

HAROLD

I can't go, Winthrop.

WINTHROP

Why not?

HAROLD

For the first time in my life I got my foot caught in the door.

(To MARIAN)

THERE WAS LOVE ALL AROUND,
BUT I NEVER HEARD IT SINGING.
NO I NEVER HEARD IT AT ALL,
TILL THERE WAS YOU.
(THEY embrace)

MARCELLUS

(ENTERING)

Greg!

(Desperately)

Greg, they're here! That way -- that way!

WINTHROP

Go on, Profethor That way -- that way.

(HAROLD stays where he is as the MEN surround him. CONSTABLE
LOCKE takes charge with handcuffs.)

CURTAIN)

END OF SCENE SIX

SCENE SEVEN

(TIME: Immediately following.)

AT RISE: The River City High School Assembly Room. TOWNSPEOPLE
assembled. In evidence are the DEL SARTE LADIES and the other program
participants, their costumes begdraggled by the storm)

SHINN

(On the podium)

-- which is why I interrupted the program at this point. Rest assured this snake in
our bosom would have been misapprehended by this time. Yes! And always
remember --

(SHINN)

(Gesturing with packet of papers)

fellow River Citizens, I can only remind you that I did everything in my power to prevent this dire happening from — ah — happening. Four score —

MAN #1

What have you done to get our money back?

MAN #2

That Professor collected nearly three hundred dollars for uniforms, just tonight!

WOMAN #1

And we haven't even seen them uniforms yet!

SHINN

He's slippery. I told you —

WOMAN #2

I haven't seen any uniform or my boy either, since just after supper!

MAN #3

He's a kidnapper!

WOMAN #3

Fine situation here!

SHINN

Four score —

*(CONSTABLE LOCKE ENTERS and signals to SHINN.
SHINN'S FACE takes on a self-satisfied smile)*

Just a minute! Virtue has triumphed! The sword of retribution has cut down Professor Harold Hill!

*(HAROLD ENTERS in custody, MARIAN at his side. CROWD reaction.
Several of the MEN rush for HAROLD. CONSTABLE pushes them back)*

And if there are those, as I have heard, who are melting tar and collecting feathers, I will not say them nay!

MARIAN

(Rushing up to the rostrum)

Well I should think there ought to be some of you who could forget our everlasting Iowa stubborn chip-on-the-shoulder arrogance long enough to remember River City before Harold Hill arrived. Do you remember? Well, do you? Surely some of you ought to be grateful to him for what he's brought to River City and if so I should think you'd want to admit it.

SHINN

You're wasting a great deal of time here. If there's a person in this hall who doesn't think this man Hill should be tarred and feathered, let him stand up.

(The SILENCE is ear-splitting. Then MRS. PAROO stands. Next, ZANEETA, then the SCHOOL BOARD QUARTET, the WA TAN YE GIRLS, the LADIES OF DANCE COMMITTEE, finally CONSTABLE LOCKE, and EULALIE)

Eulalie, set down.

(SHE sits, but at a gesture from MRS. PAROO rises again immediately)

And the rest a'you standin' there like a cote a' Shropshyre sheep.

(THEY all sit slowly)

Have you people forgotten how you bought expensive uniforms, technical instruction books and high-priced band instruments? Have you forgotten the clear understanding and warrantee that your children would be taught to play in a band? Well, where's the band? Where's the band?

(TOMMY ENTERS with KIDS in uniforms too big and too small. HE blows WHISTLE. The KIDS hold up their instruments into playing position. HAROLD stands aghast. MARIAN quickly takes pointer from the blackboard, breaks off a "baton" and hands it to HAROLD)

HAROLD

(Looks around desperately, finds no place to hide. Fervently)

Think, men, think!

(HE gives the upbeat and leads the BAND in "Minuet in G" like it has never been played before - just barely recognizable. The RIVER CITIZENS think it's the greatest thing they ever heard. SHINN crosses to TOMMY in amazement - shakes hands with him)

44 - Finale - Act 2

(Orchestra)

ALMA

That's my Barney! That Tuba's my Barney!

MAN #1

Eddie! That's Eddie's Clarionette!

MAUD

Linus, play to me son, play to me!

MAN #2

Davey, my Davey.

SHINN

(At Cornet solo)

Mrs. Paroo, that's Winthrop!

(MRS. PAROO registers thrills and pride.)

HAROLD has been standing taller with each exclamation, and now conducts with a flourish; the same inimitable HAROLD HILL of before. SHINN crosses, shakes his hand. PEOPLE cheer. CHARLIE COWELL EXITS. HAROLD embraces MARIAN.

CURTAIN)

END OF SCENE SEVEN

END OF ACT TWO

45 - *Curtain Call Music*

(Orchestra)

46 - *Exit Music*

(Orchestra)

THE END