

Drunkard's Walk

(v9: 7/18/22) – ACTUAL FINAL!

An English Country Dance by Renée Camus ©July 11, 2018

Tune: *Drunkard's Walk*, by Dave Wiesler, 1997

4-couple longways set

Intermediate

AAB 4x (A=8, B=16 mm)

6/8

♩ = 108

A1	1-4	1s “cascade” or “Falling Star” progress their way down the set to the bottom: 1s and 2s set, facing on the diagonal, and R-hand star halfway.
	5-8	1s and 3s set (on the diagonal), and L-hand star halfway.
A2	1-4	1s and 4s set (on the diagonal), and R-hand star halfway.
	5-8	Partners set and 2-hand turn halfway to change places. (Finish couples 2, 3, 4, 1, all proper.)
B	1-2	Top 2 couples and bottom 2 couples circle 4-hands Left, halfway. (Finish 3, 2, 1, 4 improper.)
	3-4	Take hands in lines of four and fall back.
	5-6	All come forward setting.
	7-8	Middle couples (2s and 1s) link (turn single R to change places) WHILE ends (3s and 4s) turn single. (Finish 3, 1, 2, 4 improper.)
	9	All balance back (step, close) to face diagonal, then...
	10-12	Top 2 couples and bottom 2 couples “Clink”: simultaneous Hole in the Wall cross halfway (R-shoulder). (Finish 1, 3, 4, 2 proper.)
	13-16	Weave: Neighbors face (1s face 3s, 4s face 2s) and do three changes of a hey for 4 passing R-shoulder to start (2 beats per pass; Finish 2, 3, 4, 1). (Ends weave to the opposite end, while middles loop back to where they were.) Repeat with new top couple.

Dave Wiesler wrote the tune for the mathematical problem (something about randomness and probability), while I, not a mathematician, took the title at face value (drunk people stumbling). ☺

Teaching Notes:

- In the Cascading stars (A1-A2), release hands on counts 7-8 for an easier transition into the next star. The “cascading” couple can turn either way when transitioning from one star to the next.
- B 5-8: For the middles it’s a Set and Link, though they’re moving forward on the set. For the ends, it’s set and turn single, moving forward on the set.
- B 10-12: “Clink” is known as “Clump” in other dances (e.g., Bluebonnets), and it’s a simultaneous Hole in the Wall cross. I like the term Clink for this dance because it ties in with the theme of drinkers at a pub having a toast. You always Clink with the same group of 4.
- B 13-16: Weave: Ends pass 3 people to switch places (top finishes at bottom; bottom finishes at top). Middles pass one, loop, and pass one to end where they started. Everyone weaves on their own side. You always start the weave with the same neighbor, the one you clinked with.