

SONG: Clockwork

Just before the interval, the COMPANY
recapitulates the events of Act 1: A
compression of years into minutes.
Reductio ad absurdum. And a refresher
course for the audience.

ALL (sung)

Once there was a squire.

ALLWORTHY

Squire has a sister.

BRIDGET

Also Mister Summer - fever, rash, and blister.

TOM

Doctor makes a blunder: Summer's planted under,

ALLWORTHY

Squire goes to London-

ALL

Call it clockwork.

TOM

Squire back from London.

BRIDGET

Squire finds a baby.

ALLWORTHY

Who could be the mother?

WILKINS

Neighbors think that maybe Squire's a relation.

TOM

Big investigation.

JENNY

Jenny Jones is undone just like clockwork.

ALL

Clockwork!

DR. BLIFIL

A doctor comes to stay,

CAPT. BLIFIL

A captain comes to stay,

BOTH
Brothers spinning both their wheels
To conjure up tomorrow's meals.

BRIDGET
The captain woos;

CAPT. BLIFIL
The sister reels,

ALL
True love wins the day!

DR. BLIFIL
The doctor goes away.

TOM
Recollect the baby mentioned in the first part?

PARTRIDGE
Captain names the father,

ANNE
Maid reveals the worst part-

PARTRIDGE AND ANNE
Did the Latin teacher spoil the fragile creature?

TOM
And did he mention he was married?

ALL
Clockwork.

BRIDGET
Sister has a baby,

CAPT. BLIFIL
Captain has his heir now,

ALLWORTHY
Squire has his Tommy,

CAPT. BLIFIL
Captain doesn't care now.

JENNY, BRIDGET, AND WILKINS
Captain waits for Squire to exit or retire.

SUPPLE
But now he's in a box and buried.

DR. BLIFIL
Well, well...

CAPT. BLIFIL
Ha, ha.

ALL
Clockwork!
By rules and laws, the world wends
From all that was to future trends.
From tiny cause to mighty ends,
We dance, and advance-
Not fate, not chance-
Just clockwork.

ALL (cont'd)
Started with an apple

TOM
Borrowed from a neighbor.

WESTERN
Stolen from the owner.

GEORGE
Handed out to labor.

ALL
From such a minor notion,
Such a big commotion.

TOM
Heedless hero, reckless suitors,

BLIFIL
Cunning nephew,

THWACKUM AND SQUARE
Zealous tutors,

SOPHIA
Fathers, daughters, aunts and nieces,

ALL
Wind it up and watch the pieces go:
Wheels, cogs, rogues, dogs,
Springs, gears, wives, peers,
Hands and faces, fond embraces,
Clockwork. Clockwork.

TOM (spoken)
It is the universal opinion of Mr. Allworthy's entire family
and all his neighbors that Tom Jones was born to be hanged.

Clockwork.

ALL (sung)

End of ACT 1