

DSB Courtship    revised 12/12    Set in NYC, May 1887

*(Allen enters, sneezes, blows his handkerchief)*

Cally: You'd hardly know it to look at him now *(Allen stretches, yawns)*, but when he was young Allen was quite dashing *(Allen scratches his butt)*, even romantic. *(Allen smiles at her)*. We met at a ball in Dodworth Hall one warm summer's evening to dance to the music of his splendid Dodworth band. I came, of course, under my mother's watchful eye. She believed the waltz is the invention of the devil, and wouldn't allow more than one dance on my card with any particular young man. And allowing a virtual stranger to actually embrace me and whirl me about the floor...why, the very thought of it was enough to make my poor mother swoon with embarrassment! She said I'd be mesmerized by all that turning, turning...turning...and lead our family into dishonor, ridicule, or, even worse *(turns away in agitation)*...How exciting!

Cue: Waltz

Then they played" \_\_\_\_\_", and I found myself without a partner.

*(Hanky-dropping and dancing)*

Allen: Cally was so beautiful that summer's eve...I wanted so just to hold her hand, but with her mother there...then our wonderful Eb horn player – I'll never forget him *(tries to remember name while players play rock/paper/scissors behind his back to decide who will play the solo)* uhhh, *(remembers)* \_\_\_\_\_ played a melody by Stephen Foster so sweetly that the birds fell right out of the trees – "Jeanie With the Light Brown Hair".

Cue: Jeanie With the Light Brown Hair

Allen: How I wished I could win her heart, like that handsome young cornet player. *(Indicates soloist)* At least, he was young back then. So I picked up a guitar at our Dodworth store and learned to play her favorite song: Aura Lea.

Cue: Aure Lea (vocal duet with guitar)

*Or, if Allen is not a guitarist:*

Allen: ...handsome young cornet player. So I asked the band to play Cally's favorite song – Aura Lea.

Cue: Aura Lea (vocal duet with band)

Allen: I wanted to propose marriage at exactly the right time, in the perfect setting. So I conjured a plan to lure my love to that very spot. *(Approached Cally)* Pray, my wondrous waltzing weasel, what is your desire this fine summer's eve? Shall we picnic at *(Name of romantic local site)*

Cally: Too \_\_\_\_\_.

Allen: Hmm...then why don't we enjoy the most sumptuous cuisine in the land – an elegant repast at *(name of local dining establishment, preferably a sponsor)?*

Cally: Too \_\_\_\_\_

Allen. Hmph...I've got it! You'll accompany me to hear, in concert at the Central Park, our fabulous Dodworth Saxhorn Band!

Cally: *(looks at band, turns back, shakes head)* Too brassy!

Allen: *(frustrated)* But then...

Cue: Take Me Out to the Ball Game

*(They pantomime playing ball, Allen loses again.)*

Allen: The score to date: Cally seventy-seven,

Cally: Seventy-eight!

Allen: Allen...love.

Cally: We still have a bit of fun left in us. And when we finally get to that last dance, you'll still be my one and only partner.

Cue: 'Tis the Last Rose of Summer (vocal)

Music:

Waltz

Jeanie With the Light Brown Hair (Eb solo)

Aura Lea (vocal duet with guitar)

Take Me Out to the Ball Game or Overture to HMS Pinafore

'Tis the Last Rose of Summer

Dialogue: 3 min 55 sec.

Music: approx 15 min.