UPDATED-Broadway Company 2- Fall 2026

The Drowsy Chaperone JR.®

PROLOGUE

(The theatre is dark. A voice from the stage addresses the waiting audience.)

MAN IN CHAIR

I hate theatre. You know what I do when I'm sitting in a darkened theatre waiting for the show to begin? I pray. Please let it be a good show. And let it be short. And keep the actors out of the audience… I didn't pay good money to have the fourth wall come crashing down around my ears. I just want a story, and a few good songs that will take me away. I just want to be entertained. I mean, isn't that the point?

(Lights up.)

Oh, hello. How are we today? I'm feeling a little blue myself. You know, a little anxious for no particular reason. Anyway, whenever I'm feeling this way, blue, I like to listen to my music. So, I was going through my records this morning – yes, records – and what did I find—

(extracting a record)

—but one of my favorite shows Gable and Stein's *The Drowsy Chaperone*; Remember? It's the full show with the original cast including Beatrice Stockwell as the Chaperone. Isn't she elegant? And this is a full 15 years before she became Dame Beatrice Stockwell. Can you believe it? So. Would you… would you indulge me? Would you let me play the record for you now? I was hoping you would say yes.

(MAN IN CHAIR puts the record on the record player. He places the needle.)

(#1 – OPENING SCENE begins. MAN IN CHAIR settles back and listens for a moment.)

(MAN IN CHAIR)
Isn't this wonderful? The curtain is going up. I can't wait!

SCENE 1: TOTTENDALE'S ENTRANCE HALL – MORNING

(UNDERLING enters, followed by MRS. TOTTENDALE.)

TOTTENDALE
Underling?

UNDERLING
Yes, madam?

TOTTENDALE
How do I look?

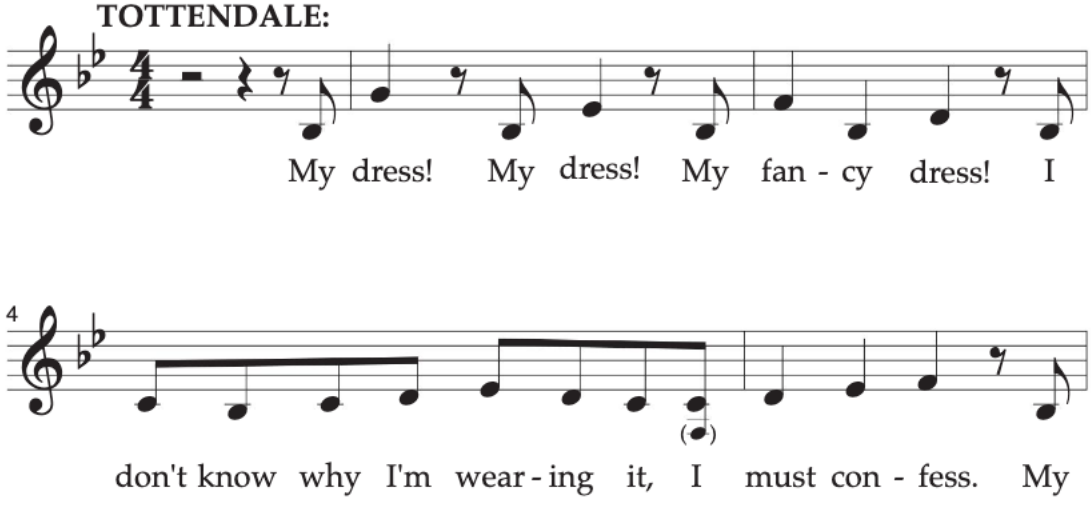
UNDERLING
You look radiant, Mrs. Tottendale.

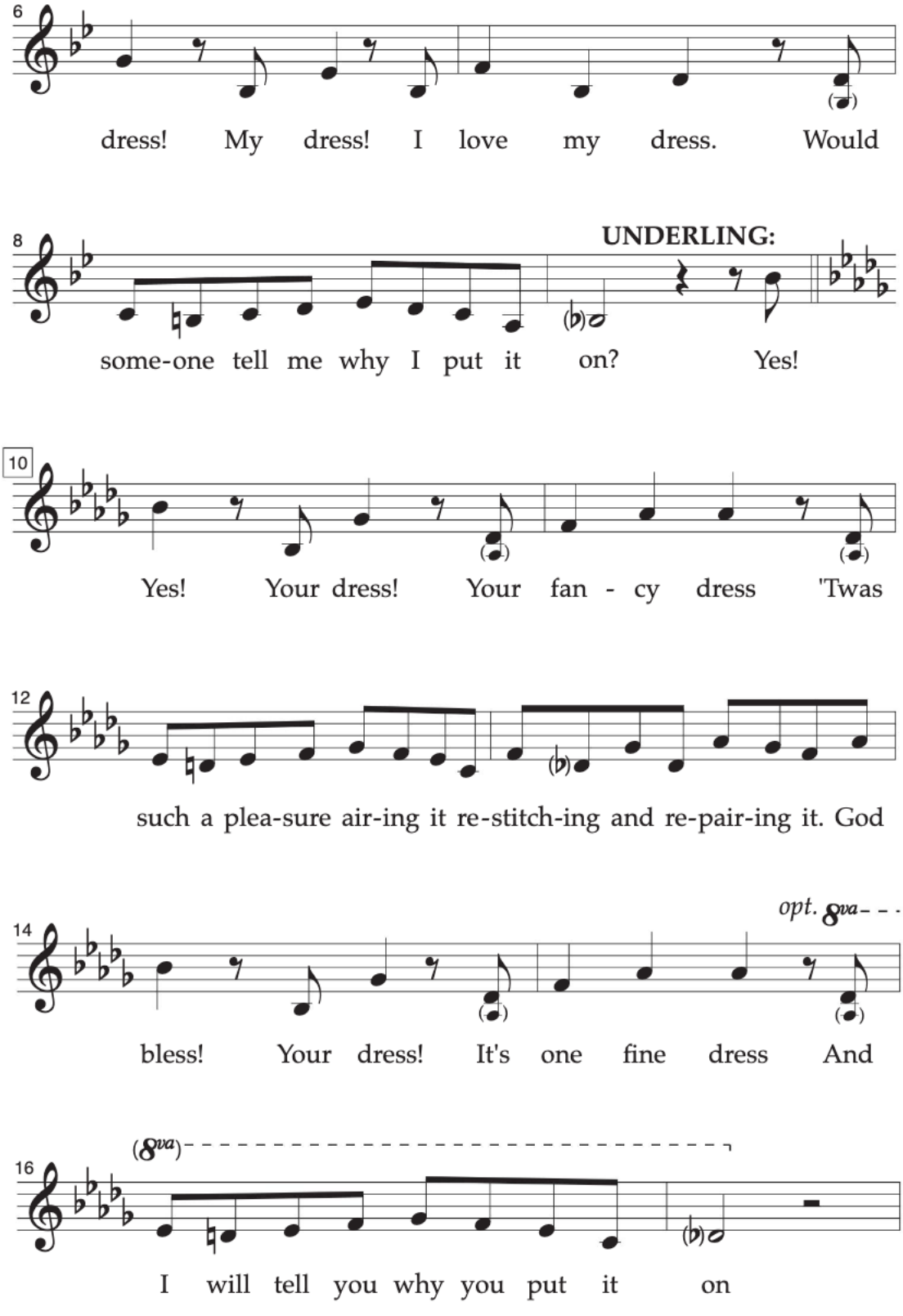
TOTTENDALE
I do love this dress so. It never goes out of style.

UNDERLING
It's a miracle, madam.

(#2 – FANCY DRESS begins.)

FANCY DRESS




6
dress! My dress! I love my dress. Would
8
UNDERLING:
some-one tell me why I put it on? Yes!
10
Yes! Your dress! Your fan - cy dress 'Twas
12
such a plea-sure air-ing it re-stitch-ing and re-pair-ing it. God
opt. 8va
14
bless! Your dress! It's one fine dress And
(8va)
16
I will tell you why you put it on



Wed-ding bells will ring. Wed-ding bells will chime.



Ma-dame you're the hos-tess and it's hap-py wed-ding time

TOTTENDALE,
UNDERLING:



Wed-ding bells will ding Wed-ding bells will dong

(The STAFF enter and join the song.)

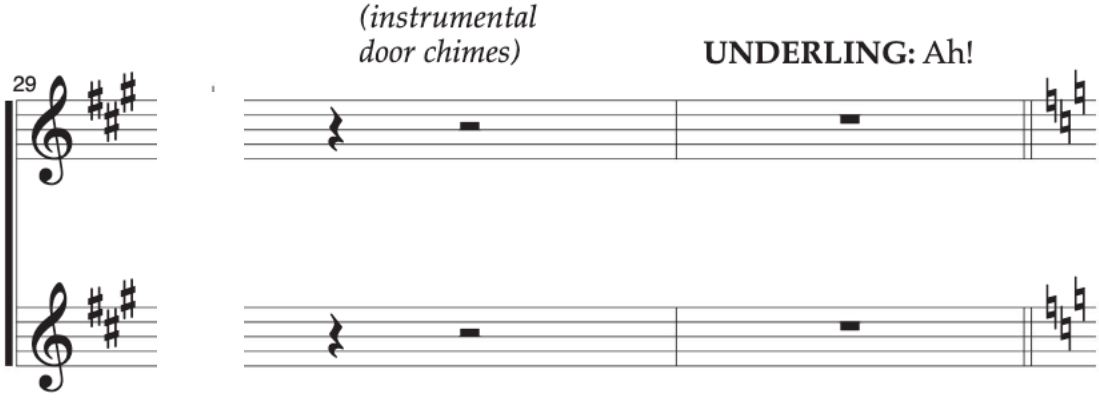
(TOTTENDALE:) **PART 1:**



(UNDERLING:) **PART 2:**

Wed-ding bells will ding - a-ling and


25
we will ding a - long.


(instrumental
door chimes)
UNDERLING: Ah!
29


MAN IN CHAIR
31
Wed - ding guests have come
Wed - ding guests are here



Wed-ding guests are at the door and soon they will ap-pear.

(The STAFF opens the doors as each of the following guests make their entrance.)





I'm Ro - bert, the bride-groom. I'm



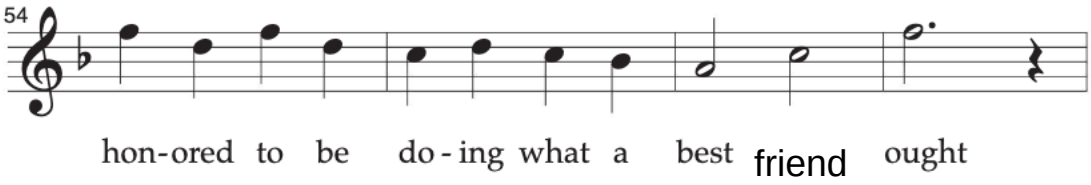
here to mar - ry Ja - net. That star of Feld-zieg's



Fol - lies whom I love a lot I'm



George! That's George! His best friend George. I'm



(GEORGE walks up to TOTTENDALE.)
(GEORGE:) Ah, Mrs. Tottendale. Now, don't worry. I have this whole wedding planned out. The key is organization. See?



(He holds up his fingers, each with a string tied around it.)
ROBERT: Each string represents a task yet to be completed. Pay the musicians, yell at the florist, book the Minister.



(GEORGE:) This whole wedding's going to run like clockwork.
TOTTENDALE: Oh, is there going to be a wedding?







KITTY:

78

wed - ding or I'm not worth squat. I'm

81

Kit - ty! Just Kit - ty! I came with Mis - ter

84

Feld - zieg. I'll be a lead - ing la - dy if I

(A group of GANGSTERS enter dressed as pastry chefs.)

87 89 3

get my shot.

GANGSTER 1, GANGSTER 2: **REST OF GANGSTERS:** **ALL GANGSTERS:**

92

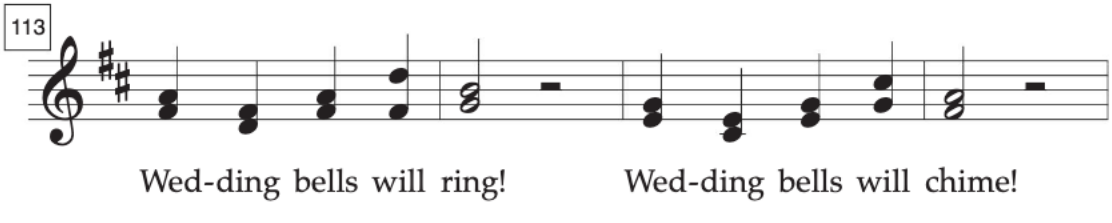
We're pas - try chefs. We're pas - try chefs. We

GANGSTER 1, GANGSTER 2: **REST OF GANGSTERS:**

95

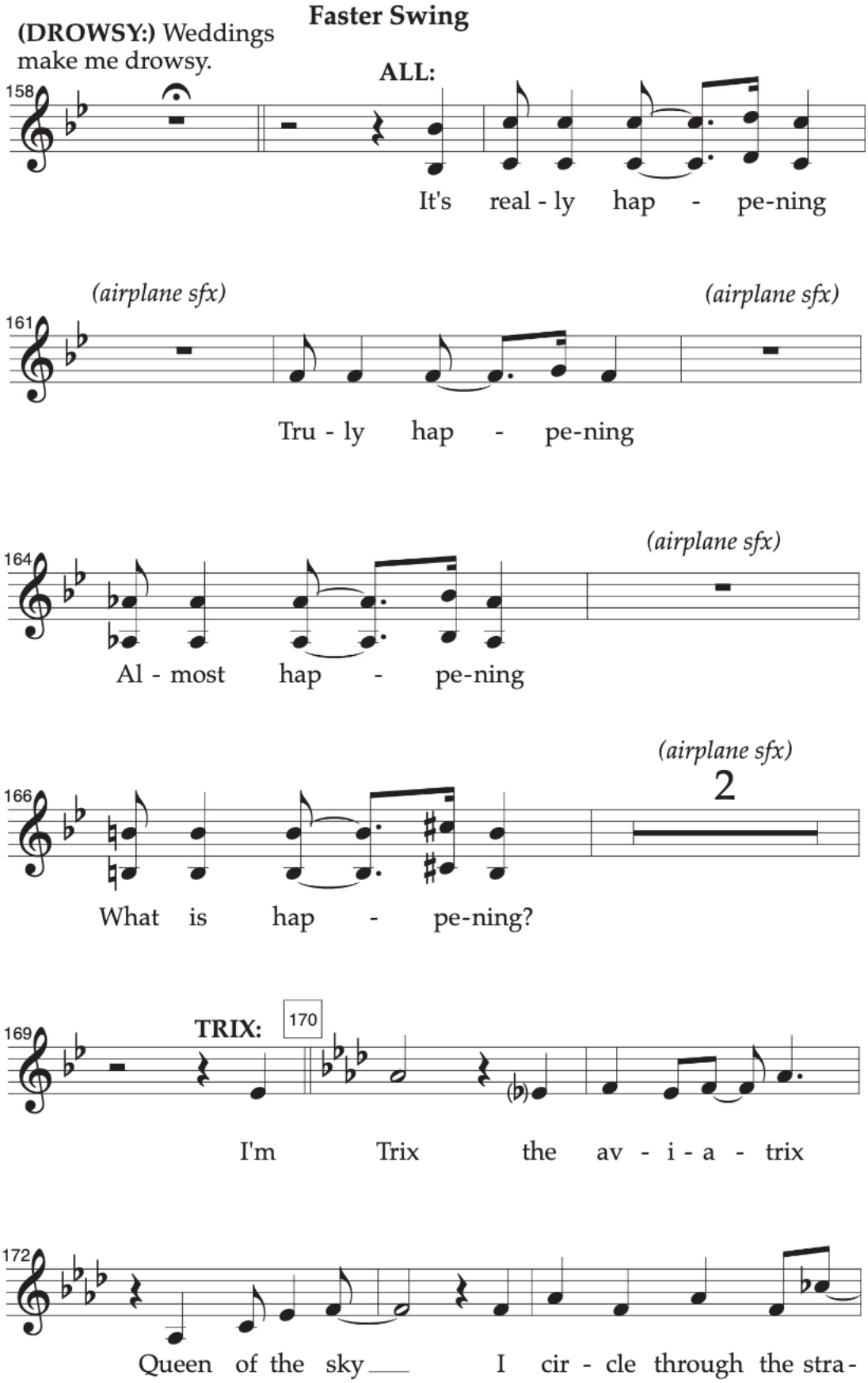
cross our hearts, we're pas - try chefs. No fa - ker - y! A

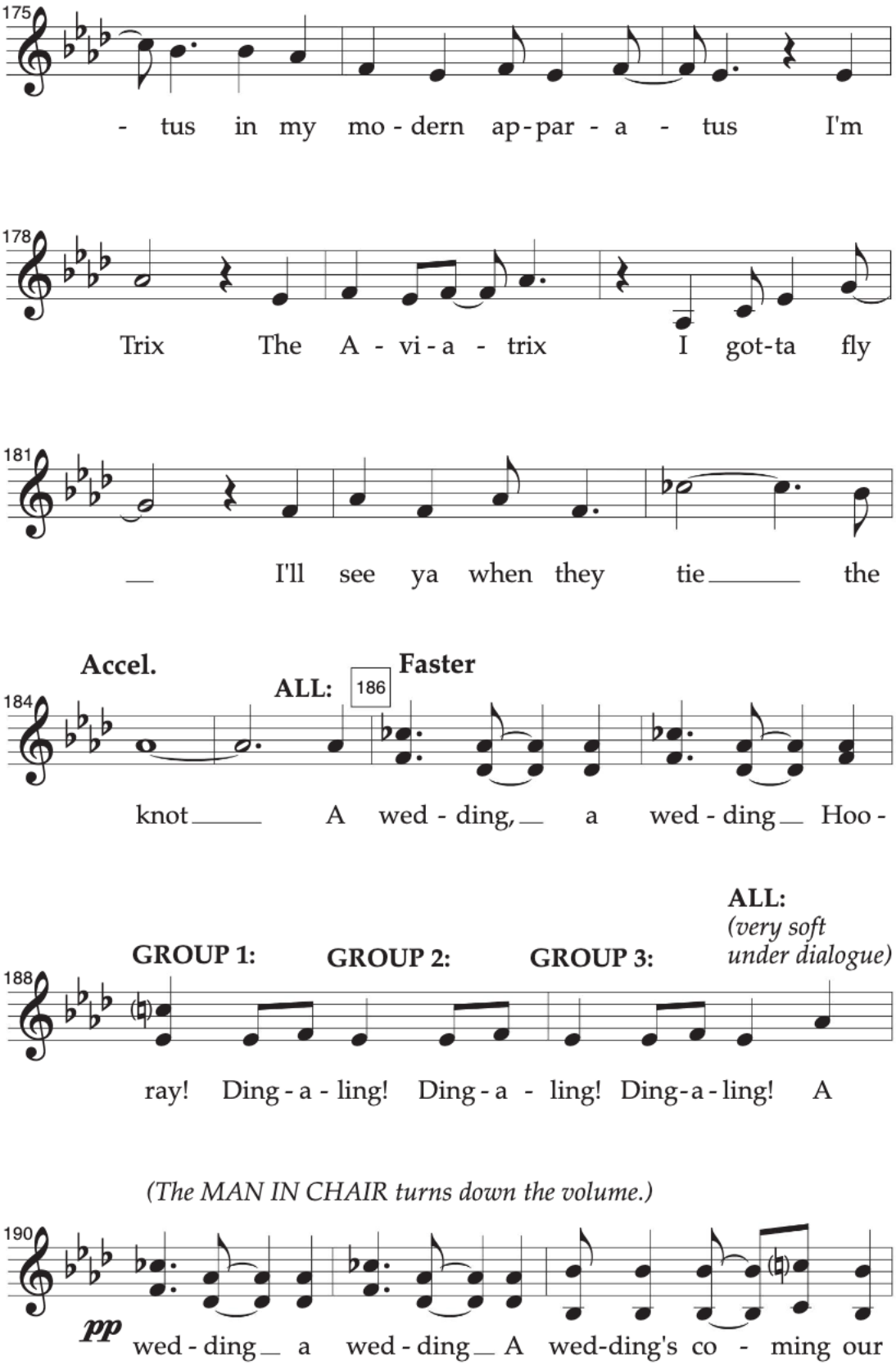

ALL GANGSTERS:
ALDOLPHO:
98
bak - er - y is what we got. Al -


113
Wed-ding bells will ring!
Wed-ding bells will chime!


117
Wed-ding bells will cel - e-brate a hap - py wed-ding
(They gasp.)
121
(hushed)
120
mp
time Some-one has - n't come
123
ALL:
Some-one is - n't here
f
Where is Ja - net
126
Van de Graaff and when will she ap - pear?
(JANET enters.)
7
129
ALL:
137
It's Jan - et! It's
138
JANET:
Jan - et! It's Jan-et Van de Graaff! I'm


Faster
141
Ja-net!
Ja-net Van de Graaff Here to mar-ry
144
Ro-bert Mar - tin
Giv-ing up a life of gla - mour
(The chaperone, DROWSY, enters.)
147
DROWSY:
To tie the knot
Am I
150
late?
I'm the chap-er-one.
Chap-er-one of
153
Jan - et Van
De Graaff
Maid of hon - or
155
friend and con - fi-dante
and all that rot

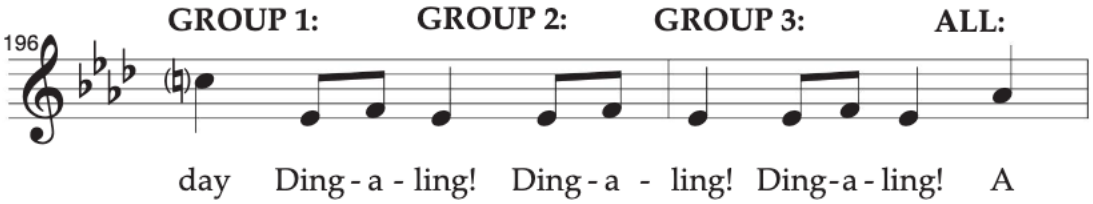

Faster Swing
(DROWSY:) Weddings make me drowsy.
ALL:
158
It's real - ly hap - pe-ning
(airplane sfx)
(airplane sfx)
161
Tru - ly hap - pe-ning
(airplane sfx)
164
Al - most hap - pe-ning
(airplane sfx)
2
166
What is hap - pe-ning?
TRIX:
170
169
I'm Trix the av - i - a - trix
172
Queen of the sky I cir - cle through the stra-


175
- tus in my mo - dern ap - par - a - tus I'm
178
Trix The A - vi - a - trix I got-ta fly
181
I'll see ya when they tie the
Accel.
ALL:
186
Faster
184
knot A wed - ding, a wed - ding Hoo -
ALL:
(very soft
under dialogue)
GROUP 1:
GROUP 2:
GROUP 3:
188
ray! Ding - a - ling! Ding - a - ling! Ding-a - ling! A
(The MAN IN CHAIR turns down the volume.)
190
pp
wed - ding a wed - ding A wed-ding's co - ming our

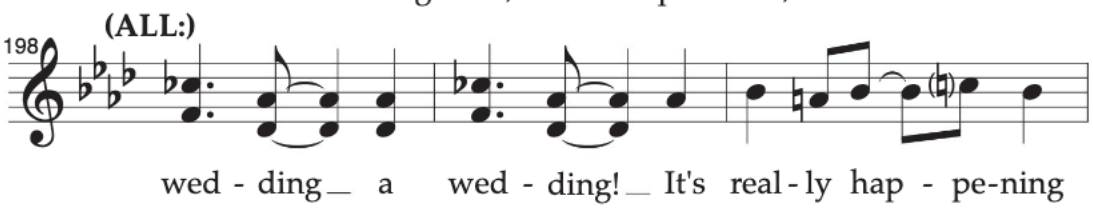
MAN IN CHAIR: Well there you have it, all the guests have arrived.



(MAN IN CHAIR:) We have a bride who's giving up the stage for love,



her debonair bridegroom, a harried producer,



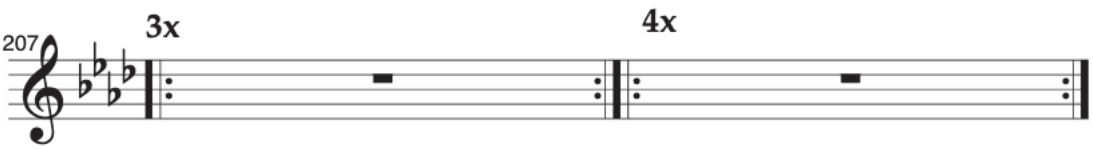
jovial gangsters posing as pastry chefs,



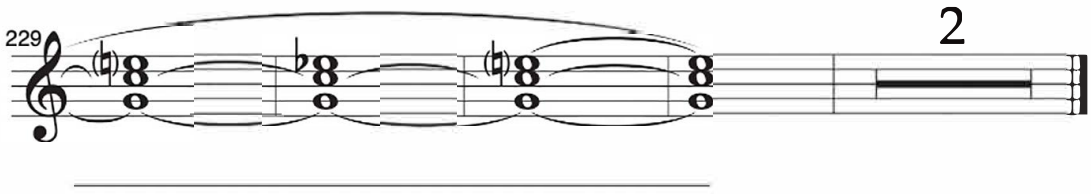
a flaky chorine, a charmer and an aviatrix.



And, of course, my favorite character, the Drowsy Chaperone.
What more do you need for an evening's entertainment?




(He turns up the volume.)
Accel.
2
211
In 2
ALL:
209
Wed-ding bells will ring!
213
Wed-ding bells will chime! Wed-ding bells will
216
cel - e-brate a hap-py wed-ding time!
219
Wed - ding bells will ding Wed - ding bells will
222
dong Wed - ding bells will ding - a-ling and
Più mosso
225
we will ding a - long!



MAN IN CHAIR

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 groom.

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

(as in "isn't that sweet")

Awww!

TRIX

Here's to Miss Janet Van De Graaff – the most talented girl in the world.

GEORGE

Absolutely not!

ALL

(ad-libs)

Gasp!

ROBERT

Excuse me?

GEORGE

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

MAN IN CHAIR

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.

TOTTENDALE:

Thank you Underling

GEORGE

(to DROWSY CHAPERONE)

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

DROWSY CHAPERONE

Aye, aye mon capitan.

JANET

Oh, Robert! I can't wait for the wedding!

(JANET and ROBERT exit.)

MAN IN CHAIR

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*.

FELDZIEG
Kitty I don't have time for this!

(Enter GANGSTERS.)

GANGSTER 1
A petit four, Mr. Feldzieg?

FELDZIEG
Not now.

GANGSTER 2
Perhaps a nice profiterole.

FELDZIEG
I'm not hungry.

GANGSTER 1
Then perhaps we could give you something else to chew on.

ALL GANGSTERS
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 employees of a certain individual who happens to be—

GANGSTER 1
—The largest single investor in Feldzieg's Follies. He 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…

ALL GANGSTERS
… then there ain't no show.

FELDZIEG
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
Lamb's an entrée, you macaroon. We'll leave the matter in your hands, Mr. Feldzieg. In the meantime, feel free to browse the dessert carousel.

GANGSTER 2
Try the Toledo Surprise.

ALL GANGSTERS
It's to die for.

(GANGSTERS exit.)

KITTY

Holy cats, Mr. Feldzieg! They're not pastry chefs.

FELDZIEG

Very perceptive.
(KITTY exits.)

(MAN IN CHAIR)

(pause)

. You have to understand, I love this show so much. And I've never even seen it.

Look I know it's not a perfect show; But none of that matters. It does what a musical is supposed to do: it takes you to another world. And it gives you a little tune to carry with in your head, you know? A little something for when you're feeling blue.

*(**#4 – COLD FEETS (PART 1)** begins.)*