



## YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU – Glossary

**El Morocco:** Glamorous nightclub and former speakeasy on E. 54<sup>th</sup> Street

**Porgy and Bess:** Groundbreaking opera by George and Ira Gershwin and DuBose Heyward about the black denizens of Catfish Row in South Carolina, 1935.

**Trotsky:** Soviet leader, instrumental in the Bolshevik Revolution; exiled to Mexico in 1929 and assassinated in 1940.

**Kay Francis:** Stage and screen star noted for her elegant couture; she played a supporting role in the film version of *The Cocoanuts* and the lead in *First Lady*, both based on Kaufman plays.

**Second Four-Year Plan:** The second of three ambitious economic and industrial plans initiated by Stalin; this one was in effect from 1932-1937.

**Bakst:** Leon Bakst (1866-1924) a Russian set designer worked exclusively with Sergei Diaghiliev (1872-1929), master ballet director and producer, who ran the Ballets Russes from 1920 –1929.

**Singer midgets:** A vaudeville team who would achieve fame two years later as key Munchkins in *The Wizard of Oz*.

**The Good Earth:** Pearl S. Buck's 1931 novel about the travails of a Chinese peasant family; it was a major best seller and won the Pulitzer Prize.

**Sex Takes a Holiday:** In 1929, a popular Broadway play by Walter Ferris opened, called *Death Takes a Holiday*.

**Peg o' My Heart:** Popular sentimental play by J. Hartley Manners; opening in 1912, it ran for 602 performances and countless engagements in stock and touring productions.

**Pavlova:** Anna Pavlova (1885-1901); legendary Russian ballerina.

**Relief:** The Federal Emergency Relief Administration was one of the first agencies to distribute financial assistance during the Depression, beginning in 1933.

**WPA:** Works Progress Administration, formed in 1935 to, among other tasks, use government funds to employ actors, writers, musicians, and artists in major projects across the nation.



**Scheherezade:** Ballet based on the music of Russian composer Rimsky-Korsakov.

**Spiritualism:** A belief in the ability to communicate with the spirits of the deceased; enjoyed a mild revival in the 1920s until successfully debunked by Harry Houdini.

**Union Club:** One of New York's oldest and most exclusive clubs; founded in 1836 for descendants of original Dutch settlers.

**Bar Harbour:** Popular vacation spot on the Southeastern Maine coast.

**Childs':** Restaurant chain founded in 1889 that promoted cleanliness, good service and simple food at popular prices.

**Hattie Carnegie** (1886-1956): America's best-known dress designer of the '30s and '40s; her couture house was located on East 49<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Schrafft's:** A chain of ice-cream and refreshment parlors opened in 1898; catered to a genteel clientele.

**Cleveland and Blaine:** In the 1884 presidential election, Democrat Grover Cleveland defeated Republican James Blaine. This would have been Grandpa's first presidential election in which he could vote.