

ALEKO

1 Introduction

2 Rasskaz starika

STARIK

Volshebnoy siloy pyesnopen'ya
v tumannoy pamyati moyey
vdrug ozhivlyayutsya viden'ya
to svyetlikh, to pechal'nikh dney.

KHOR

Povyeday, starik, povyeday starik,
pered snom nam skazku o slavnom
bilom.

STARIK

I nashi syeni kocheviye
v pustinyakh nye spaslis' ot byed,

i vsyudu strasti rokoviyey,
i ot sudyeb zashchiti nyet.

Akh, bistroye molodost' moye
zvezdoy paducheyu myel'knula!
No ti, pora lyubvi minula
yeshcho bistreye: tol'ko god
menya lyubila Mariula.

Odnazhdä bliz kagul'skikh vod
mi chuzhdiy tabor povstrechali;
tsiganye tye, svoi shatri razbiv
bliz nashikh u gorï, dvye nochi
vmestyeye nochevali.

Oni ushli na tret'yu noch' –
i, brosyaya malen'kuyu doch',
ushla za nimi Mariula.

Ya mirno spal;

zarya blesnula;

prosnulsya ya, - podrugiy nyet!

Ishchu, zovu –

propal i slyed.

Toskuya, plakala Zemfira,

i ya zaplakal!

ALEKO

1 Introduction

2 Tale of the Old Man

OLD MAN

By the magical power of the singing,
Visions of days, now radiant
And now sorrowful,
suddenly come to life.
In my hazy memory.

CHORUS

Tell us, old man, tell us, old man,
A tale about your glorious past before
sleep.

OLD MAN

Even our nomadic shelters
did not escape misfortunes in the
wilderness;
Everywhere there are fateful passions,
and from fate there can be
no protection.

Ah, quickly did my youth
flash by, like a falling star!
But you, time of love, you passed by
yet more swiftly:

It was only for a year that Mariula
loved me.

Once, near the waters of Kagul
we met a another encampment;
Those other gypsies, having pitched
their tents near our hill,
spent two nights there.

On the third night they departed, -
and, abandoning her little daughter,
Mariula went off with them.

I was sleeping peacefully;

dawn broke;

I awoke, - my beloved was not there!

I searched, I called out –

there was no trace of her.

Grieving, Zemfira wept,

I wept too.

S etikh por postili mnye
vsye devī mira,
dlya nikh navyek ugas moy vzor.

3 Women's Dance

4 Men's Dance

5 Kavatina Aleko

ALEKO

Vyes' tabor spit. Luna nad nim
polnochnoy krasotoyu blyeshchet.

Shto zh serdtse byednoye
trepeshchet?

Kakoyu grust'yu ya tomim?

Ya byez zobot, byez sozhalen'ya
vyedu kochuyushchiye dni.

Prezryev okovī prosveshchen'ya,
ya volyen tak zhe, kak oni.

Ya zhil, nye priznavaya vlasti

sud'bī kovarnoy i slepoy.

No, Bozhe, kak igrayut strasti
moyey poslushnoyu dushoy!

Zemfira! Kak ona lyubila!

Kak nyezchno priklonyas' ko mnye
v pustīnoy tishinye chasī
nochniye provodila!

Kak chasto milīm lepetan'yem,

upoitel'nim lobzan'yem
zadumchivost' moyu v minutu
razognat' umyela!

Ya pomnyu: s nyegoy, polnoy strasti
sheptala mnye ona togda:

“Lyublyu tebya! V tvoyey ya vlasti!
Tvoya, Aleko, navsegda!”

I vsyo togda ya zabīval,
kogda recham yeyo v nimal
i, kak byezumnīy, tseloval yeyo
charuyushchiye ochi,
kos chudnikh pryad',

Since then all the girls in the world
have become abhorrent to me,
and for them the light in my eyes is
forever extinguished.

3 Women's Dance

4 Men's Dance

5 Aleko's cavatina

ALEKO

The entire encampment sleeps.
The moon shines with its midnight
beauty overhead.

Why does my poor heart quiver?
With what sadness do I languish?

Without cares, without regret
I spend my days in nomadic roaming.
Feeling contempt for the shackles
of civilisation,

I am free as they are,

I have lived without acknowledging
the authority

of a perfidious and blind fate,
But, my God, how the passions
play with my obedient soul!

Zemfira! How she loved!

How tenderly she pressed towards me
in the empty silence,

And there she spent the nocturnal
hours!

How often with her lovely chattering
and her entrancing kisses
she was able in a moment
to dispel my pensiveness!

I remember: with a voluptuousness
full of passion,
she whispered to me then:

“I love you! I am in your power!
Yours, Aleko, forever!”

And I was able to forget everything
as I listened to her words
and like a madman I kissed her
enchancing eyes,

the strands of her wonderful tress,

temnyeye nochi,
 usta Zemfirī ...
 A ona, vsya nyegoy, strast'yu polna,
 pril'nuv ko mnye, v glaza
 glyadyela...
 I shto zh? I shto zh?
 Zemfira nyevyerna!
 Zemfira nyevyerna!
 Moya Zemfira okhladyela!

darker than the night,
 and the lips of Zemfira...
 whilst she, full of voluptuousness
 and passion,
 clung to me and gazed into my eyes...
 But what happened? What happened?
 Zemfira is unfaithful!
 Zemfira is unfaithful!
 My Zemfira has grown cold
 towards me!

6 Romans molodovo tsigana
MOLODOY TSĪGAN
 Vzglyani: pod otdalyonnim svodom
 gulyayet vol'naya luna;
 na vsyu prirodu mimokhodom
 ravno siyan'ye l'yot ona.
 Kto v nebye myesto yey ukazhet,
 promolvya: tam ostanovis'!
 Kto serdtsu yunoy dyevi skazhet
 lyubi odno, nye izmenis'!
 Kto v nebye myesto yey ukazhet,
 promolvya: tam ostanovis'!
 Kto serdtsu yunoy dyevi skazhet
 lyubi odno!

6 Young Gypsy's romance
YOUNG GYPSY
 Look up there: the unfettered moon
 glides beneath the distant heavens;
 it casts its light in passing
 equally on nature all around.
 Who will point to its place in the
 heavens, and say "stop there"!
 Who will say to the heart
 of a young maiden
 "love one, and do not betray him".
 Who will point to its place in the
 heavens, and say "stop there"!
 Who will say to the heart of a young
 maiden "love one"!

7 Duet
ZEMFIRA
 Pora!

MOLODOY TSĪGAN
 Postoy!

ZEMFIRA
 Pora, moy miliy, pora!

MOLODOY TSĪGAN
 Nyet, nyet, postoy!
 Dozhdyomsya dnya

ZEMFIRA
 Uzh pozdno!

MOLODOY TSĪGAN
 Kak robko ti lyubish'. Minutu!

7 Duet
ZEMFIRA
 It's time!

YOUNG GYPSY
 Wait!

ZEMFIRA
 It's time, my dearest, it's time!

YOUNG GYPSY
 No, no, wait!
 Let's wait till daybreak

ZEMFIRA
 It is already late

YOUNG GYPSY
 How timidly you love. Another

Minutu!

ZEMFIRA
Ti menya pogubish'.
Nyet, pora!

MOLODOY TSĪGAN
Postoy!

ZEMFIRA
Pora, moy miliy, pora!

MOLODOY TSĪGAN
Nyet, nyet, postoy!
Dozhdyomsya dnya.

ZEMFIRA
Uzh pozdno!

MOLODOY TSĪGAN
Kak robko ti lyubish'. Minutu!
Minutu!

ZEMFIRA
Ti menya pogubish'.
Yesli byez menya
prosn'yotsya muzh...

8 ALEKO (*vkhodit*)
Prosnulsya on...
Stoytye! Kuda vi?
Stoytye
Il' vo snye ya grezhu?
(*Zemfirye*)
Gdye zh tvoya lyubov'?

ZEMFIRA
Ostan'! Ti opostil mnye
Biloye nye vern'yotsya vnov'!

ALEKO
Zemfira! Zemfira!
Vspomni, miliy drug!
Vsyu zhizn' ya otdal za zhelan'ye

minute! Another minute!

ZEMFIRA
You will be my undoing.
No, it's time!

YOUNG GYPSY
Wait!

ZEMFIRA
It's time, my dearest, it's time!

YOUNG GYPSY
No, no, wait!
Let's wait till daybreak

ZEMFIRA
It is already late

YOUNG GYPSY
How timidly you love. Another
minute! Another minute!

ZEMFIRA
You will be my undoing.
No, it's time!
If my husband should wake without
me there...

8 ALEKO (*entering*)
He has awoken...
Stay there! Where are you off to?
Stay there!
Or am I still dreaming?
(*to Zemfira*)
Where is your love?

ZEMFIRA
Stop! You have become hateful to me.
The past cannot be brought back

ALEKO
Zemfira! Zemfira!
Remember, my dearest!
I gave up my whole life
out of the desire

s toboy dyelit' lyubov', dosug
i dobrovol'noye izgnan'ye.

ZEMFIRA, MOLODOY TSİGAN

Smeshon i zhalok on!

Smeshon i zhalok on!

ALEKO

Lyubov' proshla, kak son,
lyubov' proshla, kak son!

ALEKO

O, nyet, zlodyye! Ya pryed toboy
ot prav moikh nye otkazhus',
il' mshchen'yem naslazhus'

9 Smert' molodovo tsigana

ZEMFIRA

(Molodomu tsiganu)

Byegi, moy drug, byegi, moy drug,
byegi...

ALEKO

Postoy!

Kuda, krasavets molodoy?

Lezhi!

(zakalivayet yevo)

ZEMFIRA

Aleko!

MOLODOY TSİGAN

Umirayu!

ZEMFIRA

Aleko!

MOLODOY TSİGAN

Umirayu!

(umirayet)

ZEMFIRA

Aleko, ti ubil yevo!

Vzglyani: ti vyes' obrizgan
krov'yu!

O, shto ti sdyelal?

O, shto ti sdyelal?

to share with you my love, my leisure
and my voluntary exile.

ZEMFIRA, YOUNG GYPSY

How funny and pitiful he is!

How funny and pitiful he is!

ALEKO

My love has past like a dream,
my love has passed like a dream.

ALEKO

Oh no, you miscreant!

I shall not waive my rights over you,
or else I'll take delight in vengeance.

9 The death of the Young Gypsy

ZEMFIRA

(to the Young Gypsy)

Run, my beloved, run, my beloved,
run...

ALEKO

Stay!

Where is the handsome lad off to?

Lie still!

(stabs him)

ZEMFIRA

Aleko!

YOUNG GYPSY

I am dying

ZEMFIRA

Aleko

YOUNG GYPSY

I am dying

(dies)

ZEMFIRA

Aleko, you have killed him!

Look: you are all bespattered
with blood

Oh, what have you done?

Oh, what have you done?

ALEKO
Nichevo. Dīshi tepyer' yevo
lyubov'yu...

ZEMFIRA
(*sklonyayas' k trupu*)
O, miliy moy! Prosti menya!
Moya lyubov' tebya sgubila.
(*riidayet*)
O, miliy moy! Prosti menya!
Moya lyubov' tebya sgubila.

ALEKO
(*s ugrozoy*)
Tī plachesh'?

ZEMFIRA
Nye boyus' tebya.
Tvoi ugrozi prezirayu,
tvoyo ubiystvo proklinayu.

ALEKO
Umri zh i ti
(*porazhayet yeyo nozhom*)

ZEMFIRA
Umirayu lyubya

- 10** *Vivo*
KHOR
O chyom shumyat?
Shto tam za krik?
Kovo trevozhit eta noch'?
Shto zdyes' sluchilos'
Shto tam za krik?
Vstan', starik!
- 11** *Moderato*
STARIK
(*vbegayet*)
Aleko! Zemfira!
Doch'!
Smotritye, plach'tye, vot ona!
Lezhit v krovi obagryena

ALEKO
Nothing. Breathe in his love now...

ZEMFIRA
(*bending over the corpse*)
Oh, my beloved! Forgive me!
My love, I have been your undoing.
(*sobs*)
Oh, my beloved! Forgive me!
My love, I have been your undoing.

ALEKO
(*menacingly*)
Do you weep?

ZEMFIRA
I'm not afraid of you.
I despise your threats,
and I curse your murderous action

ALEKO
Then you die too
(*strikes her down with the knife*)

ZEMFIRA
I die loving

- 10** *Vivo*
CHORUS
What is this noise about?
What is the shouting for?
Whom does this night alarm?
What has happened here?
What is the shouting for?
Get up, old man!
- 11** *Moderato*
OLD MAN
(*runs in*)
Aleko! Zemfira!
My daughter!
Look and weep, here she is!
Lying there turned crimson in blood.

KHOR

*(tsiganye v uzhasye obstupayut
gruppu)*

Uzhasnoye dyelo luch sontsa
vstrechayet

Za ch'i prestuplen'ya nash tabor
stradayet?

ZEMFIRA

Otets! Yevo ryevnost'
sgubila...

Umirayu!
(umirayet)

STARAYA TSİGANKA, STARIK,
KHOR

Naveki pochila!

ALEKO

Zemfira! Zemfira!

Vzglyani pryed soboy nye zhaleyaya.
Za mig tvoyey radostnoy zhizni
svoyu ya otdam nye zhaleyaya.

STARAYA TSİGANKA

Muzh'ya! Iditye nad rekoy
mogili svezhiye kopat'.

A zhoñi, skorbnoy cheredoy
vsye v ochi myortvikh tselovat'.

12 *Grave*

STARIK

(k Aleko)

Mi diki, nyet u nas zakonov,
mi nye terzayem,
nye kaznim.

Nye nuzhno krovi nam i stonov,
no zhit' s ubiytsey nye khotim.

KHOR, STARIK

Mi diki, nyet u nas zakonov,
mi nye terzayem,
nye kaznim.

Nye nuzhno krovi nam i stonov,
no zhit' s ubiytsey nye khotim.

CHORUS

*(in horror the Gypsies group around
them)*

The suns rays greet
a terrible sight.

For whose crimes does our
encampment suffer?

ZEMFIRA

Father! His jealousy was my
undoing...

I am dying
(dies)

OLD GYPSY WOMAN, OLD MAN,
CHORUS

She has gone to her eternal rest!

ALEKO

Zemfira! Zemfira!

Look before you without regret.
For one moment of your joyous life
I would give mine without regret.

OLD GYPSY WOMAN

You menfolk!

Go and dig fresh graves near the river.
And you women, all of you go in a
mournful line
and kiss the eyes of the departed.

12 *Grave*

OLD MAN

(to Aleko)

We are wild, we have no laws,
we do not torture,

we do not put people to death.

We have no need of blood and groans,
but we will not live with a murderer.

CHORUS, OLD MAN

We are wild, we have no laws,
we do not torture,

we do not put people to death.

We have no need of blood and groans,
but we will not live with a murderer.

Uzhasyen nam tvoy budyet glas.
Mī robki i dobrī dushoy.
Tī zol i smyel, ostav' zhe nas.
Ostav' zhe nas
Prosti! Da budyet mir s toboy!
(*trupī unosyat*)

- 13** *Lento lugubre. Alla marcia funebre*
ALEKO
O, gorye! O, toska!
Opyat' odin, odin
(*zanaves medlenno opuskayetsya*)

Your voice will be terrible for us.
In our souls we are timid and kind.
You are savage and bold, so leave us.
Leave us.
Farewell! And peace be with you!
(*they carry away the corpses*)

- 13** *Lento lugubre. Alla marcia funebre*
ALEKO
O, woe is me! O anguish!
Again I am alone, alone
(*the curtain lowers slowly*)

SKUPOY RĪTSAR'

Kartina tret'ya
Vo dvortsye

- 14** *Allegro vivace*
AL'BER
Povyer'tye, gosudar',
terpyel ya dolgo
stīd gor'koy byednosti.
Kogda b nye kraynost',
vī b zhalobī monyey nye uslikhali.

GERTSOG
Ya veryu, veryu:
blagorodnīy rītsar',
takov, kak vī, ottsa nye obvinit
byez kraynosti.
Spokoynī bud'tye: vashevo ottsa
usoveshchu
nayedinye, byez shumu.
Ya zhdu yevo.
Davno mī nye vidalis'

(*smotrit v okno*)
Eto kto? Nye on li?

AL'BER
Tak, on, gosudar'

THE MISERLY KNIGHT

Tableau 3.
At the palace.

- 14** *Allegro vivace*
ALBERT
Believe me, Sire,
I have long suffered
the shame of bitter poverty.
Were it not for my extreme plight
you would never have heard
my complaint.

DUKE
I believe you, I believe you,
noble knight,
People such as you would not accuse
their father were they not at the end
of their tether.
Be calm: I shall appeal to your
father's conscience
alone and without fuss.
I am waiting for him. We haven't seen
one another for a long time.
(*Looks out of the window*)
Who's that? Is that him?

ALBERT
Yes, that him, Sire.

GERTSOG
Poditye zh v tu komnatu.
Ya kliknu vas

15 *(Al'ber ukhodit)*
L'istesso tempo. (Marziale)
(vkhodit Baron)

GERTSOG
Baron, ya rad vas vidyet' bodrim i
zдорovim.

BARON
Ya schastliv, gosudar',
shto v silakh bil
po prikazan'yu vashemu yavit'sya.

GERTSOG
Davno, baron, davno rasstalis' mi.
Vi dvor zabili moy

BARON
Star, gosudar', ya ninchye:
pri dvorye shto dyelat' mnye?
Vi molodi; vam lyubi turniri,
prazdniki.
A ya na nikh uzh nye gozhus'.
Bog dast voynu, tak ya gotov,
kryakhtya,
vzlest' snova na konya;

yeshcho dostanyet sili stariy mech
za vas rukoy drozhashchey obnazhit'.

GERTSOG
Baron, userd'ye vashye nam
izvestno;
vi dyedu bili drugom: moy otets vas
uvazhal
I ya vseгда schital vas vyernim,
khrabrim ritsaryem.

DUKE
Wait in the other room.
I'll call you.

15 *Albert goes out.*
L'istesso tempo. (Marziale)
Enter the Baron.

DUKE
Baron, I'm pleased to see you
so hale and hearty.

BARON
Sire, I am happy that I have the
strength
to appear here at your command.

DUKE
It has been a long time since we last
saw one another.
You have forsaken my court.

BARON
Sire, I am old now:
what could I do at court?
You are young; you like jousting
and festivities.
But I am no longer fit for them.
If God should bring war to us,
then I am ready
to crawl wheezing onto my
horse again.
With trembling hand I will still find
the strength
to unsheathe my old sword for you.

DUKE
Baron, your zeal is known to us;
you were the friend of my
grandfather:
my father had great respect for you.
And I have always considered you
a faithful and courageous knight.

16 *Allegro*
GERTSOG
 U vas, baron, yest' dyeti?

BARON
 Sín odin

GERTSOG
 Zachem yevo ya pri sebye
 nye vizhu?

BARON
 Moy sín nye lyubit shumnoy
 svetskoy zhizni;
 on dikovo i sumrachnovo nrava.
 Vkrug zamka po lesam on
 vyechno brodit
 kak molodoy oryol.

GERTSOG
 Nyekhorosho yemu dichit'sya.
 Mi totchas priuchim yevo k
 vesyel'yam,
 k balam i turniram.
 Prishlitye nam yevo;
 naznachit'ye sínu
 prilichnoye prizvan'yu
 sodержan'ye...
 Ví khmurityes' – ustali ví s dorogi,
 bit'-mozhet?

BARON
 Gosudar', ya nye ustal;
 no ví menya smutili.
 Pered vami ya b nye khotel
 soznat'sya,
 no menya ví prinuzhdayetye skazat'
 o sínye
 to, shto zhelal ot vas bí utait'.
 On, gosudar', k nyeschast'yu,
 nyedostoin
 ni milostyey, ni vashevo vniman'ya.
 On molodost' svoyu provodit v
 buystvye,
 v porokakh nizkikh

16 *Allegro*
DUKE
 Do you have children, Baron?

BARON
 A son.

DUKE
 Why do I not see him here
 at court?

BARON
 My son does not like a noisy,
 worldly life;
 his disposition is wild and gloomy.
 He is forever roaming through
 the forests
 around the castle like a young deer.

DUKE
 It is not good for him to shy away.
 We will quickly accustom him
 to merriment,
 to balls and tournaments.
 Send him to us;
 give your son an allowance
 worthy of his station... You are
 frowning –
 you are tired from your journey
 perhaps?

BARON
 Sire, I am not tired,
 but you have embarrassed me.
 I did not wish to confess it to you,
 but you are
 forcing me to say of my son that
 which I would
 have wished to conceal from you.
 Sire, unfortunately he is worthy
 neither of your favours nor
 your attention.
 His youth is spent in riotous conduct,
 and in base vices.

GERTSOG
Eto potomu, baron,
shto on odin.
Prishlitye k nam yevo: on pozabudyet
privichki zarozhdyonniye v glushi

BARON
Prostitye mnye, no, pravo, gosudar',
ya soglasit'sya nye mogu na eto...

GERTSOG
No pochemu zh?

BARON
Uvol'tye starika...

GERTSOG
Ya trebuyu: otkroytye mnye
prichinu otkaza vashevo.

17 *Più vivo*
BARON
Na sina ya serdit

GERTSOG
Za shto?

BARON
Za zloye prestuplen'ye.

GERTSOG
A v chom ono, skazhitye, sostoit?

BARON
Uvol'tye, gertsog...

GERTSOG
Eto ochen' stranno! Ili vam stidno za
nevo?

BARON
Da... stidno...

GERTSOG
No shto zh sdyelal on?

DUKE
That is because he is so
solitary, Baron.
Send him to us: he will forget
the habits
he has picked up in his seclusion.

BARON
Forgive me, Sire, but really
I cannot agree to that.

DUKE
But why?

BARON
Spare an old man.

DUKE
I insist: tell me the reason
for your refusal.

17 *Più vivo*
BARON
I am angry with my son.

DUKE
For what reason?

BARON
For a wicked crime

DUKE
But pray, what is this crime?

BARON
Spare me, your lordship.

DUKE
This is very strange!
Or are you ashamed for him?

BARON
Yes, ashamed...

DUKE
But what has he done?

BARON
On... on menya khotyel ubit'.

GERTSOG
Ubit'! Tak ya yevo sudu predam
kak chornovo zlodeya.

BARON
Dokazivat' nye stanu ya, khot'
znayu, shto
tochno smerti zhazhdyet on monyey,
khot' znayu to,
shto pokushalsya on menya...

GERTSOG
Shto?

BARON
... obokrast'.

18 *Allegro vivace*
AL'BER
(*brosayaysya v komnatu*)
Baron, vi lzhiyte!

GERTSOG
Kak smyeli vi?

BARON
Ti zdyes'! Ti zdyes'!
Ti , ti mnye smyel!
Ti mog ottsu takoye slovo molvit'!
Ya lgu! I pered nashim gosudaryem!
Mnye, mnye...
Il' uzh nye ritсар' ya?

AL'BER
Vi lzhets!

GERTSOG
Shto slishu ya?

BARON
I grom yeshcho nye gryanul,

BARON
He ... wanted to kill me!

DUKE
Kill you! Then I'll hand him over
to the courts for the black villain
that he is.

BARON
I can't prove it, although
I know for sure
that he thirsts for my death,
and I know
that he made an attempt...

DUKE
To what?

BARON
... to rob me!

18 *Allegro vivace*
ALBERT
(*rushing into the room*)
Baron, you are lying!

DUKE
How dare you?

BARON
You, here! And you dared
to say such a thing to your father!
I a liar!
And before our prince.
To me, to me...
Or am I not a knight?

ALBERT
You are a liar!

DUKE
What do I hear?

BARON
My God, and the heavens have not

Bozhe praviy!
(*brosayet perchatku, sin pospeshno
yeyo podimayet*)
Tak, podimi zh, i mech nas rassudi.

AL'BER
Blagodaryu.

GERTSOG
Shto bilo pryedo mnoy?
Sin prinyal vizov starovo ottsa.

AL'BER
Vot perviy dar ottsa!

GERTSOG
Molchitye, vi, bezumets!
Bros'tye eto.
Otdaytye mnye perchatku. Poditye;
(*otnimayet yeyo*)
na glaza moi nye smeytye
yavlyat'sya
do tekh por, poka ya sam
nye prizovu vas.

Al'ber vikhodit

Vi, starik nyeschastniy,
nye stidno l' vam...

19 Vivo
BARON
Prostitye, gosudar'...
Stoyat' ya nye mogu...
moi kolena...
slabeyut...
Dushno...
dushno!
Gdye klyuchi? Klyuchi!
Klyuchi moi.

GERTSOG
On umyer. Bozhe!

yet resounded with thunder!
(*He throws down his gauntlet and his
son hastily picks it up*).
Yes pick it up, and let the sword
settle our dispute.

ALBERT
Thank you.

DUKE
What do I see?
A son has accepted the challenge
of his aged father!

ALBERT
This is the first gift I have received
from my father.

DUKE
Be silent, you madman!
Enough!
Give me that gauntlet! Give it to me
(*Takes the gauntlet*).
Do not dare to come
into my sight
until I summon you

Albert goes out.

And you wretched old man,
are you not ashamed?

19 Vivo
BARON
Forgive me, Sire...
I cannot stand...
my knees
are growing feeble...
I can't get my breath,
I can't get my breath!
Where are my keys?
Keys! My keys!...

DUKE
He has died. My God!

FRANCHESKA DA RIMINI

Kartina vtoraya

Rimini. Komnata vo dvortsye

20 Introduction

21 *Moderato*

PAOLO

Prekrasnaya Ginevra
udaliv prisluzhnits i pazhey,
odna sidyela.

Togda predstal, blestyа
vooruzhen'yem,

Galego i, koleno prikloniv,
skazal yey tak:

“Dozvol' slugye krasi
tvoyey nebyesnoy,
korolyeva, privest' geroya.

Imenyem tvoim
on sovershil ryad podvigov
vyelikikh.

On sin korolyа Gineviza, zovut yevo
byesstrashniy, nyepobedimiy
Lancelot,

“Iz Ozera Prishedshiy”.

On zhazhdyet past' k
stopam tvoim...”

Kak dumayesh', Francheska,
razreshit Ginevra stat' pred
neyu Lancelotu?

FRANCHESKA

O, da! Ya nye lyubila bi yevo,
kogda b ona nye zhalyela.

PAOLO

A ti sama, zhestokaya...

FRANCHESKA

Molchi, nyevyerniy, ti zabil,
shto dal mnye klyatvu nye pominat'
o tom, chevo nye smeyu

FRANCESCA DA RIMINI

Tableau 2

Rimini. A room in the palace

20 Introduction

21 *Moderato*

PAOLO

The fair Guinevere having dismissed
her handmaidens and pages,
was siting alone.

Then Galehaut, resplendent
in his weaponry,
appeared, and bending his knee,
spoke thus:

“Permit a servant of your
heavenly beauty,
o Queen, to bring to you a hero.

He has performed
in your name a number of great feats.
He is the son of King Guinevis¹,
his name is
the fearless and invincible
Lancelot

‘He who came from the Lake’.

He craves to fall at your feet...”

What do you think, Francesca,
should Guinevere allow Lancelot
to appear before her?

FRANCESCA

O, yes! I shouldn't love her
were she not to pity him.

PAOLO

Yet, you yourself are cruel...

FRANCESCA

Be silent, faithless one,
you have forgotten
that you swore to me that

¹ This name occurs in Modest Tchaikovsky's libretto, although in Arthurian legend Lancelot was the son of King Ban of Benoit (Benwick) and Queen Elaine.

i nye dolzhna ya slushat'?

you would not recall
those things which I dare not,
must not listen to?

PAOLO
O, Francheska!
(*Francheska dayot yemu znak
molchat'*)

PAOLO
Oh, Francesca!
(*Francesca signals him to be silent*)

22 “Kak ranyeye predvyest'ye utra
krasit vostok
ottenkom nezhenno-svyetlykh roz,
tak tochno shchoki blyednoy
korolyevī
pri imeni “Prishel'tsa iz Oзера”
vdrug zaigrali radostnim
rumyantsem.
Yedva kinuv golovkoyu, Ginevra

dozvolila priyti geroyu i Galego
vvyol tovo,
kto bil kogda-to yemu vragom,
a ninye, boyazliviy i trepetniy
nye smyel podnyat' ochey
na korolyevu...”

22 “As the early portent of morning
coloured the east
with the tints of tender radiant roses,
so the cheeks of the pale queen
at the name of “Stranger from
the Lake”
suddenly began to glow
with a joyful blush.
With the barest nod of her head
Guinevere
allowed the hero to come in, and
Galahaut brought in
him who had once been his enemy;
but now timorous and anxious,
he did not dare to raise his eyes
to the queen...”

23 O, kak im bilo sladostno i zhutko...

Schastliviyeye!
(*zadumivayetsya*)

23 Oh, how sweet, how awe-inspiring it
was for them...
How fortunate they were!
(*he grows pensive*)

FRANCHESKA
(*zadumchivo*)
Schastliviyeye... O, da!

FRANCESCA
(*pensive*)
Fortunate... Oh, yes!

PAOLO
(*chitayet*)
“I vot razdalsya chudniy golos dami:

“Nyeustrashimiy ritsar',
shto ti khochesh'?”
No prodolzhat' byednyazhka
nye mogla.
“Sin Oзера” vzglyanul yey
pryamo v ochi.
Togda uvidyela ona, shto dal'she

PAOLO
(*reading*)
“And now the wondrous voice of a
lady rang forth:
‘Fearless knight,
what do you want?’
But the poor woman couldn't
continue.
“The Son of the Lake” glanced
straight into her eyes.
And then she saw that there

nye nado sprashivat',
shto khochet on tovo zhe, shto i ona:
smotret' i mlyet' v vostorzhenom
molchan'ye..."

FRANCHESKA
O nye glyadi tak na menya...
Chitay!

PAOLO
(brosaya knigu)
Chitat' li mnye o tom, kak on,
schastliviy,
pripal k ustam vozlyublennoy
svoey,
kak, vsyo zabiv, oni otdalis' strasti
i zamerzli v blazhenstvye
vyechnoy laski!?
O, Francheska!
*(padayet peryed nyey na koleni i
ridayet)* .

FRANCHESKA
O, nye riday, moy Paolo, nye nado...

24 Pust' nye dano nam znat' lobzaniy,
puskay mi zdyes' razluchenii...
Nyedolog srok z'yemnikh skitaniy,
mel'knut, kak mig, z'yemniye sni!
Nye plach', tsenoy z'yemnikh
mucheniy
nas zhdyot s toboy blazhenstvo tam,
gdye nyet teney, gdye nyet lisheniy,
gdye u lyubvi nyetlenniyy khram!
Tam, v visotye, za gran'yu mira,
v tvoikh ob'yat'yakh parya,
v lazuri svyetrovo efira

was no need
to make any further enquiries,
what he wanted was the same as she:
to gaze and be struck dumb in
rapturous silence..."

FRANCESCA
Oh, do not look at me like that...
Read!

PAOLO
(throwing down the book)
Am I to read how he who is
so fortunate
has clung to the lips of his beloved,
how, forgetting everything,
they have abandoned themselves
to passion
and have frozen in the bliss of an
eternal embrace?
Oh, Francesca!
*(falls down before her on his knees
and sobs)*

FRANCESCA
Oh, do not sob, my Paolo, do not...

24 Let it be that we are not fated
to know kisses,
let it be that here we are parted...
The time of our earthly wanderings
is short,
our earthly dreams will flash by
in an instant!
Do not weep, for the price of earthly
suffering
bliss awaits both of us there,
in that place
where there are no shadows or
deprivation,
a place that is an imperishable
temple of love.
There, on high, beyond the boundaries
of this world,
soaring in your embraces
in the azure of the radiant ether

ya budu v vechnosti tvoya!

25 PAOLO

Na shto mnye ray
s yevo krasoy besstrastnoy
kogda bushuyet vikhr' v krovi?
I ya okhvachen volyey vlastnoy
zyemnoy lyubvi?
O, zharkoye blazhenstvo potseluya!
Byesplotnikh dukhov svyetliy
lik, i ray,
i nyeba krasotu ya otdam za mig...

za mig odin,
za mig prikosnoven'ya
ognyom goryashchikh ust k ustam...
Vsya zhizn', vyes' mir v odnom
mgnoven'ye,
vsya vyechnost' tam!
*(Paolo khochet obnyat' Franchesku,
ona izbegayet yevo).*

FRANCESKA

Uvi! drugomu otdana ya!

PAOLO

Nyet! Nyet! Pryed nebom ti moya!
Nas Bog soyedinil!
Nye mnye li ti klyalas' s
mol'boy
pryed sonmom vishnikh
sil svyazat'
vsyu zhizn' s moyey sud'boy?

FRANCESKA

Uydi... Uydi... ostav' menya... nye
nado...

PAOLO

Pryed nebom ti moya.

FRANCESKA

Nas ozhidayut muki ada!

PAOLO

S toboy tam budu ya!

I shall be forever yours!

25 PAOLO

What to me is paradise
with its impassionate beauty
when a tempest is raging in my blood?
and I am seized by the indomitable
will of an earthly love?
Oh, the ardent bliss of a kiss!
I would forfeit the blessed sight of
incorporeal spirits, paradise
and the beauty of heaven just for \\\n
one instant...
for just one instant,
one instant of the fiery touch
of burning lips on lips...
My whole life, my whole world in a
single moment,
all eternity is there!
*(Paolo tries to embrace Francesca,
but she avoids him)*

FRANCESKA

Alas, I am given to another!

PAOLO

No! No! Before heaven you are mine!
God bound us together!
Did you not swear to me with
supplication
before the host of the powers
Most High
to bind your life to my fate?

FRANCESKA

Go away... Go away... leave me...
you must not...

PAOLO

Before heaven you are mine.

FRANCESKA

The torments of hell await us!

PAOLO

I shall be there with you!

*(obnimayet slabyeyushchuyu
Franchesku)*

FRANCHESKA
O, Paolo!

PAOLO
O, Francheska!

*Oba pogruzheni v molchalivoye,
vostorzhennoye sozertsaniye drug
druga*

26 FRANCHESKA
S tobou ad mnye luchshe raya!

PAOLO
Gdye ti, tam schast'ye
byez kontsa!

FRANCHESKA
V tvoikh ob'yat'yakh, zamiraya,
shto mnye do rayskogo vyentsa

PAOLO
Moya i v schast'ye i v
stradan'yakh...
vyezdye, vseгда
s tobou ya!

FRANCHESKA
Voz'mi menya... tvoya, tvoya...

PAOLO
Zamri, zamri v moikh lobzan'yakh!

FRANCHESKA, PAOLO
Za mig odin!
Za mig prikosnoven'ya ogn'yom
goryashchikh ust k ustam....
Vsya zhizn', vyes' mir v odnom
mgnoven'ye...
Vsya vyechnost' tam...
O, svyetyly mig. O, mig blazhennyi.
Zhelanniy

*(he embraces the faltering
Francesca)*

FRANCESCA
Oh, Paolo!

PAOLO
Oh, Francesca!

*Both are plunged into a silent and
rapturous contemplation of one
another*

26 FRANCESCA
With you hell is better than paradise!

PAOLO
Where you are there is happiness
without end!

FRANCESCA
Swooning in your embraces,
what to me is the divine halo?

Paolo
You are mine in happiness
and in suffering...
everywhere and always
I shall be will you

FRANCESCA
Take me... I am yours, yours...

PAOLO
Swoon, swoon in my kisses!

FRANCESCA, PAOLO
Just for one instant!
One instant of the fiery touch
of burning lips on lips...
My whole life, my whole world in a
single moment,
all eternity is there...
Oh, radiant instant. Oh, blessed
instant, the longed-for instant!

	<p>PAOLO Rodnaya! Vsyο, vsyο otdam!</p> <p>V tebye blazhenstvo vyechnoye!</p>		<p>PAOLO My dearest! I shall forfeit everything, everything! In you is eternal bliss!</p>
27	<p>FRANCHESKA Tvoya navsegda! V tebye blazhenstvo vyechnoye!</p> <p><i>Zamirayut v potseluye. Stsenu nachinayut zavolakivat' oblaka.</i></p>	27	<p>FRANCESCA I am yours forever! In you is eternal bliss!</p> <p><i>They swoon in a kiss. Clouds begin to obscure the stage.</i></p>
28	<p>Storm</p> <p><i>Iz glubini, pozadi vlyublennikh, vystupayet Lanchotto.</i></p>	28	<p>Storm</p> <p><i>Lanceotto emerges from the back behind the lovers</i></p>
29	<p>LANCHOTTO (zanosya kinzhal nad oboimi)</p> <p>Nyet! Vyechnoye proklyat'ye!</p> <p><i>Oblaka zakrivayut vsyο. Razdayutsya dusherazdirayushchiye kriki Francheski i Paolo. V otklik k nim donosyatsya vopli i kriki strazhdushchikh.</i></p>	29	<p>LANCEOTTO (brandishing a dagger over both of them)</p> <p>No! An eternal curse!</p> <p><i>Clouds cover everything. The heartrending cries of Francesca and Paolo ring out. In response, the yells and cries of tormented souls drift towards them.</i></p>
	<p>Epilog</p>		<p>Epilogue</p>
30	<p>KHOR A...a....a</p> <p><i>Pronositsya vikhr' prizrakov. Pokazivayutsya prizraki Paolo i Francheski</i></p>	30	<p>CHORUS Ah... ah...ah...</p> <p><i>A swirling throng of phantoms scurries by. The spectres of Paolo and Francesca appear.</i></p>
31	<p>FRANCHESKA, PAOLO O, v etot dyen' mi bol'she nye Chitali (ischezayut)</p> <p><i>Dante protyagivayet im ruki i padayet navznich', kak padayet myorvoye tyelo</i></p>	31	<p>FRANCESCA, PAOLO Oh, on this day we no longer read together. (they vanish)</p> <p><i>Dante holds out his hand and falls backwards as a dead body would fall</i></p>

32 KHOR
Nyet bolyeye velikoy skorbi
kak vspominat' o vremeni
schastlivom v nyeschast'ye...

Zanaves

32 CHORUS
There is no greater heavy sorrow
than to recall happy times
in times of misfortune...

Curtain

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