

## A Big Hit

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Matching customized costumes,  
hair pulled back tight,  
they walked in structure synchronicity  
to their opening positions,  
while the swings stay in the wings.

Practice has prepared each play.  
One man in first position,  
another in second position,  
a third in third position,  
each with a rotating partner  
clothed in a complementary costume,  
except for a final man marking center stage.

All eyes are on him.

But a new man enters from offstage,  
upstaging a masked man in a grand plié,  
and steals the audiences' attention away  
from the middle man.

Yet the middle man quickly regains the spotlight  
once he begins his spin, spotting,  
following a curve with such precision  
that the newcomer misses his cue.  
But it won't happen again.

On the second spin, the newcomer connects with a staccato tap.  
Light on his feet, he doesn't miss a beat.  
The partners all pick up the dance with him,  
hopping to one note,  
leaping to the next  
twirling to a third,  
and sliding on home.