

Scene One

Scene: New Hope Valley in the mountains of Tennessee. It is a Monday night in mid-July, and a square dance is in progress in the yard of New Hope Church. A fiddler and caller are in the background, and downstage are the participants in the dance, the people of the community as on-lookers, the Elders and their wives. At the curtain's rise, the dance is underway. Susannah, a young girl of uncommon beauty, is conspicuous in the group by virtue of a brightly-colored dress and the gravitation of men to her square. Her face is flushed with high spirits and excitement, and she is unaware of the eyes upon her. It is early evening, and oil lanterns, hanging from trees, have been lit.

Allegro giocoso (♩=104)

PIANO *f*

simile

f quasi pizz.

①

mp sost.

MRS. GLEATON

mf

It's a

Mrs. Hayes

Mrs. Gleston

Mrs. McLean

Mrs. Ott

MRS. HAYES

It

hot night for danc-in', ain't no breeze a-stir-rin' Them trees ain't moved all day.

MRS. McLEAN

It

MRS. OTT

It

p

mf

Mrs. Hayes

Mrs. McLean

Mrs. Ott

2

shore be still. It shore be still.

shore be still. It shore be still.

shore be still. It shore be still. It's just like be-fore a cloud-burst, when it

2

mf con brio

Mrs. Hayes

Mrs. McLean

Mrs. Ott

It

It

smells like rain an' the air be's heavy but it ain't like that to-night. It's just dry and hot and still. It

Mrs. Hayes

Mrs. Gleaton

Mrs. McLean

Mrs. Ott

shore is, it shore is. Seems like it's al-ways this way at meet-in' time.

MRS. GLEATON

Don't it now

shore is, it shore is. Seems like the

shore is, it shore is. Don't it now