

# Les Adieux (The Farewell) [LW dm, improper, 3/4]

(Music Charon's Waltz by Dave Markus, 2023; Dance 2023)

Music: <https://www.reelplayband.com/charons-waltz.html>

Video: [https://youtu.be/gcy3\\_3ETDFc](https://youtu.be/gcy3_3ETDFc) Recorded music on request.

+++ Choreography by Robert E. Jamison, [rejamzzz@gmail.com](mailto:rejamzzz@gmail.com)

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## IMPROPER

### Measures (One measure = 3 steps)

- A1(1-2) Balance the ring  
A1(3-4) Circle L halfway  
A1(5-8) 1s take 2H and turning once and a half cw move up between the 2s who are fixed  
1s are now proper and above but the set is shifted one space up  
A1(9-12) 2s half fig 8 around the 1s  
All are now proper and shifted one space up
- A2(1-2) Balance the ring  
A2(3-4) Circle R halfway  
A2(5-8) 2s take 2H and turning once and a half ccw move down  
between the 1s who are fixed  
2s are now proper and shifted one space back down to place  
All are back in place  
A2(9-12) 1s half fig 8 around the 2s
- B1(1-4) 2s gate the 1s around to form a line of 4 facing down  
B1(5-8) Lead down a double; 1s half-gate 2s to form a line of 4 facing up
- B2(1-4) Lead up 2x double (12 steps)  
B2(5-6) The 1s assist the 2s into a cast down around the 1s  
B2(7-8) 1s follow the 2s and cast down around the 2s

### Notes:

- A2(9-12) The half fig 8 should flow seamlessly into the gate.  
B1(5-8) The half-gate is similar to, but not the same as, "turn as a couple". *See next page.*  
B2(1-4) This shifts the set up two places; B2(5-8) moves it back down to place.  
B2(5-6) The "assist" is a quarter of a gate; when the 1s let go of the 2s, the 1s are facing out and starting their cast around the 2s  
B2(7-8) The 1s flow seamlessly following the 2s, then passing around them.  
The effect is that of a wave rolling by.

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Seth's Question: Les Adieux: B1(5-8) The half-gate is similar to, but not the same as, "turn as a couple". How is it different?

Here is the choreography in consideration.

B1(1-4) 2s gate the 1s around to form a line of 4 facing down

B1(5-8) Lead down a double; 1s half-gate 2s to form a line of 4 facing up

Robert's reply: >>>>>>

In both a half-gate and a turn-as-a-couple, there are 2 dancers holding hands who change places. One dancer B backs-up while the other F goes forward. The difference is not in the move itself, but in the way the roles are specified.

Turn-as-a couple usually refers to a couple M-W going down the hall. The call does not explicitly specify who is B and who is F. Rather this is specified by convention: the man backs-up and the woman goes forward. Thus the roles are gender specific.

Gates are usually along the side of the set and the call, "X gates Y" explicitly determines the roles: the gate-or X backs-up & the gate-ee Y moves forward.

(X= B and Y = F). In this situation, the two dancers involved might be opposite sex or same sex. In Les Adieux the turning couples are same sex. Thus who is B and who is F is not determined by convention but must be made explicit in the call. Hence calling it a half-gate works better.

B1(5-8) Lead down a double; 1s half-gate 2s to form a line of 4 facing up

The dancers are going down the hall, the turn is two couples turning as couples. This is confusing to call. Saying "gate" is clearer.

The reason I want the 1s to gate the 2s in B1(5-8) is because it brings the 2s together with the forward momentum for up-the-hall. The 1s have to change direction.