

Hangman

Written by The Quality, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dance notes by Vanessa Van Alstine, 9/25/2011, updated 11/15/2011

4/Lover
3/Brother 5/Condemned 1/Hangman Music
 2/Mother

Walk on in formation, all facing forward, 1-2-3-4 acting as guards, 5 trapped in center, head down.

Tag

*Did you come to see me **hanging**, hanging from the gallows pole.*

At "hanging", 2-3-4 rotate in place to face out of the circle.

Noose (Mother/Father)

***Hangman, hangman, slack** your rope a while.
I **think** I see my mother, ridin' many a **mile**.*

First "hangman": #1 takes single step outward.

Second "hangman": #2, 3, 4 take single step outward. #1 step in place.

"Slack" - #1, 2, 3, 4 **clockwise** around the circle.

"Think": #2 (mother) cuts inward and circles **counterclockwise** around #5.

#5 turns in place to track #2.

"Mile": Everyone back to place, facing inward. #5 facing #2.

Snub (Mother/Father)

***Well, mother, did you bring me silver? Did you bring me any gold?**
Or did you **come** to see me **hanging**, hanging from the gallows pole?*

"Well": #5 head towards #2 with right hand extended, palm up (begging) while #2 passes **right** shoulder. #3 moves to #2's place.

"Silver": #2 arms with #4, **left** arms, 180° (just to make the turn)

#5 dances around #3 (in #2's spot), passing **left** shoulder and around.

"Gold": #5, #2 pass **right** shoulders. (#4, #3 stay as corners)

"Did you come": #2 arms with #3 by **left** arms, 1.5 turns.

#5 dances around #4, passing **left** shoulder and around.

"Hanging": #2, #3 break out of arming with #2 in place, #3 goes back home.

#5 arms by **left** with #1, 180°, then #5 heads home.

Ends with everyone facing in, except #5 who faces up (faces #2??).

Chase (Mother/Father)

*No, I didn't bring you **silver**. Didn't bring you any gold.
But I come to see you **hanging, hanging** from the gallows pole.*

"No": #2 goes around #5 by the **right** shoulder (Bring), #5 turns to follow & chases. #1 follows #5.

"Silver": #2 passes #3 by the **left** shoulder. #3 pivots as #1 passes, stops facing outward.

"But": #2 passes #4 by the **right** shoulder. #4 pivots as #1 passes, stops facing outward.

"Hanging": #2 back home, facing outward.

"Hanging": #5, #1 arrive home. #1 face out, #5 face up.

Noose (Sister/Brother)

*Hangman, hangman, **slack** your rope a while.
I **think** I see my sister, ridin' many a **mile**.*

First "hangman": #1 takes single step outward.

Second "hangman": #2, 3, 4 take single step outward. #1 step in place.

"Slack" - #1, 2, 3, 4 **clockwise** around the circle.

"Think": #3 (sister) cuts inward and circles **counterclockwise** around #5.
#5 looks up, turns in place to track #3.

"Mile": Everyone back to place, facing inward. #5 facing #3.

Snub (Sister/Brother)

*Well, sister, did you bring me **silver**? Did you bring me any **gold**?
Or did you **come** to see me **hanging**, hanging from the gallows pole?*

"Well": #5 head towards #3 with right hand extended, palm up (begging) while #3 passes **right** shoulder.

"Silver": #3 arms with #2, **left** arms, 180° (just to make the turn)
#5 dances around #4, passing **left** shoulder and around.

"Gold": #5, #3 pass **right** shoulders. (#4, #2 stay as corners)

"Did you come": #3 arms with #4 by **left** arms, $\frac{3}{4}$ turn.

#5 dances around #2, passing **left** shoulder and around.

"Hanging": #3, #4 break out of arming with #4 in place, #3 goes back home.
#5 arms by **left** with #1, 180°, then #5 heads home.

Ends with everyone facing in, except #5 who faces #3.

Chase (Sister/Brother)

*No, I didn't bring you **silver**. Didn't bring you any gold.
But I come to see you **hanging, hanging** from the gallows pole.*

"No": #3 goes around #5 by **right** shoulder (Bring), #5 turns to follow & chases.
#1 follows #5.

"Silver": #3 goes around #2 by the **left** shoulder. #2 pivots as #1 passes,
stops facing outward.

"But": #3 goes around #4 by the **right** shoulder. #4 pivots as #1 passes,
stops facing outward.

"Hanging": #3 back home, facing outward.

"Hanging": #5, #1 arrive home. #1 face out, #5 face up.

Noose (Lover)

*Hangman, hangman, slack your rope a while.
I think I see my true love, ridin' many a **mile**.*

First "hangman": #1 takes single step outward.

Second "hangman": #2, 3, 4 take single step outward. #1 step in place.

"Slack" - #1, 2, 3, 4 **clockwise** around the circle.

"Think": #4 (lover) cuts inward and circles **counterclockwise** around #5.
#5 turns in place to track #4.

"Mile": Everyone back to place, facing inward. #5 facing #4.

Snub (Lover)

*Well, lover, did you bring me **silver**? Did you bring me any **gold**?
Or did you **come** to see me **hanging**, hanging from the gallows pole?*

"Well": #5 head towards #4 with right hand extended, palm up (begging)
while #4 passes **right** shoulder. #3 moves to #4's place.

"Silver": #4 arms with #2, **left** arms, 180° (just to make the turn)
#5 dances around #3 (in #4's spot), passing **left** shoulder and around.

"Gold": #5, #4 pass **right** shoulders. (#2, #3 stay as corners)

"Did you come": #4 arms with #3 by **left** arms, 1.5 turns.

#5 dances around #2, passing **left** shoulder and around.

"Hanging": #4, #3 break out of arming with #4 in place, #3 goes back home.
#5 arms by **left** with #1, 180°, then #5 heads home.

Ends with everyone facing in, except #5 who faces up (faces #4??).

Chase (Lover)

***No**, I didn't bring you **silver**. Didn't bring you any gold.
But I come to see you **hanging, hanging** from the gallows pole.*

"No": #4 goes around #5 by the **left** shoulder, #5 turns to follow & chases.
#1 follows #5.

"Silver": #4 passes around #3 by the **right** shoulder. #3 pivots as
#1 passes, stops facing outward.

"But": #4 passes around #2 by the **left** shoulder. #4 pivots as
#1 passes, stops facing outward.

"Hanging": #4 back home, facing outward.

"Hanging": #5, #1 arrive home. #1 face out, #5 face up.

Noose (Devil)

***Hangman, hangman, slack** your rope a while.
I **think** I see the devil, ridin' many a **mile**.*

First "hangman": #1 takes single step outward.

Second "hangman": #2, 3, 4 take single step outward. #1 step in place.

"Slack" - #1, 2, 3, 4 **clockwise** around the circle.

"Think": #2, 3, 4 cuts inward and circles **counterclockwise** around #5.

#5 stays in place (no turning to track anyone) and head slowly sinks down.

"Mile": #2, 3, 4 end back-to-back-to-back tightly around #5. Arms out & downward.

#1 ends a step forward of home. Ends with stomp, arms down in fists.

Drama notes:

#5 always trying to make eye contact with # 2, 3, 4.

#2, 3, 4 always avoid #5.

#1 always sees #5.