

## THE ROAD NOT TAKEN\*

- A1 1-4 1<sup>st</sup> couple cast into the middle (2<sup>nd</sup> couple moving up), lead down between the 3<sup>rd</sup> couple and cast up to middle place;  
 5-8 All back-to-back with partner
- A2 1-4 1<sup>st</sup> couple set advancing<sup>1</sup>, ending facing 1<sup>st</sup> corners and turn 1<sup>st</sup> corners  $\frac{3}{4}$  ending 1<sup>st</sup> woman between the 2<sup>nd</sup> couple at the top facing down, 1<sup>st</sup> man between the 3<sup>rd</sup> couple facing up.  
 5-8 1<sup>st</sup> couple set advancing, ending facing 2<sup>nd</sup> corners, and turn 2<sup>nd</sup> corners  $\frac{3}{4}$  to end in 2<sup>nd</sup> place on opposite side. [2, 1, 3; 1s imp]
- B1 1-4 All set advancing<sup>1</sup>  
 Single-file circle CW halfway (this is quick!), into:  
 5-8 R-shoulder heys across the dance<sup>2</sup>, man down giving R shoulder to 2<sup>nd</sup> woman at the bottom, woman up, giving R shoulder to 3<sup>rd</sup> man at the top.  
 [3, 1, 2; 1s imp]
- B2 1-8 Corners Pass and Turn Variant<sup>3</sup>:  
 1-4 1<sup>st</sup> couple dance a half figure of 8 to their own R, woman down, man up, ending in 2<sup>nd</sup> place on own sides, while 1<sup>st</sup> diagonals L-hand turn once round and return to place.  
 5-8 1<sup>st</sup> couple pass L across the set and dance to their L around 2<sup>nd</sup> corner position, dance in through the end and diagonally into progressed place proper while 2<sup>nd</sup> diagonals L-hand turn once round and return to place. [3, 1, 2]

**Tune: The Green Route by Dave Wiesler | 3/2 in Gm**

\*This version of the dance instructions is longer and more descriptive, meant for those who'd like to teach the dance. The author has also provided a second set of more concise instructions that do not use gender roles. See opposite page.

### Author's Notes:

<sup>1</sup>“Set advancing” = set to R and forward, set to L and forward; pass partner L on second setting step

<sup>2</sup>At end of single-file  $\frac{1}{2}$  circle, 1<sup>st</sup> long corner positions (W<sub>2</sub>+M<sub>3</sub>) have a distinct change of momentum between end of single-file circle and heys;

<sup>3</sup>The 1s figure B2 looks like a ‘pretzel-bow’: ends of the pretzel are in 2<sup>nd</sup> place; W<sub>1</sub>'s bow is around 3s place at bottom and M<sub>1</sub>'s bow is around 2s place at top. When all dance smoothly, the covering between 1s and respective long corners is striking.

*With many thanks to some in my local dance community for not being quite satisfied with my first draft, and with grateful appreciation to my wider dance community for helping me ‘fix’ it.*

### Teaching Notes:

**B1:** After the single-file circle, the 1s are following the couple they will hey with. They should use their momentum to dance right into the hey. Dancers who begin and end the single-file circle on the 2<sup>nd</sup> diagonal need to pull their R shoulders back and dance immediately into the hey.

**B2:** When teaching the corners pass and turn, first have the actives walk their path without the corners. When you add the corners, note that in the first half of the figure, the corners follow the 1s; in the second half, 1s follow the corners.

## For the dance, THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

The Green Route

$\text{♩} = 112$

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### The Road Not Taken | Concise, gender-free instructions

- A1 1-4 1s cast down (2s dance up), lead down through 3s, cast to middle place.  
 5-8 Partners back-to-back.
- A2 1-4 1s set advancing (pass each other L shoulder on 2<sup>nd</sup> setting step), turn 1<sup>st</sup> corner  $\frac{3}{4}$  (end in middle of lines across set facing each other).  
 5-8 1s set advancing, turn 2<sup>nd</sup> corner  $\frac{3}{4}$  to end in middle place improper.
- B1 1-2 All set advancing (pass partner by L shoulder on 2<sup>nd</sup> setting step).  
 3-4 All single-file CW circle  $\frac{1}{2}$  (2s and 3s now in progressed place).  
 5-8 Heys for 3 across dance: 1s use momentum to dance to own L, giving R shoulder to relevant dancer.
- B2 1-4 1s switch ends to dance 1/2 figure 8 out end of set to own R, loop L around 1 dancer while 1<sup>st</sup> long corners turn L hand. [all in prog place]  
 5-8 1s pass L shoulder with each other through middle place, loop L, dance in through end to progressed place while 2<sup>nd</sup> long corners turn L hand. [3, 1, 2]