

Sweetheart Music Script extract

SCENE 8 CORMAC ALONE

*(We see **Cormac** coming out of his house carrying a shopping bag full of bottles. He is trying to leave quietly, so as not to alert his mother.)*

Mrs Macnamara: *(Shout from inside house)* Cormac. Is that you? Where are you off to now?

Cormac: I'm just taking the empty bottles to the shop ma. I'll be back in a flash.

Mrs Macnamara: Mind you do now.

Cormac: I will. I will.

*(**Cormac** looks around him, all clear. Sets off for Overseas Club carrying bag of bottles. Lets himself in with a set of keys. Quickly deposits bottles behind the bar. Fills shopping bag with records, puts it on one arm, picks up gramophone, staggers off homeward with it. As he reaches the steps **Mrs Macnamara**, in coat and hat, carrying large missal, passes him. He starts back, waits till she has gone)*

Cormac: Oh. That was a close one. If the old one caught me she'd have me grounded till I'm twenty. *(Going back indoors)* Now for the arrangements

*(**Cormac** sets out his living room for the guests)*

SCENE 9 MRS MACNAMARA'S PARLOUR

*(**Lennie**, **Devon** and **Anna** meet again in street. **Devon** and **Anna** are on their way to **Cormac's** house to play records)*

Lennie: Hallo again young ladies. You remember me?

Devon: Yes we do.

Lennie: May I know your name?

Devon: Devon. That's Anna. What's yours?

Lennie: Lennie. Leonard Dixon

Devon: Hi Lennie

Anna- Louisa: Hi Len.

Devon: We're going round Cormac's. He's our friend. He's getting that gramophone from the club. We saw you dancing you know. We gonna play some music. Want to come?

Anna- Louisa: Is that all right?

Dionne: Is OK. He staying by my auntie she like him. Say he's quite nice, quite a nice boy. I aksing you. You wanta come?

Lennie: What kinda stuff you gonna play

Devon: Dunno. What they got from that club. Some slow. Some uvver stuff. Hafter see.

Lennie: May as well. Got not'in else to do. T'ank you very much. How ol are yous two?

Anna- Louisa: Twelve

Devon: Thirteen

Lennie: Kids.

Devon: How bout you?

Lennie: I sixteen. Come on then – and min' how you cross that road (*Put a hand on each girl's shoulder, steer across road. They reach Cormac's house*))

Devon: Don't knock. He said to call out, quiet. His Mum's gone out he said. Go on, Anna. You.

Anna- Louisa: (*Calling*) Cormac. Can you hear me?

(*Cormac seen trying to arrange **Ma Macnamara's** living room to look like a club. He has draped the table lamp to darken light, put shawl on floor, etc*)

Cormac: Ah there they are. Now do I have it all ready? (*Pretending to dance*) La da da! I'm coming. Oh hallo hallo step this way young ladies. (*To Lennie*) And it's you again as well. How do you do? Please to come in. Welcome - welcome to the New Paradise Club!

Devon: Paradise Club? What's that?

Cormac: I don't know. I just saw it on a place in town. It does sound good. Would you have a seat?

Anna- Louisa: (*Sit down, stiffly, shy*) Thank you.

Cormac: Can I fetch you something? Would you take a glass of water ?

Devon: (*Sitting, shy*) No thanks.

Lennie: (*Also shy*) No thank you very much.

(*All sit. Don't know what to do*)

Cormac: I'd offer tea, but me mam would miss it. She's away out.

Anna- Louisa: Does she know we're here?

Cormac: Not exactly, no.

Anna- Louisa: Oh. What about your dad?

Cormac: He's away up the '*Ship and Anchor*'. His night off you see.

Anna- Louisa: I see.

Devon: So where's the music Cormac?

Cormac: There it is. I took a few of them records from the bar. We can give them a spin.

Lennie: Let me wind it up for you (*does so*)

Cormac: Thank you. There it goes now.

MUSIC CUE JIVE SHORT

Anna- Louisa: Oh I know this one! You remember Dee they were dancing to it at the club. How did it go?

Devon: This way I think. Now what's that bit?

Lennie: Wait a minute. Not that way. You have to turn it more. Like this

Anna- Louisa: (*Excited*) Do it. Do it again. Now do it slow, and show me

Cormac: And me

Lennie: OK a-one –a two (*All dance*) That's it you getting it nice very nice

Anna- Louisa: I like this one. We never dance like this at my school
You're good Lennie

(End dance)

Cormac: That was grand. Just look at us. Are we not tremenjusly up to date now? Now, was there any of that rock and roll do you remember?

Anna- Louisa: (*Looking through records*) No I don't think so.

Cormac: I like that type of music. You should see the trousers on them.
Tight as a drum

Devon: I like that other music. The slow kind. I like those best.

Anna- Louisa: Have you got it there Cormac. You know the one. There was that lady dancing with the man.

Devon: What was that then?

Anna- Louisa: You know the one. She did all this kind of stuff (*Twirl, copying Connie*)

Devon: Yes that's the one. D'you think he liked her. You know..... Do you think she was going to marry him?

Anna- Louisa: Suppose so. I'd rather marry that other one

Devon: What the coloured fella?

Anna- Louisa: Yes that's the one He seemed so friendly and nice

Cormac: (*Interrupting*) But you can never do that.

Anna- Louisa: Why can't I?

Cormac: Well you can't. You can't, you can't just.

Anna- Louisa: What are you saying?

Devon: It's because he's Black. She can't marry him cause he's a coloured man

Cormac: That's right. Now I know for a fact that is accounted sin.

Lennie: What?

Cormac: For a Black person to marry White. It has to be a sin.

Lennie: Who told you that?

Cormac: The priest I think. Or maybe t'was my mam. I always thought it anyhow. You know the way that people carry on.

Devon: I know that way all right.

Cormac: So is it not a sin at all?

Devon: Nope.

Lennie: Not at all.

Anna: I don't think so

Cormac: Well I'll be darned. I never heard of that before. Wait till I tell Father Corcoran. Everything telling me that's a sin, and now it's not a sin at all. Well well. Will I play that music now?

Devon: Yes go on Cormac. It my favourite song

Anna- Louisa: *(Twirling)* Is this the way?

Devon: Yes you right. Here. You need a dress . *(Take shawl from sofa. Drape on Anna)*

Cormac: And a man. Well that's not going to be me.

Anna- Louisa: Na. You're too young.

Cormac: *(Gives Anna a cushion for a partner)* Here you are. Are you ready then?

MUSIC CUE SWEETHEART MUSIC SHORT

(Anna dances first with a cushion. A little way in Lennie interrupts says:)

Lennie: Here. Let me. *(They dance, getting absorbed in the moves. Dionne sings along.)*

(Half way through the record there is a sound off, door shutting)

Devon: What was that?

Cormac: By the saints and angels. It's me ma. Quick put things back if you can Stop stop the music - lord's sake stop the dancing..... *(He rushes to take record off)*

Mrs Macnamara:

(Enters, still in street clothes with bag, wet, it was raining. Lennie and Anna dance till she enters, as she comes in. Cormac makes the record run down, they stop, all stare.)

What in heavens name is this? What are you doing in my living room! I can't believe it. The shock . The shock. What can be the meaning of it? *(About Lennie, Dionne)* How did they get in? And you! The Major's daughter! You should know better! Oh I can see trouble coming there

Anna- Louisa: We were only playing music Mrs Macnamara.

Devon: Very sorry ma'am

Mrs Macnamara: And what kind of music would that be? Nothing fit for any decent person's ears. It'll have the influence on it I'll be bound.

Devon: The influence?

Mrs Macnamara: Yes, if you please. . The influence of the devil .

Devon: Oh.

Mrs Macnamara: You heard of voo doo and black magic and all manner of heathen stuff .*(meaningful look at Lennie)* Well we all know where that comes from. And what's this? Where did you get that musical contraption? Oh it's plain to tell no need to ask. *(Lennie again)* I'm not such a fool you know. Ten to one it's stolen property and I having stolen goods in my house. Get it out.

Cormac: It isn't stolen ma it's only borrowed.

Mrs Macnamara: Borrowed is it and where would you borrow a thing like that?

Cormac: Off me Da.

Anna- Louisa: It's from the overseas club where Mr Macnamara works. We were taking it back in the morning. Cormac said he wouldn't mind.

Lennie: Excuse me ma'am. We meant no harm. I have just been instructing these young ones on some little dance moves Just the dance moves ma'am,

Cormac: I asked him Ma. He was invited.

Mrs Macnamara: *(To Cormac)* I'll deal with you later. Now, you will all kindly leave my house. And you can git out Cormac too and wait until your Da comes home

Cormac: Have a heart, Ma. It's raining

Mrs Macnamara: So it will. I am telling you all to leave.

Lennie: A heartless woman.

Mrs Macnamara: *(To Lennie.)* You will understand. *(To Dionne)* And you can listen here as well. I do not wish to see you here again. *(To Lennie)* You know what you are, what you will always be. You are an unwelcome guest.

(Lennie, Devon, Anna leave with Cormac)