

MABEL – Scene 1

SPOKEN NOT SUNG FOR THE AUDITION

Music No. 7. RECITATIVE & DUET (Mabel & Frederic)
"All is prepared, Your gallant crew await you!"

MABEL All is prepared, your gallant crew await you.
My Frederic in tears? It cannot be
That lion-heart quails at the coming conflict?

FREDERIC No, Mabel, no. A terrible disclosure
Has just been made. Mabel, my dearly-loved one,
I bound myself to serve the pirate captain
Until I reached my one-and-twentieth birthday –

MABEL But you are twenty-one?

FREDERIC I've just discovered
That I was born in leap-year, and that birthday
Will not be reached by me till nineteen forty!

MABEL Oh, horrible! catastrophe appalling!

FREDERIC And so, farewell!

MABEL No, no! Ah, Frederic, hear me!

Music No. 8. DUET (Mabel & Frederic)
"Stay, Frederic stay!"

MABEL Stay, Frederic, stay!
They have no legal claim,
No shadow of a shame
Will fall upon thy name.
Stay, Frederic, stay!

FREDERIC Nay, Mabel, nay!
Tonight I quit these walls,
The thought my soul appalls,
But when stern Duty calls,
I must obey.

MABEL Stay, Frederic, stay!

FREDERIC Nay, Mabel, nay!

MABEL They have no claim -

FREDERIC But duty's name.

FREDERIC

The thought my soul appalls,
But when stern Duty calls,

MABEL

No shadow of a shame
Will fall upon thy name;

MABEL

Stay, Frederic, stay!

FREDERIC

I must obey!

MABEL

Ah, leave me not to pine
Alone and desolate;
No fate seemed fair as mine,
No happiness so great!
And Nature, day by day,
Has sung in accents clear
This joyous roundelay,
"He loves thee – he is here.
Fal, la, la, la, Fal, la, la, la.
He loves thee – he is here.
Fal, la, la, Fal, la!"

FREDERIC

Ah, must I leave thee here
In endless night to dream,
Where joy is dark and drear,
And sorrow all supreme –
Where nature, day by day,
Will sing, in altered tone,
This weary roundelay,
"He loves thee – he is gone.
Fal, la, la, la, Fal, la, la, la.
He loves thee – he is gone."

BOTH

Fal, la, la, Fal, la!

FREDERIC

In 1940 I of age shall be,
I'll then return, and claim you – I declare it!

MABEL

It seems so long!

FREDERIC

Swear that, till then, you will be true to me.

MABEL

Yes, I'll be strong!
By all the Stanleys dead and gone, I swear it!

MABEL – Scene 2

MABEL

(Spoken) Sergeant, approach! Young Frederic was to have led you to death and glory.

POLICE (*chanted*) That is not a pleasant way of putting it.

MABEL No matter; he will not so lead you, for he has allied himself once more with his old associates.

POLICE (*chanted*) He has acted shamefully!

MABEL You speak falsely. You know nothing about it. He has acted nobly.

POLICE (*chanted*) He has acted nobly!

MABEL Dearly as I loved him before, his heroic sacrifice to his sense of duty has endeared him to me tenfold. He has done his duty. I will do mine. Go ye and do yours.

Exit MABEL

POLICE (*chanted*) Right oh!

SERGEANT This is perplexing.

POLICE (*chanted*) We cannot understand it at all.

SERGEANT Still, as he is actuated by a sense of duty –

POLICE (*chanted*) That makes a difference, of course. At the same time, we repeat, we cannot understand it at all.

SERGEANT No matter. Our course is clear: we must do our best to capture these pirates alone. (*chanted*) It is most distressing to us to be the agents whereby our erring fellow-creatures are deprived of that liberty which is so dear to us all – but we should have thought of that before we joined the force.

POLICE (*chanted*) We should!

SERGEANT (*spoken*) It is too late now!

POLICE (*chanted*) It is!