feet
And the wind begins to moan

Every street lamp seems to beat a fatalistic warning
Someone mutters and the street lamp gutters
And soon it will be morning

Memory, all alone in the moonlight
I can smile at the old days
I was beautiful then
I remember the time I knew what happiness was
Let the memory live again

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

**Why Will the Summer Day Delay, When Will Time Flow
Away.**

THE MOMENTS OF HAPPINESS

DEUTERONOMY

The moments of happiness
We had the experience but missed the meaning
And approach to the meaning restores the experience
In a different form beyond any meaning
We can assign to happiness
The past experience revived in the meaning
Is not the experience of one life only
But of many generations
Not forgetting something that is probably quite ineffable

MEMORY

SILLABUB

Moonlight, turn your face to the moonlight
Let your memory lead you
Open up, enter in
If you find there the meaning of what happiness is
Then a new life will begin

COMPANY

Moonlight, turn your face to the moonlight
Let your memory lead you
Open up, enter in
If you find there the meaning of what happiness is
Then a new life will begin

GUS, THE THEATRE CAT

JELLYLORUM

Gus is the cat at the theatre door
His name, as I ought to have told you before
Is really Asparagus, but that's a fuss to pronounce
That we usually call him just Gus
His coat's very shabby, he's thin as a rake
And he suffers from palsy that makes his paw shake

Yet he was in his youth quite the smartest of cats
But no longer a terror to mice or to rats

For he isn't the cat that he was in his prime
Though his name was quite famous, he says, in his time
And whenever he joins his friends at their club
Which takes place at the back of the neighbouring pub
He loves to regale them, if someone else pays
With anecdotes drawn from his palmiest days
For he once was a star of the highest degree
He has acted with Irving, he's acted with Tree
And he likes to relate his success on the halls
Where the gallery once gave him seven cat calls
But his greatest creation as he loves to tell
Was Firefrorefiddle, the fiend of the fell

ASPARAGUS

I have played in my time every possible part
And I used to know seventy speeches by heart
I'd extemporize back-chat, I knew how to gag
And I knew how to let the cat out of the bag
I knew how to act with my back and my tail
With an hour of rehearsal, I never could fail
I'd a voice that would soften the hardest of hearts
Whether I took the lead, or in character parts
I have sat by the bedside of poor little Nell
When the curfew was rung then I swung on the bell
In the pantomime season, I never fell flat
And I once understudied Dick Whittington's cat
But my grandest creation, as history will tell
Was Firefrorefiddle, the fiend of the fell

JELLYLORUM

Then, if someone will give him a toothful of gin
He will tell how he once played a part in East Lynne
At a Shakespeare performance he once walked on pat

When some actor suggested the need for a cat

ASPARAGUS

I say now these kittens, they do not get trained
As we did in the days when Victoria reigned
They never get drilled in a regular troupe
And they think they are smart just to jump through a hoop

JELLYLORUM

And he says as he scratches himself with his claws:

ASPARAGUS

Well the theatre is certainly not what it was
These modern productions are all very well
But there's nothing to equal from what I hear tell
That moment of mystery when I made history
As Firefrowfiddle, the fiend of the fell

I once crossed the stage on the telegraph wire
To rescue a child when a house was on fire
And I think that I still can much better than most
Produce blood curdling noises to bring on the ghost
And I once played Growltiger
Could do it again, could do it again
Could do it again. . .

GROWLTIGER'S LAST STAND

PIRATES

Growltiger was a bravo cat who travelled on a barge
In fact he was the roughest cat that ever roamed at large

MUNKUSTRAP (as a PIRATE)

From Gravesend up to Oxford he pursued his evil aims
Rejoicing in his title of

GROWLTIGER (ASPARAGUS)

The "Terror of the Thames"! Ha ha ha ha!

TUGGER (as a PIRATE)

His manners and appearance did not calculate to please
His coat was torn and seedy, it was baggy at the knees

SKIMBLESHANKS (as a PIRATE)

One ear was somewhat missing, no need to tell you why
And he scowled upon a hostile world from one forbidding eye

PIRATES

The cottagers of Rotherhithe knew something of his fame
At Hammersmith and Putney, people shuddered at his name

ALONZO (as a PIRATE)

They would fortify the hen house, lock up the silly goose

PIRATES

When the rumour ran along the shore:

GROWLTIGER

Growltiger's on the loose! Ha ha ha ha!

MISTOFFOLESS (as a PIRATE)

Woe to the weak canary that fluttered from its cage

TUGGER

Woe to the pampered Pekinese, that faced Growltiger's rage

SKIMBLESHANKS

Woe the bristly bandicoot that lurks on foreign ships

MUNKUSTRAP

And woe to any cat with whom Growltiger came to grips

PIRATES

But most to cats of foreign race his hatred had been vowed
To cats of foreign name and race, no quarter was allowed
The Persian and the Siamese regarded him with fear
Because it was a Siamese had mauled his missing ear

Now on a peaceful summer night all nature seemed at play
The tender moon was shining bright, the barge at Molesey lay
All in the balmy moonlight it lay rocking on the tide
And Growltiger was disposed to show his sentimental side

GRIDDLEBONE (JELLYLORUM)

Chi e la?

GROWLTIGER

Mi amor!

GRIDDLEBONE

Sono qui

PIRATES

In the forepeak of the vessel, Growltiger sat alone

GROWLTIGER

Concentrating my attention on the lady Griddlebone

PIRATES

And his raffish crew were sleeping in their barrels and their bunks
As the Siamese came creeping in their sampans and their junks

GRIDDLEBONE

Growltiger had no eye or ear for aught but Griddlebone

GROWLTIGER

And the lady seemed enraptured by my manly baritone

GROWLTIGER & GRIDDLEBONE

Disposed to relaxation and awaiting no surprise

SIAMESE

But the moonlight shone reflected from a thousand bright blue eyes

And closer still and closer the sampans circled 'round
And yet from all the enemy there was not heard a sound
The foe was armed with toasting forks and cruel carving knives
And the lovers sang their last duet in danger of their lives

GROWLTIGER

In una tepida notte d'estate, allorché la natura
Era nel pieno filgore, e la fresca rugiada
Splendeva al chiar di luna sopra la veruza
Si poteva vedere il galeone ancorato
Oscillare in silenzio nel vento profumato
Dalla marea del naviglio serenamente cullato
In quella tepida notte che c'è dunque di male
Se intanta poesia il pirata divento sentimentale

GROWLTIGER & GRIDDLEBONE

Oscillare in silenzio nel vento profumato
Dalla marea del naviglio serenamente cullato
In quella tepida notte
In quella tepida notte
In quella tepida notte

GENGHIS

Then Genghis gave the signal to his fierce Mongolian hordes
With a frightful burst of fireworks, the chinks they swarmed aboard
Abandoning their sampans, their pullaways, and junks
They battened down the hatches on the crew within their bunks

Then Griddlebone she gave a screech for she was badly skeered
I'm sorry to admit it, but she quickly disappeared

GROWLTIGER

She probably escaped with ease I'm sure she was not drowned

SIAMESE

But a serried ring of flashing steel Growltiger did surround

The ruthless foe pressed forward in stubborn rank on rank
Growltiger to his vast surprise was forced to walk the plank
He who a hundred victims had driven to that drop
At the end of all his crimes was forced to go ker-flip, ker-flop!

GROWLTIGER

Ahhhhh!!!

SIAMESE

Oh there was joy in Wapping when the news flew through the land
At Maidenhead and Henley there was dancing on the Strand
Rats were roasted whole in Brentford and Victoria Dock
And a day of celebration was commanded in Bangkok!

ASPARAGUS

These modern productions are all very well
But there's nothing to equal from what I hear tell
That moment of mystery when I made history

SKIMBLESHANKS, THE RAILWAY CAT

DEUTERONOMY

Skimbleshanks the railway cat

COMPANY

The cat of the railway train

There's a whisper down the line at eleven thirty-nine
When the night mail's ready to depart

Saying, "Skimble, where is Skimble has he gone to hunt the thimble
We must find him or the train can't start!"
All the guards and all the porters and the station-master's daughters
Would be searching high and low
Saying "Skimble, where is Skimble for unless he's very nimble
Then the night mail just can't go"
At eleven forty-two with the signal overdue
And the passengers all frantic to a man

SKIMBLESHANKS

That's when I would appear and I'd saunter to the rear
I'd been busy in the luggage van!

COMPANY

Then he gave one flash of his glass-green eyes
And the signal went "All clear!"
They'd be off at last for the northern part of the northern hemisphere!
Skimbleshanks, the railway cat
The cat of the railway train!

SKIMBLESHANKS

A - You might say that by and large it was me who was in charge
Of the sleeping car express
B - From the driver and the guards to the bagmen playing cards
I would supervise them all more or less

COMPANY

Down the corridor he paces and examines all the faces
Of the travellers in the first and the third
He establishes control by a regular patrol
And he'd know at once if anything occurred
He would watch you without winking and he saw what you were thinking
And it's certain that he didn't approve
Of hilarity and riot, so that folk were very quiet
When Skimble was about and on the move
You could play no pranks with Skimbleshanks

He's a cat that couldn't be ignored
So nothing went wrong on the northern mail
When Skimbleshanks was aboard

SKIMBLESHANKS

It was very pleasant when they'd found their little den
With their name written up on the door
And the berth was very neat with a newly folded sheet on
And not a speck of dust on the floor
There was every sort of light you could make it dark or bright
And a button you could turn to make a breeze
And a funny little basin you're supposed to wash your face in
And a crank to shut the window should you sneeze
Then the guard looked in politely and would ask you very brightly
"Do you like your morning tea

COMPANY

Weak or strong?"

SKIMBLESHANKS

A - But I just behind him and was ready to remind him
B - For Skimble won't let anything go wrong

COMPANY

When they crept into their cozy berth and pulled the counterpane
They ought to reflect that it was very nice
To know that they wouldn't be bothered by mice
They can leave all that to the railway cat
The cat of the railway train
Skimbleshanks, the railway cat
The cat of the railway train!

SKIMBLESHANKS

In the watches of the night I was always fresh and bright
Every now and then I'd have a cup of tea
With perhaps a drop of scotch while I was busy keeping on the watch

Only stopping here and there to catch a flea
They were fast asleep at Crewe
And so they never knew that I was walking up and down the station
They were sleeping all the while I was busy at Carlisle
Where I met the station-master with elation
They might see me at Dumfries if I summoned the police
If there was anything they ought to know about

COMPANY

When they got to Gallowgate there they did not have to wait
For Skimbleshanks will help them to get out
And he gives you a wave of his long brown tail
Which says, "I'll see you again"
You'll meet without fail on the midnight mail
The cat of the railway train
You'll meet without fail on the midnight mail
The cat of the railway train
Skimbleshanks, the railway cat
The cat of the railway train!

DEMETER

Macavity!

MACAVITY

DEMETER

Macavity's a mystery cat, he's called the hidden paw
For he's a master criminal who can defy the law
He's the bafflement of Scotland Yard, the Flying Squad's despair
For when they reach the scene of crime Macavity's not there!

Macavity, Macavity, there's no one like Macavity
He's broken every human law, he breaks the law of gravity
His powers of levitation would make a fakir stare
And when you reach the scene of crime Macavity's not there!
You may seek him in the basement, you may look up in the air

But I tell you once and once again Macavity's not there!

BOMBALURINA

Macavity's a ginger cat, he's very tall and thin
You would know him if you saw him for his eyes are sunken in
His brow is deeply lined in thought, his head is highly domed
His coat is dusty from neglect, his whiskers are uncombed
He sways his head from side to side with movements like a snake
And when you think he's half-asleep, he's always wide-awake!

Macavity, Macavity, there's no one like Macavity
He's a fiend in feline shape, a monster of depravity
You may meet him in a by-street, you may see him in the square
But when a crime's discovered then Macavity's not there!

DEMETER

He's outwardly respectable

BOMBALURINA

I know he cheats at cards

DEMETER

And his footprints are not found in any files of Scotland Yard's

BOMBALURINA

And when the larder's looted

DEMETER

Or the jewel case is rifled

BOMBALURINA

Or when the milk is missing

DEMETER

Or another Peke's been stifled

BOMBALURINA

Or the greenhouse glass is broken

DEMETER

And the trellis past repair

BOMBALURINA

There's the wonder of the thing: Macavity's not there!

DEMETER & BOMBALURINA

Macavity, Macavity, there's no one like Macavity
There never was a cat of such deceitfulness and suavity
He always has an alibi and one or two to spare
What ever time the deed took place Macavity wasn't there!

And they say that all the cats whose wicked deeds are widely known

DEMETER

I might mention Mungojerrie

BOMBALURINA

I might mention Griddlebone

DEMETER & BOMBALURINA

Are nothing more than agents for the cat who all the time
Just controls their operations: The Napoleon of Crime!

COMPANY

Macavity, Macavity, there's no one like Macavity
He's a fiend in feline shape, a monster of depravity
You may meet him in a by-street, you may see him in the square
But when a crime's discovered then Macavity
Macavity, Macavity, Macavity
When a crime's discovered then Macavity's not there!
Macavity's not there!

MISTER MISTOFFOLEES

COMPANY

We have to find Old Deuteronomy

TUGGER

You ought to ask Mr. Mistoffelees
The original conjuring cat
There can be no doubt about that!
Please listen to me and don't scoff.
All his inventions are off his own bat
There's no such cat in the metropolis
He holds all the patent monopolies
For performing surprising illusions
And creating eccentric confusions!

The greatest magicians have something to learn
From Mister Mistoffelees' conjuring turn

And we all say,
Oh! Well I never! Was there ever
A cat so clever as magical Mr. Mistoffelees

COMPANY

Oh! Well I never! Was there ever
A cat so clever as magical Mr. Mistoffelees

TUGGER

He is quiet, he is small, he is black
From the ears to the tip of his tail
He can creep through the tiniest crack
He can walk on the narrowest rail
He can pick any card from a pack
He is equally cunning with dice
He is always deceiving you into believing
That he's only hunting for mice

He can play any trick with a cork
Or a spoon and a bit of fish paste
If you look for a knife or a fork
And you think it is merely misplaced
You have seen it one moment and then it's gone
But you find it next week lying on the lawn!

And we all say,

COMPANY

Oh! Well I never! Was there ever
A cat so clever as magical Mr. Mistoffelees

Oh! Well I never! Was there ever
A cat so clever as magical Mr. Mistoffelees

Oh! Well I never! Was there ever
A cat so clever as magical Mr. Mistoffelees

Oh! Well I never! Was there ever
A cat so clever as magical Mr. Mistoffelees

MISOFFOLEES

My manner is vague and aloof
You would think there was nobody shy
But my voice has been heard on the roof
When I was curled up by the fire
And I've sometimes been heard by the fire
When I was about on the roof
At least they all heard that somebody purred
Which is incontestable proof of my singular magical powers
And I've known the family to call me in from the garden for hours
When I was asleep in the hall

TUGGER

And not long ago this phenomenal cat

Produced seven kittens right out of a hat!

And we all say,
Oh! Well I never! Was there ever
A cat so clever as magical Mr. Mistoffelees

Oh! Well I never! Was there ever
A cat so clever as magical Mr. Mistoffelees

TUGGER

And not long ago this phenomenal cat
Produced seven kittens right out of a hat!

And we all say,
Oh! Well I never! Was there ever
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Oh! Well I never! Was there ever
A cat so clever as magical Mr. Mistoffelees

COMPANY

Oh! Well I never! Was there ever
A cat so clever as magical Mr. Mistoffelees

Oh! Well I never! Was there ever
A cat so clever as magical Mr. Mistoffelees

Oh! Well I never! Was there ever
A cat so clever as magical Mr. Mistoffelees

Oh! Well I never! Was there ever
A cat so clever as magical Mr. Mistoffelees

TUGGER

Ladies and gentlemen, I give you the marvellous, magical Mr. Mistoffelees!

MISTOFFOLEES

Presto!

MEMORY

SILLABUB

Daylight, see the dew on the sunflower
And a rose that is fading
Roses wither away
Like the sunflower I yearn to turn my face to the dawn
I am waiting for the day

MUNKUSTRAP

Now Old Deuteronomy, just before dawn
Through a silence you feel you could cut with a knife
Announces the cat who can now be reborn
And come back to a different Jellicle life

GRIZABELLA

Memory, turn your face to the moonlight
Let your memory lead you
Open up, enter in
If you find there the meaning of what happiness is
Then a new life will begin

Memory, all alone in the moonlight
I can smile at the old days
I was beautiful then
I remember the time I knew what happiness was
Let the memory live again

Burnt out ends of smoky days
The stale cold smell of morning
The street lamp dies, another night is over
Another day is dawning

Daylight, I must wait for the sunrise
I must think of a new life
And I mustn't give in
When the dawn comes tonight will be a memory too
And a new day will begin

SILLABUB

Sunlight, through the trees in summer
Endless masquerading

SILLABUB & GRIZABELLA

Like a flower as the dawn is breaking

GRIZABELLA

The memory is fading

Touch me, it's so easy to leave me
All alone with the memory
Of my days in the sun
If you touch me you'll understand what happiness is
Look, a new day has begun

THE JOURNEY TO THE HEAVYSIDE LAYER

COMPANY

Up up up past the Russell Hotel
Up up up up to the Heaviside layer
Up up up past the Russell Hotel
Up up up up to the Heaviside layer
Up up up past the Russell Hotel
Up up up up to the Heaviside layer
Up up up past the Russell Hotel
Up up up up to the Heaviside layer
Up up up past the Jellicle moon
Up up up up to the Heaviside layer
Up up up past the Jellicle moon

Up up up up to the Heavyside layer

The mystical divinity of unashamed felinity
Round the cathedral rang 'Vivat'
Life to the everlasting cat!

THE AD-DRESSING OF CATS

DEUTERONOMY

You've heard of several kinds of cat
And my opinion now is that
You should need no interpreter to understand our character
You've learned enough to take the view
That cats are very much like you
You've seen us both at work and games
And learnt about our proper names
Our habits and habitat
But how would you ad-dress a cat?

COMPANY

So first, your memory I'll jog
And say: a cat is not a dog

DEUTERONOMY

With cats, some say, one rule is true
Don't speak 'til you are spoken to
Myself I do not hold with that
I say, you should ad-dress a cat
But always bear in mind that he resents familiarity
You bow, and taking off your hat, ad-dress him in this form: "O Cat!"

Before a cat will condescend
To treat you as a trusted friend
Some little token of esteem is needed, like a dish of cream
And you might now and then supply

Some caviar or Strasbourg pie
Some potted grouse or salmon paste
He's sure to have his personal taste
And so in time you reach your aim
And call him by his name

COMPANY

A cat's entitled to expect
These evidences of respect
So this is this and that is that
And there's how you ad-dress a cat

A cat's entitled to expect
These evidences of respect
So this is this and that is that
And there's how you ad-dress a cat

FINALE

THE END

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