

Fortune Cookie Fortunes Dance Performance Adaptation

By Grace Lin

Narrator:

The best things about eating at a Chinese restaurant are the fortune cookies. What do you think the fortunes say?

Curtain Opens

Scene 1: restaurant scene, red backdrop, a table with a family including 3 girls (there can be other tables and side characters if wanted). Waiters dance, juggle and toss trays.

One unusual waiter/magician comes in makes a big show of the fortune cookies and then gives one to each of the three girls. They become very happy when they receive the cookies and dance with happiness and then all follow the waiter off stage.

Scene 2: outside scene, blue backdrop, maybe a bench—in a park. There are a couple of people in the park, reading a newspaper, eating ice cream, etc. The family follows the waiter onto the stage. He urges Girl #1 to open her fortune. She does (perhaps drum noise or something to dramatize it) and the fortune blown up large drops and hangs overhead (so that the audience can read it)

Narrator: Crack! The first fortune says, “Your moods are contagious.”

Girl #1 shrugs, sits down on the bench and yawns. One by one each of the people on the stage yawn and (the father can sit down on the bench next to the Girl #1 and she can pretend to begin to fall asleep on his shoulder) and look like they are about to fall asleep.

The last person to look sleepy is Girl #2, and right before she falls asleep she cracks open her fortune cookie. As she cracks it, the drum noise occurs, the fortune overhead changes and everyone jumps awake.

Narrator: Crack! The next fortune says “Your creativity will make many friends.”

Girl #2 scratches her head. She takes her fortune and fold it and turns it into an origami crane. The waiter points at it and the paper crane flies up (attached to a string) and the girl chases/dances after it. All the characters on the stage follow her and in the end dance a circle around her. As the dance, Girl #3 breaks open her fortune. The music stops, the drum noise and the fortune overhead changes (crane flies away).

Narrator: Crack! The last fortune says, “Your smallest action will attract many.”

Everyone watches Girl #3 as she reads her fortune. She makes a face and drops the cookie and the fortune to the ground. The waiter motions to the cookie and all of the sudden flocks of birds from either side of the stage swoop in and pretend to peck at the cookie, then dance with the family off stage.

Narrator: Aren't fortune cookie fortunes wonderful? I think they are always true, don't you?

Scene 5: Red background, in restaurant but without the tables. celebratory dance with all the characters. The show ends with all the characters throwing fortune cookies out into the audience.