

SYNOPSIS OF *ANASTASIA*

When the Dowager Empress Maria Fyodorovna Romanov gives her beloved granddaughter Anastasia a music box, she has no idea it is the last time she will see the little girl. As the musical *ANASTASIA* begins, Russia is on the verge of revolution. Time jumps from 1907 to 1927, and Anastasia's family—the imperial Romanovs—falls victim to the tide of history. When the Dowager Empress receives the news that they have been put to death, she believes she has lost her entire family.

Rumors begin to surface that one Romanov daughter might have survived. Dmitry and Vlad, two opportunistic Russian con artists, attempt to find an impressionable girl to pass off as Anastasia to the Dowager Empress, who is offering a reward for her granddaughter's safe return to Paris. They find Anya, a young woman suffering from amnesia, who has spent the past years traveling across Russia.

Dmitry and Vlad begin to "teach" her what she needs to know if her claim to the Romanov family is to be believed. Anya, Vlad, and Dmitry escape Russia, traveling through Poland, Germany, and more on the way to Paris. Once in the city of lights, Vlad attempts to reconnect with Lily, the Dowager Empress's lady-in-waiting and his lost love, to arrange a meeting between the Dowager and Anya. Anya, meanwhile, is haunted by a nightmare of the Romanov family and continues to wonder if she could possibly be Anastasia. She begins to discern a sense of self and is determined to discover her forgotten history.