

**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?