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**SCENE III. Fred's Home.**

*With a sprinkle from the SPIRIT's torch and assisted by the PEARLIES, the scene shifts to Fred's party. FRED'S PARTY GUESTS enter, laughing.*

**28. MUSIC: FRED'S PARTY ENTRANCE**

*THE PARTY GOERS bring on a candlelit dessert table, set with a punch bowl; FRED and his bride, MEG, carry a basket filled with presents.*

START

JOE: I'm steeped in sage and onions to the eyebrows!

GUEST 1: Do tell, Fred, did your uncle really say that?!

FRED (*Laughing heartily*): He said that Christmas was a humbug, as I live! He believed it too! One more year, and he refuses, once again, to join with us.

MEG: More shame for him, Fred!

FRED: Ah, Meg, he's a comical old fellow, that's the truth; and not so pleasant as he might be. However, his offenses carry their own punishment, and I have nothing to say against him.

GUEST 2: I hear he's very rich, Fred; at least, you always tell *me* so.

FRED: What of that, my dear! His wealth is of no use to him. He don't do any good with it. He don't make himself comfortable with it. He hasn't the satisfaction of thinking that he is ever going to benefit us with it.

MEG: I have no patience with him.

FRED: Oh, I have! I am sorry for him; I couldn't be angry with him if I tried. Who suffers by his ill whims? Himself, always. Here, he takes it into his head to dislike us, he refuses to attend our wedding, and he won't come to dine with us tonight. What's the consequence? (*Teasing MEG*) He don't lose much of a dinner by it.

MEG: (*Laughing.*) Indeed, I think he loses quite a very good dinner. (*All heartily agree with MEG.*)

FRED: (*Teasing MEG again*) Well! I'm very glad to hear it, because I haven't any great faith in these young housekeepers. (*All laugh*) What do you say, Joe?

JOE: (*Flirting with a guest to everyone's amusement*) A bachelor is a wretched outcast, who has no right to express an opinion on the subject.

FRED: (*Laughing.*) Bless these women! They never do anything by halves. They are always in earnest!

MEG: Do go on, Fred. He never finishes what he begins to say! He is such a ridiculous fellow!

FRED: (*Kissing Meg's hand*) I was only going to say that the consequences of his taking a dislike to us, and not making merry with us, is, as I think, that he loses some pleasant moments, which could do him no harm. I mean to give him the same chance every year, whether he likes it or not, for I pity him. (*To his guests, in a serious tone*) He is my only relation. I know my mother loved him so. (*Lifting the mood*) He may rail at Christmas till he dies, but he can't help thinking better of it – I defy him – if he finds me going there, in good temper, year after year, and saying, Uncle Scrooge, how are you?

GUEST 3: BAH-Humbug!

FRED: If it only puts him in the vein to leave his poor clerk fifty pounds, *that's* something; and I think I shook him yesterday (*His guests react positively*).

MEG: Dear Fred. He *has* given us plenty of merriment, I am sure, and it would be ungrateful for us not to drink his health. Here is a glass of mulled wine ready to our hand at the moment; and I say, "Uncle Scrooge!"

*MEG lifts her glass to toast Scrooge. The OTHERS follow suit.*

FRED: A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to the old man, whatever he is! (*All laugh*) He wouldn't take it from me, but may he have it, never the less. 'Uncle Scrooge!'

*All raise their cups*

ALL: To Mr. Scrooge!

FRED: (*Romantically*) And to my exceedingly beautiful bride.

GUESTS: Here! Here!

FRED: Sir. (*Fred gestures to the guest at a harpsichord*).

**29. MUSIC: TOMORROW SHALL BE MY DANCING DAY**

*During the song, FRED and MEG dance; GUESTS join them.*

FRED:

TOMORROW SHALL BE MY DANCING DAY:  
I WOULD MY TRUE LOVE DID SO CHANCE  
TO HEAR MY SONG, TO JOIN IN MY PLAY,  
TO CALL MY TRUE LOVE TO MY DANCE.

SING O MY LOVE, O MY LOVE, MY LOVE, MY LOVE  
THIS HAVE I DONE FOR MY TRUE LOVE.

ALL:

SING O MY LOVE, SING O MY LOVE

MEG:

THEN WAS I WED TO A GENTLEMAN PURE,  
TO HIM I GAVE MY HEART AT A GLANCE;  
THUS WAS I KNIT TO MY MAN'S NATURE,  
BECAME HIS TRUE LOVE IN HIS DANCE:

SING O MY LOVE, O MY LOVE  
MY LOVE, MY LOVE  
THIS HAVE I DONE FOR MY TRUE LOVE  
SING O MY LOVE, O MY LOVE

FRED AND MEG:

TOMORROW SHALL BE MY DANCING DAY

# Dancing Day

cue:  
(toast)  
FRED (to MUSICIAN): "Sir."

FRED: (+Fl.: colla voce 8va)

To - mor - row shall be\_\_ my dan - cing day; I

(Key II: Harpsichord solo)

*mf*

*p* (+Harp) (+Vln./Cello obl.)

(+Hn./Tbn. off beats)

(+Bass)

would my true\_\_ love did\_\_ so chance to\_\_ hear my song, to join in my play, to

call my true\_\_ love to\_\_ my dance. Sing O my love, O\_\_ my love, my

(+Tpt.)

29. Dancing Day - p.2

love, my love. This have I done for my true love.

**CHORUS:**

*f* Sing, O my love, Sing, O my love.

*f*

**MEG:** A (+Vln.: colla voce 8va)

(Key II: solo) —

Then was I wed to a gentle-man pure, to him I gave my heart at a glance; Thus

*p* (+Harp)

(+Cello/Bass)

29. Dancing Day - p.3

24 25 26 27

was I knit to this man's na - ture, be - came his true\_\_ love in\_\_ his dance. Sing

(+Tpt.)

28 29 30 31 32

O my love, O\_\_ my love, my love, my love. This have I done for my\_\_ true love. Sing

33 34 35

O my\_\_\_\_\_ love,\_\_\_\_\_ Oh Sing

*mf*

29. Dancing Day - p.4

(grand waltz)

O my love. To - mor-row shall be my dan - cing day.

**FRED:**  
To - mor-row shall be my dan - cing day.

(+Fl.) (+Vln.)

**B**

**CHORUS:**

*f* Sing, O my love, Sing, O my love.

*f*

29. Dancing Day - p.5

Musical score for the first system, measures 44-46. The system consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "Sing, O my love, Sing, O my love." The piano accompaniment is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. Measure numbers 44, 45, and 46 are indicated above the vocal staff.

Piano accompaniment for the first system, measures 44-46. The piano part is in treble and bass clefs with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The melody in the right hand is a simple, rhythmic line, while the left hand provides a steady accompaniment. Measure numbers 44, 45, and 46 are indicated above the right-hand staff.

**NARRATOR:** "The love present at his nephew's home was no longer ridiculous to Scrooge."

Musical score for the second system, measures 47-49. The system consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "Sing, O my love, Sing, O my love." The piano accompaniment is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. Measure numbers 47, 48, and 49 are indicated above the vocal staff. A piano dynamic marking (*p*) is present at the beginning of the vocal line.

Piano accompaniment for the second system, measures 47-49. The piano part is in treble and bass clefs with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The melody in the right hand is a simple, rhythmic line, while the left hand provides a steady accompaniment. Measure numbers 47, 48, and 49 are indicated above the right-hand staff. A piano dynamic marking (*p*) is present at the beginning of the right-hand staff.

29. Dancing Day - p.6

NARRATOR: "...was like a stake of holly is his own heart."

FRED:  
(2nd x only)

Oh, my

Sing, O my love, Sing, O my love.

MEG:

O my love, my love.

love, my love.

*f* Sing, O my love.