

Janet

Show Off Encore

6b

Janet: 2 *Tempo di "Stripper"*

1 I don't wan - na en - core no more —

3 Keep 'em shout - ing for 4 more no more —

5 Dis - sa-pear through the 6 floor no more 7 I don't wan - na show

8 *Faster* 9 10 11 12

off! —

Janet, Man,
Chorus

Bride's Lament

12

Man: "Act Two of the Drowsy
Chaperone starts with this" (starts
record)

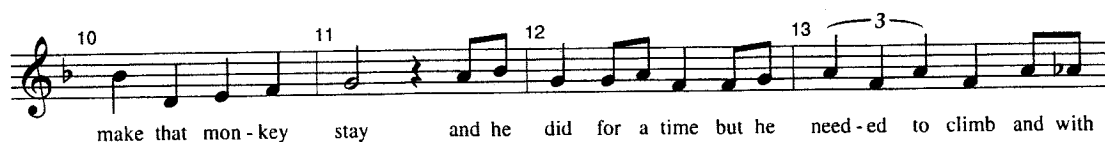
8 7 Janet: 8 *A tempo* 9



1-2, 2A, 3-4, 4A, 5-6

I put a mon-key on a ped-es-tal and tried to

10 11 12 13 3



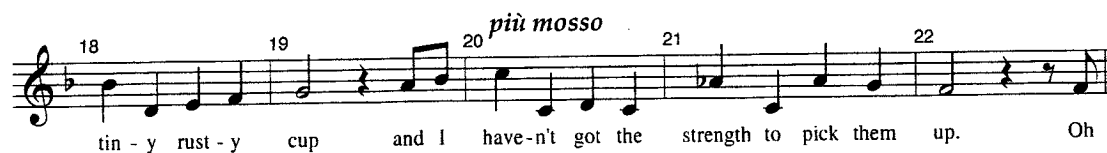
make that mon-key stay and he did for a time but he need-ed to climb and with

14 15 16 *A tempo* 17



oth-er mon-keys play far a-way He left his jack-et on that ped-es-tal be-side his

18 19 20 *più mosso* 21 22



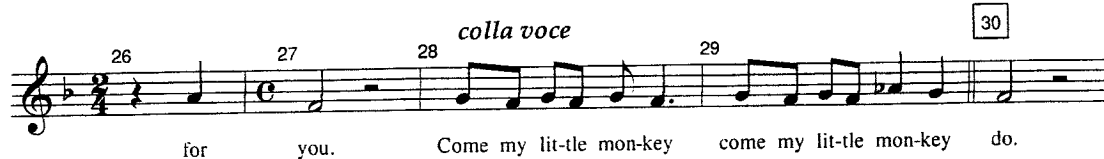
tin-y rust-y cup and I have-n't got the strength to pick them up. Oh

23 *A tempo* 24 25



mon-key mon-key mon-key you broke my heart in two but I'll al-ways save that ped-es-tal

26 27 28 *colla voce* 29 30



for you. Come my lit-tle mon-key come my lit-tle mon-key do.

ALL

A WEDDING, A WEDDING
A WEDDING'S COMING OUR WAY
A WEDDING, A WEDDING, TODAY
DING-A-LING, DING-A-LING, DING-A-LING
IT'S REALLY HAPPENING
TRULY HAPPENING
ALMOST HAPPENING
SURELY HAPPENING

MAN

Well there you have it, all the guests have arrived. We have a bride who's giving up the stage for love, her debonair bridegroom, a harried producer, jovial gangsters posing as pastry chefs, a flaky chorine, a Latin lothario, and an aviatrix; what we now call a lesbian. And, of course, my favorite character, the Drowsy Chaperone. What more do you need for an evening's entertainment?

He turns up the volume.

ALL

WEDDING BELLS WILL RING!
WEDDING BELLS WILL CHIME!
WEDDING BELLS WILL CELEBRATE
A HAPPY WEDDING TIME
WEDDING BELLS WILL DING
WEDDING BELLS WILL DONG
WEDDING BELLS WILL DING-A-LING
AND WE WILL DING
ALONG!

TRIX

HOW I LOVE
LOVE A WEDDING
YES I LOVE
LOVE A WEDDING
AH!
LISTEN TO THOSE BELLS

WE WILL DING
ALONG!

MAN

Wasn't that wonderful! "And we will ding-a-long"; I don't even know what that means! Alright, I'll lead you through this record as best I can. Don't worry; it won't be hard to follow. So, we begin with a welcome from the love struck groom.

ALL Laugh

ROBERT

Well, I just wanted to thank you all for coming. I tell you I must be some lucky fellow. Why, who would have thought that I, Robert Martin, would be marrying a glamorous showgirl, and that that glamorous showgirl would be willing to give up a successful career for me, Robert Martin.

ALL

Oh!

ROBERT

Now, if it weren't for prohibition, I'd say let's raise a glass -

DROWSY

(Drowsy raises a glass)

Here! Here!

ROBERT

— to Miss Janet Van De Graaff — the most beautiful girl in the world.

GEORGE

Absolutely not!

ALL

(gasp!)

ROBERT

Excuse me?

GEORGE

The groom mustn't see his bride on the day of the wedding. It's bad luck!

MAN

I hope you heard that, because that's the plot. Basically. Hang on for the ride!

UNDERLING

Breakfast will be served in the Arabian Room.

GEORGE

(to CHAPERONE)

Say, It's a little early in the day to be drinking, isn't it?

DROWSY

I don't understand the question.

GEORGE

Look. You keep Janet away from Robert, you understand? You're the chaperone that's your only job.

DROWSY

Aye, Aye Mon Capitan.

JANET

Oh, Robert! Who's my little monkey?

ROBERT

I am! I'm your little monkey.

JANET and ROBERT exit.

MAN

So, the Bride and Groom are whisked away, and we turn our attention to the B plot which involves the Producer.

KITTY

Mr. Feldzieg?

FELDZIEG

Getting married and leaving show business.

KITTY

Mr. Feldzieg?

FELDZIEG

Doesn't she know I got obligations?

KITTY

Mr. Feldzieg, I can be your leading lady. You said it yourself—I'm useless in the chorus.

FELDZIEG

Kitty! For the last time, you ain't got what it takes.

KITTY

But, I been taking lessons; Singing. Acting. Ballet.

FELDZIEG

Ballet?

KITTY

Yeah. I'm pretty good too. Last week I auditioned for Swanee Lake.

MAN

A little annotation; Kitty and Feldzieg were a couple in real life. Jack and Sadie Adler. Now, this a familiar comic construct: a stupid woman and her long suffering companion. Well, she appears stupid, but in the end she does something clever and makes everyone wonder whether it's all just an act. The irony here is that Sadie actually was quite stupid; Jack had to explain all the jokes to her apparently. But, still, she had a wonderful career on the stage. At that time, the theatre was the only place where stupid people could earn a decent living. This was before television, of course.

FELDZIEG

Kitty I don't have time for this!

Enter Gangster #1 & Gangster #2

GANGSTER #1

A petite four, Mr. Feldzeig?

FELDZIEG

Not now.

Gangster #2 stops him.

GANGSTER #2

Perhaps a nice profiterole.

FELDZIEG

Boys, I'm not hungry.

GANGSTER #1

Then perhaps we could give you something else to chew on.

GANGSTER #2

Yeah. Something that ain't food.

FELDZIEG

What?

GANGSTER #1

Your confusion is to be expected. Although we stand here before you in the guise of innocent pastry chefs, we are also —

GANGSTER #2

and primarily —

GANGSTER #1

—employees of a certain individual.

FELDZIEG

A certain individual?

GANGSTER #2

A certain individual...

GANGSTER #1

...who happens to be largest single investor in Feldzieg's Follies. He has sent us here —

GANGSTER #2

As pastry chefs...

GANGSTER #1

... to express his concern about Ms. Van de Graaff's impending nuptials.

GANGSTER #2

Specifically...

GANGSTER #1

...that if she gets married and leaves the show...

GANGSTER #1 & GANGSTER #2

...then there ain't no show.

KITTY

(to the Gangsters)

Say, don't I know you?

GANGSTER #2

No, you don't.

KITTY

Have you ever spent any time in Toledo?

GANGSTER #1

Have you ever spent any time in a coma?

KITTY

No, but I have a cousin in Seattle.

FELDZIEG

Kitty. Boys, you tell your boss this wedding is never going to happen. You have my word.

GANGSTER #2

Oh, we'll take your word, alright.

GANGSTER #1

But, to go back on that word — would be a recipe for disaster.
Now, we hope we have made ourselves perfectly *Éclair*.

GANGSTER #2

One cannoli hope.

GANGSTER #1

You biscotti be kidding me.

GANGSTER #2

A trifle much?

GANGSTER #1

Don't tart with me.

FELDZIEG

Alright. You can drop the pastry chef routine.

GANGSTER #1

Alas, we ganache.

GANGSTER #2

We're on the lamb.

GANGSTER #1

(slapping him)

Lamb's an entrée, you macaroon.

#2b – Macaroons!

Kitty takes a pastry. Gangster #1 & Gangster #2 curtsey.

MAN

The gangsters were played by interchangeable vaudeville duo the Tall Brothers: John and Peter Tall. They were born Abram and Mendel Mosloskowicz, but were renamed at Ellis Island by a sarcastic immigration official. They were an early example of the typical Broadway gangster: full of word-play and stylized movements, not very intimidating. Unless you find dancers intimidating, which I do but for reasons that would not be appropriate to this situation.

GANGSTER #1

We'll leave the matter in your hands, Mr. Feldzieg. In the mean time, feel free to browse the desert carousel.

GANGSTER #2

Try the Toledo Surprise

GANGSTER #1 & GANGSTER #2

It's to die for.

Gangsters exit.

KITTY

Holy Cats, Mr. Feldzieg! They're Gangsters.

FELDZIEG

Very perceptive. Now go powder your face!

KITTY exits.

I've got to stop this wedding but how? Oh Lord in Heaven how! How?

MAN

I always thought that moment was a little overplayed. So with the story well on its way, let's go to the Groom's room.

(DROWSY)

AS WE STUMBLE, BUMBLE, FUMBLE...

PLUMBLE

AS WE STUMBLE ALONG

MAN

Don't you just love her?

#7a - Stumble Playoff

Basically, she sings a rousing anthem about alcoholism. That's what I love about her. She just does her own thing, when she wants, regardless of the needs and concerns of others. My mother was like that.

JANET

Well, that was quite inspiring, chaperone. But, I'm still conflicted. Oh. Please. Just tell me. Is Robert the man for me?

DROWSY

My dear, that's something you'll have to decide for yourself.

JANET

But, I just don't know if he loves me.

DROWSY

Why don't you ask him? Why don't you say, "Roger, do you love me?"

JANET

It's Robert. And I'm not allowed to see him. In fact, it's your job to keep me away from him.

DROWSY

You're right. And I take the responsibility very seriously. However, I'm just this moment feeling terribly, terribly drowsy. I'm afraid I have to have a lie-de-down. Now whatever you do, don't go wandering through the garden seeking out your fiancé to ask him the question upon which your future happiness depends.

The Chaperone reclines, and closes her eyes.

JANET

Oh, thank you, Chaperone. I just have to know if he loves me.

Janet sneaks out.

DROWSY

Such a skinny little fool. Still, I envy her. Oh, when will love come crashing though my door?

ALDOLPHO enters

ALDOLPHO

La la la la la.

MAN

Look who it is! It's Aldolpho come to seduce the bride.

ALDOLPHO

I am Aldolpho!

MAN

Try not to think of the poodles while you're listening to this part.

ALDOLPHO

I am Aldolpho. And you are bride.

DROWSY

No, I am not.

ALDOLPHO

Whaaat? This is bridal suite, you are the only one here. Therefore you must be bride.

DROWSY

Interesting argument, but I'm afraid you are a moron.

ALDOLPHO

Whaaat?

DROWSY

Me—no—bride. Perhaps I could take a message.

ALDOLPHO

Yes, very good... Dear Van De Graaff bride, I must make love to you, and transport you to the place of ecstasy, sooner is better, signed Aldolpho, King of Romance.

DROWSY

Well, you saw through my little ruse. You've found me out.

ALDOLPHO

Ahh, so you are the bride.

DROWSY

Apparently, yes. Take me, Aldollface.

ALDOLPHO

No, no, no, not Aldollface—Aldolpho. You must remember my name for when we are making love and you are screaming you must say the right name or it will spoil everything. How can I make you remember?

SCENE 6: TOTTENDALE'S GARDEN—AFTERNOON

ROBERT

I'M AN ACCIDENT WAITING TO HAPPEN
LA DA DA DA DA DA DA DA DA

Janet enters

JANET

Robert, look out!

ROBERT

Don't worry, madam. I'm getting married today, so I have to wear a blindfold.

JANET

A blindfold?

ROBERT

I'm sorry. Who am I speaking to anyhow?

JANET

Why, it's me. I mean... Mimi. Mimi from France.

MAN

This scene couldn't be more ridiculous.

JANET

So, you are marrying Janet Van De Graaff, non?

ROBERT

Oui.

JANET

I hear she's very beautiful.

ROBERT

Oui.

JANET

And glamorous.

ROBERT

Ahh, oui. Oui.

JANET

Is it true that she has an exceptionally broad range and excels at playing both comedic and dramatic roles?

ROBERT

Say, I'm having trouble placing your accent. What part of France are you from?

JANET

Oh... the middle part... where they make the... toast. You were telling me about your, how do you say it in English; fiancé?

ROBERT

That's right.

JANET

Well, tell me, when was the moment when you knew that she was the only one for you.

ROBERT

It's a funny story, actually. We were standing on the Lido deck of the Isle de France—

JANET

Yes?

ROBERT

I was amusing her with stories of my father's oil interests—

JANET

And then what happened?

ROBERT

I looked into her eyes, her big glamorous eyes, and I felt all woozy—

JANET

And then you fell! Uh... and then you fell?

ROBERT

Yes. Right on my keister. And I said, "well, I guess I don't have my sea legs yet".

JANET

(lost in the moment)

But we haven't left the dock.

ROBERT

That's what she said. And that's when I knew it must be love.

JANET

And then you said...?

ROBERT

And then I said...

#9 - Accident Waiting To Happen

THERE WAS A TIME I COULD STOP ON A DIME
FORBEARANCE WAS ONE OF MY TALENTS