

JULIAN

Keep it up, keep it up!

ANDY

Turn. Sharp.

JULIAN

That's it. Single step going back. And....

ANDY

And, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, go!

JULIAN

(As ANDY continues the count)

Very nice, very nice. Hats together, boys. And crisscross and out. Right! Alright, Andy, give the rest of them a break. I want to run the love scene.

(MUSIC continues with quiet clarinet under dialogue)

PEGGY

(As ANDY and DANCERS start off)

Please, Mr. Marsh, I'm exhausted. Can't we stop for a minute?

JULIAN

It's six-thirty, Sawyer, that curtain goes up in exactly two hours. It's now or never. Take it from Jim's entrance. Well, what are you waiting for? From Jim's entrance!

PEGGY

(Wearily)

"Jim, they didn't tell me you were here. It was grand of you to come."

JULIAN

No, no, that's impossible! You're greeting the man you love! Make it mean something. Like this...."Ji-im! They didn't tell me you were here! It was grand of you to come!" Try it again.

PEGGY

(Imitating him precisely)

"Jim, they didn't tell me you were here. It was grand of you to come."

JULIAN

No, it won't do! Look, have you ever been in love?

(HE seizes her)

Have you ever had a man take you in his arms and crush you to him and kiss you?

(HE kisses her)

Now say the line.

PEGGY

(A bit stunned)

"Jim, they didn't tell me you were here! It was grand of you to come."

JULIAN (Kisses her again)

Again!

(MUSIC fades out)

PEGGY

(Reacting to second kiss)

"Jim, they didn't tell me you were here. It was grand of you to come."

JULIAN (Another kiss)

Once more!

PEGGY

"Jim, darling! They didn't tell me you were here!! It was grand, grand, grand of you to come!!"

JULIAN

(As HE gives her a shove Upstage  
and OTHER KIDS start on)

All right, that's it! Now places for the end of the finale.

MAC

Places for the finale, please!

ANDY

(By now ALL DANCERS are on)

Finale, everyone!

PEGGY

Mr. Marsh, please....Mr. Marsh....

JULIAN

Oscar!

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PLAYOFF

ANDY

Ready? Moving left, and one, two, three four....

PEGGY

(Breaking down)

I can't, I can't, I can't!  
(MUSIC out)

ANDY

Peggy!

MAGGIE

Now you've done it, Marsh!

BERT

You pushed her too far!