Not for the Life of Me/
Thoroughly Modern Millie
from Thoroughly Modern Millie JR.

Music by JEANINE TESORI
Lyrics by DICK SCANLAN
Book adapted by DICK SCANLAN

CUE 02 - (The curtain rises on 1922 Manhattan, a platinum version of the Emerald City. We see the silhouette of MILLIE in her Sunday best, a suitcase in each hand, her back to us. Slowly, she turns around.)

Freely but moving forward

MILLIE: mp

I studied all the pictures in mag-a-zines and books. I memorized the subway map, too. It's tentative, not sweet!

one block north to Mac-y's and two to Brothers Brooks. Man-hat-tan, I prepared for...
(MILLIE:)

You certain-ly are diff-erent from what they have back home you.

no-thin's o-ver three stor-ies high, and no one's in a hur-ry or wants to roam. But

I do though they won-der why. They said I would soon be good and lone-ly. They
(MILLIE:)

said I would sing the home-sick blues. So I always have this ticket in my

sturdy

(removes a train ticket from her pocket) (slower) (studies the ticket, then tears it in two)

pocket; a ticket home in my pocket to do with as I choose.

mp less sturdy

Wide swing
Hot Dixieland

Burn the bridge. Bet the store. Baby's comin' home.
(MILLIE:)

no more.
Not for the life of me.

Cl. + Tpt. Dixie

Break the lock.
Post my bail.
Done my time I'm out-ta jail.

Not for the life of me.
A life that's
Più mosso

(MILLIE:)

got - ta be more than a one - light town where the light is al - ways red.

Got - ta be more than an old ghost town where the ghost ain't even dead.
(MILLIE:)

Clap-a-your hands——just-a-because Don't-cha know that where I am ain't

where I was——Not for the life of me——

Boh doh dee oh! Not for the life of——not for the

life of——not for the life of——not for the
(New York City comes to life around her with MODERNS on the move.)

MILLIE:...

Ev-'ry-'thing to...

f (add offbeats)

day is thor-ough-ly mod-ern... (Check your per-son-al-i-ty.) Ev-'ry-'thing to-
day makes yesterday slow. (Better face reality.) It's not

Insanity says Vanity Fair. In fact,

it's stylish to raise your skirts and bob your hair!
MILLIE:

Have you seen the

(FEMALE MODERNs
GROUP 1:)

bob your hair! bob your hair!

FEMALE MODERNs
GROUP 2:

raise your skirts and bob your hair!

MALE MODERNs:

(some 8va)

way they kiss in the movies? (Isn't it delectable?)

MILLIE,
FEMALE MODERNs:

Painting lips and penciling your brow now is quite respectable.
MILLIE:

Good-bye, good-good-y girl, I'm changing and how, So

ALL:

(some men at pitch)

(MILLIE exits, suitcases in hand.)

(some men at pitch)

beat the drums 'cause here comes Thoroughly Modern Millie

now!

ALL:

What we
"Down and dirty"

think is chic, unique, and quite adorable.

They think is odd and Sodom and Gomorrah!

Stop Time (quirky)

ALL: (hushed) sub. p staccato

But the fact is... Everything today is thoroughly modern.
MALE MODERNs:

123

Bands are gettin' jazz-i-er. Ev-'ry-thing to-day is start-ing to go.

FEMALE MODERNs:

127 (whispered)

Cars are gettin' snazz-i-er. Men say it's crim-i-nal

130

what wo-men'll do. What they're for-get-ting is
MODERNS dance with dynamic determination, positively giddy with the freedom to change.

breakout

this is nineteen twenty-two!

"Varsity Drag"

butt slaps

Low-Down

f

ff
152

ALL: $f$

Goodbye,

MILLIE: ALL: sub $p$

I'm changing and how!

(MILLIE enters. She is now a full-fledged, head-to-toe modern: bobbed hair and short skirt.)

155

I'm changing and

158

MILLIE: ALL: sub $p$

how!

I'm changing and how!

So
beat the drums 'cause here comes thoroughly
Hot off the press! One step

a-head! Jazz Age! Whoopee Baby! We're so Thor-ough-ly

MILLIE:

Mod-ern (n) Mil-lie

ALL:

ff now!