

Ich habe meine Strumpf im Bach verloren

(I HAVE LOST MY STOCKING IN THE BROOK) - German

MF-2, B-1

An old dance from Bavaria, recently discovered in my research in the Library of Congress. M.F.

Music:* Lauterbacher.

Form: Any number of couples. The girls hold hands in a circle, leaning well forward from the hips and standing so close they are shoulder to shoulder (a Whisper Circle). Each man stands behind his partner and holds the hem of her skirt or her apron strings.

Measures 3/4

- 1-4 Figure 1: Men draw the girls' circle apart by pulling on the skirts while dancing 4 step-hops backward. Girls give way by taking very small dragging steps as if resisting the pull of the men, but moving only so far that their arms are stretched, without releasing hands.
- 5-8 Men release skirts and face CCW, hands on waist, dancing 4 step-hops forward, passing own partner and the next two girls. As soon as the men release skirts, girls run quickly together again, but on the last beat, they turn with backs to center, facing a new partner.
- 9-12 With crossed-hand hold, the man draws his new partner away from center of circle with 4 step-hops. He pulls, she resists.
- 13-16 Kueseln with new partner: both hands joined, lean away from each other, toes close together, and whirl CW with tiny side steps. End side by side facing CCW, inside hands joined.
- 1-2 Figure 2: Balance forward with man's L, lady's R foot, swinging inside hands forward. Balance back on inside foot, swinging hands backward.
- 3-4 Man balances forward on outside foot, swinging joined hands forward, starting the girl on a right-face turn as hands are released. Girl progresses to the man ahead as the man balances back and turns to meet the new girl coming to him.
- 5-16 Repeat action of Meas. 1-4, Figure 2, three more times. The last time the girls move into the center to form a Whisper Circle and the dance is repeated.

-- Folk Dance Directions
Department of Education
New Zealand Pub. 1957

*Note: Many recordings of Lauterbacher are available, but they are the Swiss version with 8 measures of "A" music and 12 measures of "B" music. This recording has 8 measures "A" and 8 measures "B", arranged AABBB.