

SYNOPSIS

Kiss Me Kate is a story within a story. It concerns an American Repertory group performing a musical version of the Taming of the Shrew led by 'superman' Frederick Graham

Fred Graham is the writer/director as well as the leading man. Lilli Vanessi, Fred's ex-wife, plays his leading lady and most of the action centres around Fred and Lilli, off stage as well as on.

Two new young members to the group, Lois Lane and Bill Calhoun are trying to make a breakthrough into theatre, having recently left working in a night club. Bill unfortunately has some bad luck with cards with the end result that he signs an IOU in Frederick Graham's name for 10,000 dollars.

When two 'gentlemen' come and collect the money from Fred Graham he naturally knows nothing about it, but when Lilli threatens to leave mid-way through the opening night following an argument when Lilli finds out that Fred has sent some flowers to Lois, Fred pretends that he did sign the IOU, but cannot pay unless the show runs till the end of the week.

The two 'gentlemen' are sympathetic to Fred's problem and manage to gently persuade Lilli to say. All this takes place during the first night and the audience will be able to see the sort of thing that goes on back stage during an actual performance! How does it all end up? Can Fred get himself off the hook? Does he pay the 10,000 dollars? and will the show run?

Well I'm afraid that nothing is resolved until the very end of the show, so in the meantime sit back, listen to the superb music of Cole Porter, and enjoy the show.

Act 1

- Scene 1 Stage of Ford Theatre Baltimore
- Scene 2 Corridor (backstage)
- Scene 3 The dressing rooms of Fred Graham and Lilli Vanessi
- Scene 4 Padua
- Scene 5 Street Scene, Padua
- Scene 6 Backstage
- Scene 7 Fred and Lilli's dressing rooms
- Scene 8 Before Curtain
- Scene 9 Exterior of Church

Act 2

- Scene 1 Theatre alley
- Scene 2 Before the curtain
- Scene 3 Petruchio's house
- Scene 4 Corridor (backstage)
- Scene 5 Fred and Lilli's dressing rooms
- Scene 6 Corridor (backstage)
- Scene 7 Before the asbestos curtain
- Scene 8 Baptista's house