
LAURIE

Mr. Brooke, I want you -

MR. BROOKE

Your grandfather will be furious. He wants you to meet some important people -
(HE starts to pull Laurie away)

LAURIE

I have. These are the March girls I've been telling you about, the ones from across the way.

(HE pulls apart from Mr. Brooke)

This is Meg - right?

MEG

Yes.

LAURIE

And that's Jo. She cuts our firewood on occasion. This is Mr. John Brooke. He's a scholar from Boston.

MR. BROOKE

I'm Laurie's tutor. Come, Laurie.

(HE quickly picks up Laurie's things, including, accidentally, Meg's dance card and starts away)

MEG

(calls)

Sir! You've taken my dance card!

MR. BROOKE

Your dance card?

(HE looks at what he is holding)

Oh? Is this yours? Sorry.

(HE returns the card. Suddenly notices how striking looking Meg is)

So - you're Margaret March?

MEG

Yes, I am.

MR. BROOKE

It's - a splendid party, isn't it?

MEG

Yes, it is. Quite - 'lovely.' So you're from Boston?

MR. BROOKE

Actually Maine.

MEG

I've never been to Maine.

MR. BROOKE

You should go. It's beautiful country. Very primitive.

MEG

I like primitive.

MR. BROOKE

Really?

LAURIE

Mr. Brooke is a romantic.

MEG

Is that true?

MR. BROOKE

Well, no, no. I read Sheats and Kelley. I mean - Keats and Shelley.

MEG

So do I.

#7a – Moffat Underscore

If using a chorus, when the MUSIC resumes (SCORE #7a, measure 1) the pairs of dancers begin to exit, and all are off stage by measure 18.

MR. BROOKE

You read Keats and Shelley?

MEG

All the time.

JO

(amazed at the exchange)

Christopher Columbus!

MR. BROOKE

(suddenly inspired)

Would you like to dance, Miss March?