CUDDLE UP A LITTLE CLOSER, LOVEY MINE

1908

Karl Hoschna was a Bohemian by birth; Otto Hauerbach came from Salt Lake City. Hoschna was composing music for Broadway musicals when their paths crossed in New York City and they collaborated on the show "The Three Twins." One of its songs was "Cuddle Up A Little Closer, Lovey Mine." They continued to work together until 1911 when Hoschna suddenly died, a most promising career cut short. Hauerbach went on to write lyrics for Rudolph Friml, Sigmund Romberg, George Gershwin, and Jerome Kern. He teamed up with Oscar Hammerstein II in 1920. From 1929 until his retirement, he composed music for Hollywood films.

Some of Hauerbach's best known songs are "Indian Love Call," "Who?" "The Desert Song," "She Didn't Say 'Yes'" and "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes," but his career as a lyricist was established way back in 1908 when he and Hoschna wrote "Cuddle Up A Little Closer, Lovey Mine." It was the earliest success of this giant of American music.

The infectious good humor of this song has not diminished with the years. It's still a favorite with singers who gather around the piano for some impromptu vocalizing.





