



Horace Vandergelder delivers his monologue in his home. He thinks a lot of himself and little of women, and it shows. He has decided to marry again to have a woman to run his household, and for some excitement.



Ambrose Kemper (left) is an artist who wants to marry Mr. Vandergelder's niece, Ermengarde. The interesting Mrs. Dolly Levi (right) has just been introduced and has pulled Ambrose aside to inform him of her plan to help him marry Ermengarde. Mrs. Levi gives a barely amused Ambrose her business card.





Ermengarde comes out to warn Mr. Kemper and Mrs. Levi that her uncle Horace (Vandergelder) is coming.



Mrs. Irene Molloy (left) and her assistant Minnie (right) work in a hat shop. Mrs. Molloy has been the subject of Mr. Vandergelder's courtship and he wants to marry her. Here, she informs Minnie that she would certainly marry him.





Cornelius (left) works for Mr. Vandergelder and has gone to New York to have an adventure. He ends up in Mrs. Molloy's shop and must stay put because Mr. Vandergelder is outside. Here he snoops around the shop attempting to find a place to hide.



Cornelius finds his hiding place in a wardrobe and Mrs. Molloy attempts to get him out while Mr. Vandergelder and Mrs. Levi enter.





Mrs. Molloy explains to her dinner party at The Harmonia Gardens Restaurant that they will have a fantastic dinner together. She is smitten with Cornelius because she believes him to be wealthy, and he is convinced that he is in love with her. Barnaby and Minnie are getting along well, too.





Mrs. Molloy has Minnie dance with her. The fine dinner she promised is going smoothly. She is happy, and her movement increases the energy.





Mrs. Levi attempts to get Horace to dance with her while the other couples are dancing. He insists that he is not too old, but simply doesn't want to dance.





Mrs. Levi sits and talks to her dead husband, informing him that she will marry Vandergelder and send his money flowing like he taught her.