

Kismet in F Minor

By William True

Boris, a classical pianist, finally achieved his lifetime ambition and gave a solo recital at Carnegie Hall. Driving home after the performance, however, he had a serious accident.

The following morning, as he came out of the anesthesia his doctor told him: “Boris, there’s good news and there’s bad news.”

“OK, let’s have the bad news first,” Boris said.

“The critics panned you badly,” the doctor replied; “and, even worse, we had to amputate all but your middle finger on both hands.”

“My God!” Boris exclaimed. “What in the world is the good news?”

“Well, for one thing,” the doctor said, “You’ll still be able to play chopsticks; and, better yet, you’ll still be able to tell those critics off with either hand.”