

# 17. Now wouldn't you like to rule the roast

Melissa & Blanche

*Allegretto* Melissa

Melissa

1. Now would-n't you like to

Mel

rule the roast, And guide this U-ni-ver-si-ty?

Blan

**Blanche**

I must agree, 'Twould plea-sant be. (Sing

Mel

And would-n't you like to clear the coast Of ma-lice and per-ver-si-ty?

Blan

hey a Pro-per Pride!) With-

18

Mel  Sing hey! \_\_\_\_\_

Blan  out a doubt I'll bun-dle 'em out, (Sing hey, when I pre - side!) Sing hey! \_\_\_\_\_



24

Mel  Sing hoi - ty, — toi - ty! Sor - ry for some! Sing mar - ry come — up, and her

Blan  Sing hoi - ty, — toi - ty! Sor - ry for some! Sing mar - ry come — up, and my



30

Mel  day — will come! Sing Pro - per — Pride Is the horse — to — ride, And

Blan  day will come! Sing Pro - per — Pride Is the horse — to — ride, And



36 *ten. rall.*

Mel  
Hap - py go - luck - y, my La - - - - - dy O!

Blan  
Hap - py go - luck - y, my La - - - - - dy O!

*ten.*

41

Blan  
2. For years I've writh'd be -

47

Mel  
You're much too meek, Or

Blan  
neath her sneers, Al - though a born Plan - ta - ge-net!

51

Mel  
you would speak. (Sing hey, I'll say no more!)

Blan  
Her elder I, by se-ve-ral years, Al - though you'd ne'er i-

57

Mel  
 Sing, so I've heard But ne-ver a word Have I e'er be-liev'd be - fore. Sing

Blan  
 ma - gine it. Sing

62

Mel  
 hey! \_\_\_\_\_ Sing hoi - ty, - toi - ty! Sor - ry for some! Sing mar-ry come -

Blan  
 hey! \_\_\_\_\_ Sing hoi - ty, - toi - ty! Sor - ry for some! Sing mar-ry come -

69

Mel  
 up, and her day\_ will come! Sing, she\_ shall\_ learn That a worm\_ will\_

Blan  
 up, and my day will come! Sing, she\_ shall\_ learn That a worm\_ will\_

75 *ten.*

Mel turn. Sing Hap - py go - luck - y, my La - - - - - dy O!

Blan turn. Sing Hap - py go - luck - y, my La - - - - - dy O!

*ten.*

*f*

81

The musical score consists of four systems. The first two systems are vocal parts for 'Mel' and 'Blan', both with lyrics 'turn. Sing Hap - py go - luck - y, my La - - - - - dy O!'. The third system is a piano accompaniment for the vocalists, featuring a treble and bass clef with various chords and melodic lines. The fourth system is a piano accompaniment for the rest of the scene, starting at measure 81, with a treble and bass clef and a dynamic marking of *f*.

*(Exit Lady Blanche)*

**Melissa:** Saved for a time, at least!

*(Enter FLORIAN, on tiptoe)*

**Florian:** *(Whispering)* Melissa— come!

**Melissa:** Oh, sir! you must away from this at once—  
My mother guessed your sex! It was my fault—  
I blushed and stammered so that she exclaimed,  
“Can these be men?” Then, seeing this, “Why these—”  
“Are men”, she would have added, but “are men”  
Stuck in her throat! She keeps your secret, sir,  
For reasons of her own— but fly from this  
And take me with you— that is— no— not that!

**Florian:** I'll go, but not without you! *(Bell)* Why, what's that?

**Melissa:** The luncheon bell.

**Florian:** I'll wait for luncheon then!

*(Enter HILARION with PRINCESS, CYRIL with PSYCHE, LADY BLANCHE and ladies.  
Also "Daughters of the Plough" bearing luncheon.)*

*Princess Ida*

**BLAN.** Melissa!

MEL. (*returning*) Mother!

**BLAN.** Here – a word with you.

Those are the three new students?

MEL. (*confused*) Yes, they are.

They're charming girls.

**BLAN.** Particularly so.

So graceful, and so very womanly!

So skilled in all a girl's accomplishments!

MEL. (*confused*) Yes – very skilled.

**BLAN.** They sing so nicely too!

MEL. They *do* sing nicely!

**BLAN.** Humph! It's very odd.

Two are tenors, one is a baritone!

MEL. (*much agitated*) They've all got colds!

**BLAN.** Colds! Bah! D'ye think I'm blind?

These 'girls' are men disguised!

MEL. Oh no – indeed!

You wrong these gentlemen – I mean – why, see,  
Here is an *étui* dropped by one of them (*picking up an etui.*)  
Containing scissors, needles, and –

**BLAN.** (*opening it*) Cigars!

Why, these *are* men! And you knew this, you minx!

MEL. Oh, spare them – they are gentlemen indeed.

The Prince Hilarion (married years ago  
To Princess Ida) with two trusted friends!  
Consider, mother, he's her husband now,  
And has been, twenty years! Consider, too,  
You're only second here – you should be first.  
Assist the Prince's plan, and when he gains  
The Princess Ida, why, you will be first.

You will design the fashions – think of that –  
And always serve out all the punishments!  
The scheme is harmless, mother – wink at it!

**BLAN.** (*aside*) The prospect's tempting! Well, well, well, I'll try –

Though I've not winked at anything for years!

'Tis but one step towards my destiny –

The mighty Must! the inevitable Shall!

DUET – MELISSA *and* LADY BLANCHE.

MEL. Now wouldn't you like to rule the roast  
And guide this University?

BLAN. I must agree,  
'Twould pleasant be,  
(Sing hey, a Proper Pride!)