

"THE MASK"

Bank teller and loser STANLEY IPKISS wonders how he's ever going to find true love -- in a dirty metropolitan town full of dirty metropolitan people. He's too nice, too honest, and too repressed to achieve his goals.

He meets unattainable TINA CARLYLE -- a racy lounge singer -- and falls hard. Unknown to Stanley, Tina's a mobster's moll.

After being harrassed by his boss, exploited by his mechanics, and thrown in a ditch by a club bouncer -- Stanley's at the end of his rope.

On a lonely bridge, in the middle of the night, he thinks about ending it all -- until he finds a MASK.

The Mask turns out to be rather specialized, and when Stanley puts it on -- he transforms into a creature that is everything he isn't: A suave, sexy, courageous creature who will not be abused.

On a rampage, the Mask gets even with his cranky landlady, some local gangbangers and the mechanics.

For a while Stanley is afraid of his Mask "alter-ego." But his infatuation with Tina drives him to a big decision: Use the Mask to try and win her.

Stanley willingly becomes "The Mask." In one frenzied night, he beats the mob to a bank robbery, crashes into an exclusive club and frantically woos Tina. In doing so he infuriates her mobster/boyfriend DORIAN on all levels.

Although "The Mask" seems to be winning Tina away from Dorian, it causes an upheaval in Stanley's real life: The police suspect he's the bank robber. Dorian puts out a reward for his capture. And Stanley's unsure whether to tell Tina that he is actually "The Mask." A visit to a renowned therapist is little help, except to inform Stanley that the Mask resembles the Norse god of mischief, Loki. And that the magic will only work at night.

At the crossroads, Stanley can't decide whether to keep his date with Tina as himself -- or the Mask. Unable to admit the truth, he romances her as the Mask. Just then, the cops arrive. The Mask manages to escape -- by singing an hypnotic rumba.

Stanley is rescued by his friend, ace-reporter PEGGY. He finally breaks down and tells her who he really is.

Peggy betrays him. She has sold out to Dorian for the reward money. The mobster gets the Mask, Stanley is arrested and thrown in jail for the bank robbery.

Alone in his cell, Stanley isn't even comforted by MILO, his Jack Russell terrier who has followed Stanley to jail. Tina comes to visit -- and say goodbye. Her ex-boyfriend Dorian is planning something evil at a VIP casino fundraiser that night and she's leaving town.

Before she goes, Tina admits that she loves STANLEY -- not just the Mask -- and hopes they'll meet again someday.

Tina leaves -- and a moment later is confronted by Dorian. From his jail cell window, Stanley witnesses Tina being dragged into the mobster's limo. When the cops refuse to get involved, Stanley (with Milo's help) breaks out of jail.

Dorian dons the Mask, transforms into a demon and crashes the casino fundraiser. He and his thugs terrorize the townspeople -- and are going to blow up the entire building. Stanley and Milo arrive just in time. They get the Mask back and save the day.

The bad guys are vanquished and Stanley is cleared of all charges. He and Tina finally share the kiss they've never had -- and he throws the Mask off the bridge -- never to see it again.

That is until Milo jumps into the water and retrieves it ...