



**Kálmán**

# **Autumn Maneuvers**

Romantic comic opera (1908) in three acts  
New English version by Steven Daigle

**Ohio Light Opera**

**Steven Byess**

conductor

**Steven Daigle**

artistic director

**First Complete Recording**

# Autumn Maneuvers

## OHIO LIGHT OPERA

**Music**.....Emmerich Kálmán  
**Book**...Karl von Bakonyi, Robert Bodansky  
**New English Version**.....Steven Daigle  
**Conductor**.....Steven Byess  
**Stage Director**.....Steven Daigle

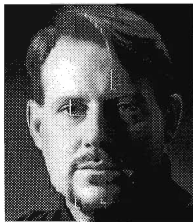
### CAST:

**Lörentzy**.....Wade Woodward  
**Baroness Risa**.....Jacqueline Lengfelder  
**Marosi**.....Lauren Beatty  
**Wallerstein**.....Nathan Arnett  
**Baroness Treszka**.....Lauren Pastorek  
**Von Lobonay**.....Oliver Henderson  
**Lieutenant Turi**.....Grant Knox  
**Von Emmerich**.....Brian Woods  
**Lajos**.....Spiro Matsos  
**Elekes**.....Derek Parks  
**Birág**.....David Wannan  
**Starke**.....Justin Legris  
**Laczi**.....Patrick Howle  
**Fekete**.....Nathan Whitson  
**Mrs. von Bergen**.....Betha Curtis  
**Countess Olga**.....Sandra Ross  
**Colonel Wulff**.....Cassidy King

ENSEMBLE: Alta Boover, Aline Carnes, Amy Castor, Yvonne Douthat, Sahara Glasener, Danielle McCormick, Dominique McCormick, John Pickle, Arlene Simmonds, Jonathan Stinson, Randall Umstead, Ann Marie Wilcox, Suzanne Woods

## Program Notes

*As a stage director I have been fortunate to have had the opportunity to stage four of Emmerich Kálmán's operettas. I was first introduced to the magic, charm and sentiment found in his music in 1993, when Dr. James Stuart*



Steven Daigle

*graciously gave me my first directing opportunity with the Ohio Light Opera, engaging me to stage Kálmán's **The Gypsy Princess**. As I worked on the score, I was taken by the rich Hungarian flavor, powerful orchestration and believable emotional fabric that was set by Kálmán's craft. The musical language of all his stage works reveals a unique combination not previously heard or seen in the operetta form—dance forms used for both entertainment and dramatic tension, popular dance idioms of the day, multifaceted characters with a believable plot, memorable love duets and ballads, comic relief, finales that have pageantry and dramatic direction, sweeping orchestrations, and ethnic flavor to enhance the setting. This powerful language from Kálmán's pen may very well have been the genesis for what we consider to be the best in the lyric theater of today, be it opera or musical theater. **Autumn Maneuvers** was his first operetta. This recording from Albany is the first complete recording of the work.*

The Ohio Light Opera production of *Autumn Maneuvers* in the summer of 2002 was the first time it was produced in the United States in its entirety. As I translated and reconstructed the original German-language work, my primary objective was to maintain the flavor and intent of the composer. I also wanted to accent the relationship between Lörently and Risa: the Act I finale has been slightly adapted, adding a musical repeat and monologues for Lörently and Risa that would give a history to their relationship. The role of Trieszka was also expanded. In this version she clearly learns from Risa and becomes the pivotal person who reunites Lörently and Baroness Risa.

For almost 25 years, the Ohio Light Opera has been dedicated to producing, promoting and preserving the best of the traditional operetta repertoire. In any summer season, close to 25,000 patrons come to bear and see nearly seventy performances of seven productions on the beautiful campus of the College of Wooster in Ohio. These shows offer the operetta fan a little of everything: a well-known Gilbert and Sullivan, a lesser-known Gilbert and Sullivan, a Viennese operetta, a French operetta, an American operetta and a revival of a long-forgotten work that is given a much-deserved rebirth for an appreciative audience. This CD will hopefully give the operetta aficionado a taste of what makes this company so unique. The support of the College of Wooster, its community and nearly 500,000 patrons who have championed the company's dedication to operetta have given OLO a reputation that reaches internationally. In no small way, Albany Records has added to the company's success. The company and the operetta art form are indebted to John Ostendorf and Albany for their commitment.



Emmerich Kálmán

Steven A. Daigle

### Producer's Note

My annual trip out to Ohio in the summertime is always a high point, for while I am supposedly "working," the musical discovery, the good bard schedule and, well, the fun of the occasion make early August seem like a sort of vacation. The Wooster team of young professionals have, by the time I arrive, polished their shows to a smooth lustre and even with tight time constraints, the act of recording—both from live performance taping and the extra, actual sessions Steve Daigle generously gives us—run like clockwork. Time, budgets and the dreary commercial state of the American recording industry do not permit full-scale studio productions of these works. It's only because of the spontaneity, the talents and the generosity of the cast, orchestra and administrative of OLO that these projects turn out as handsomely as they do and retain a "live" performance flavor. I share Steve Daigle's particular affinity for Kálmán's evocative scores: those bittersweet melodies touch a place that the bright, peppier operettas of Herbert and G&S do not quite reach. It's a privilege to be a part of bringing them to the musical public; I thank Steve and his illustrious predecessor Jim Stuart for giving me the chance.

John Ostendorf

## Conductor's Note

In 1912, the Viennese music critic Richard Specht wrote of the premiere of Kálmán's opera *Der Zigeunerprimas*: "[Kálmán's] music is fresh and pleasant, full of strength in its natural melodic invention and of wholesome maturity. While others grope and experiment, he stands in the rich soil of folk music and hits the mark every time." Indeed, Kálmán does hit the mark every time. *Autumn Maneuvers* was written three years before *Der Zigeunerprimas*, but was already rich in folk elements, specifically those of Kálmán's native Hungary. These are not the same fundamental folk elements collected and used by Bartók and Kodály—with whom he was a fellow student at the Budapest Academy of Music. Rather, the melodic materials used by Kálmán are polished and elegant, similar to those of another fellow Hungarian, Franz Liszt. Kálmán also shows his great skills as an orchestrator in *Autumn Maneuvers*; similarities to Tchaikovsky, who was a model for the composer, abound in the score. One need only listen to the second section of the overture (with galloping horses and cannon shots) to bear the resemblance to Tchaikovsky's *Fourth Symphony*, to Lörently's first aria, or to the Act I finale, to recognize that Kálmán's orchestrations are very skillful, the equal of any of the great opera, operetta, and symphonic composers. And that Hussar March!—what other, in opera or otherwise, is as dramatic and rich? In *Autumn Maneuvers*, I find an array of everything that is exceptional about operetta: wonderful melodies, rich and exotic folk elements, expert orchestrations, an abundant, pleasing variety of musical and dance forms, including the waltz (genuinely Viennese), marches, the glorious *csárdás*, and a grand range of ensembles. It is clear that the 26-year-old Kálmán had found a formula for success in the excellence of *Autumn Maneuvers*—essentially his first major work for the stage. The OLO cast, orchestra, and I had a tremendously rewarding time working on this operetta. I hope the listener will bear and experience the same rewards.

Steven Byess

## Plot Synopsis

The story is set in Hungary at a country estate of the widowed Baroness Risa von Marbach. She has granted permission for a regiment of Hussars to stage their yearly military maneuvers on her land. Field Marshal von Lohonay, his daughter Treszka and officers are to be guests at her home. It is soon discovered that the estate the Baroness now owns previously was the property of the Lörently family, who had acquired debts that forced them to sell the estate. The surviving son Josse is now a member of these Hussars, present for the maneuvers, and uncomfortable with his return to his lost childhood home. Further, he reveals that he and the Baroness were childhood sweethearts; she rejected him in favor of a rich suitor at her father's request. It was to this new husband that the family estate was sold—making Josse's return doubly painful. In fact, he refuses to set foot inside the estate house. Josse is meanwhile pursued by Treszka, daughter of his commanding officer, to the chagrin of her suitor, the young Private Marosi. Josse and Risa meet; the romantic tension and recriminations are painful. In a fit of recklessness, Josse actually flaunts his military obligations, quits the maneuvers, risking his career—but in the end, everything works out: Josse and Risa are finally reunited as are Treszka and Marosi. All ends happily.

## ACT ONE

Overture CD ONE, TRACK 1

Dialog/Song TRACK 2

*Baroness Risa von Marbach's country estate in Hungary. An October evening, 1909. She and her guests entertain Hussars of the 14th and 18th Regiments. Guests, led by Risa, enter in elegant ball gowns.*

BARONESS RISA (*addressing all*)

My dear friends, this book contains the names of the officers and which regiments will be residing on my estate for their annual autumn maneuvers. Now ladies, I know you have particular interest in all the available officers that are listed here. But beware...the Hussars are known for their tactical strategies in war and love! (*All the guests consider this.*)

This little book that I hold in my hand Lists the names  
Of tonight's special guests.

Soldiers in uniforms at your command  
Who will honor your ev'ry request.  
There might be found a cadet  
Who is here  
That may ask a dear lady to dance.  
Ladies, beware,  
If you dare draw him near,  
To prepare for a night of romance...

*Cavalry officers of the Hussars*

Pull their rank on all of womankind!  
They'll kiss and resist,  
And then march off to war  
With wounded hearts behind.  
Tactical strategies, secretly staged



*Baroness Risa (Jacqueline Lengfelder) and her guests*

To seduce the enemy nearby!  
Once you give in to the war  
That is waged,  
You will fight until you die! La..la..  
LADIES (*echo her words*)  
Cavalry officers of the Hussars...

Dialog/Reprise TRACK 3

RISA (*opens book*)

Now, ladies and gentlemen, let's take a look at the names who will be leading these tactical strategies on and off the battlefield.  
ALL (*variously*)

Oh? Yes, which regiment....

RISA (*reading, strolling*)  
18th Regiment, 1st Division, 2nd Squadron. Squadron Commander  
Cavalry Captain von Emmerich!

MRS. VON BERGEN

Do you know him, Baroness?

RISA

Of course! He enjoys music. More names! A sub-alternate officer, Lieutenant Baron Elekes.

MRS. VON BERGEN

Do you know him too?

RISA

Naturally! An overly *kind* man, especially to the fairer sex.

MRS. VON BERGEN

Is there no first lieutenant in that book, Baroness?

RISA

Oh, I've completely forgotten. Let's look and see what new intrigue awaits. Oh! (*suddenly closes the book; murmuring from the guests*) Uh... some... a certain... "von Lörently."

COUNTESS OLGA

Hopefully you know *him* too, Baroness?

RISA (*as they react*)

All too well! I merely... not all that well I don't know... but... (*sharply*) I cannot know the *whole* army!

MRS. VON BERGEN (*suspicious*)

Yes, naturally.

RISA (*changing the subject*)

The Lord Field Marshal Lieutenant Baron von Lohonay will be arriving shortly with his daughter Treszka. Rumor has it that she is being pursued by a young private of the Hussars named Marosi. He is a charming young socialite, high spirited, talkative, and one who shows great promise on the field.

MRS. VON BERGEN

Based on the reputation that follows  
Baroness Treszka, Marosi's "battle  
cry" may soon be heard!

RISA (*The mood is now lighter.*)

Now, ladies and gentlemen, let us  
proceed to the winter gardens and await  
the arrival of our military dignitaries.

RISA, ALL (*returning inside*)

Cavalry officers of the Hussars...

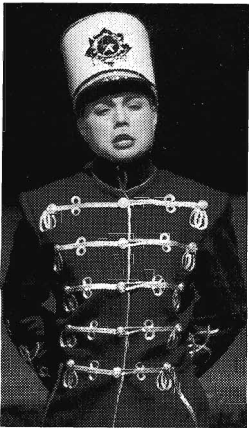
**Song**

TRACK 4

MAROSI (*entering impetuously*)

I am a dashing cavalry boy

And serve my country with greatest joy!



Private Marosi (Lauren Beatty)

Men say I am the cream of the crop  
When it comes to cleaning boots  
And fetching mops!

When I salute, the officers smile  
and treat me like they'd treat  
Their own child!

There's no cadet in this cavalry  
Who's as brave and proud  
And swears out loud like me...

The ladies love my uniform  
And all my boyish charm!

I woo them all with talk of war  
I've never seen before!

The naive maidens think of me  
With virile sexuality.

I take their hand and kiss their cheek  
As we play hide-and-peek!

When I've earned my Lieutenant's stars  
I'll be the Don Juan of the Hussars!  
All women who are young and are old  
Will think my courtship tactics sweet,  
Yet bold!

I'll flirt and tease to rage jealous hearts  
To find my love 'til death do us part!

There's no Hussar in this company  
Who's as young and fair

And debonair like me.

The ladies love...

(*After song Marosi runs off.*)

**Dialog**

TRACK 5

LÖRENTHY (*rushes in, annoyed*)  
To hell with you and your whole  
Britschka. That stuff shakes one's soul  
out of one's body! (*Enter Sergeants  
Birág, Fekete and Laczi.*) Hussar

Fekete, take Hussar Laczi and move  
the owner's horses from the stables to  
the annexes. Follow this stone wall all  
the way down to the corner... to the left  
about one hundred yards you will find  
the annexes underneath some trees  
near two ponds. Put the officers' horses  
in the nearby stables. We must have  
close access to our horses at a  
moment's notice. Then go find the  
lady of the house and apologize for  
any inconvenience that this  
rearrangement may have caused.

FEKETE (*goes*)

Yes, sir!

LÖRENTHY

Sergeant Birág, search out the estate  
administrator and inform him that Field  
Marshal von Lohony, his daughter  
Treszka and five commissioned officers  
will be taking residency tonight in her  
estate. Deposit the officers' belongings  
into the rooms. Put mine in the stables.

BIRÁG (*as he goes*)

Yes, sir. Sir? Where will *you* sleep?

LÖRENTHY

I will not set foot in the house during  
my stay here.

BIRÁG

First lieutenant, I obediently report...

LÖRENTHY (*orders him to go*)

That you have nothing to report. (*alone  
now*) Here I stand at the gate of my  
banished heritage. Owned now by the  
one I once loved. Who would have  
thought that my escape by enlisting in  
the military would lead me to these

exercises in my homeland?

TRESZKA (*heard from a distance*)

Lörenthy! Lörenthy!

LÖRENTHY (*as she enters*)

Baroness Treszka. What a pleasant surprise.

TRESZKA (*flirting*)

I should send you in front of a military tribunal to be court-martialed! You broke a promise to meet me and for that you will serve a just punishment.

LÖRENTHY (*She kisses him.*)

Thank you, for that subtle punishment.

TRESZKA

Did I not whisper in your ear last night at dinner behind my father's back to wait for me?

LÖRENTHY

You know that I reported to your father last night that I was sick and wanted a leave of absence for the exercises today. After none of my acting proved successful, I was in no mood to be with anyone.

TRESZKA

Well, I am here now and you are under my control, Lieutenant! You will now do whatever is ordered of you.

MAROSI (*rusbing in*)

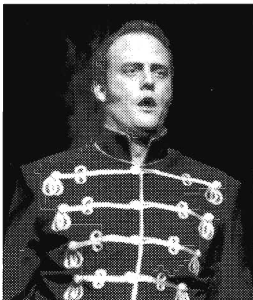
There you are, Baroness Treszka. Oh, I beg your pardon. Dear Lieutenant, our platoon rushed here so fast the horses almost went lame!

LÖRENTHY (*amused*)

You see, Treszka, what you've caused?

TRESZKA

Me?



*First Lieutenant von Lörenthy (Wade Woodward) arrives at the estate*

LÖRENTHY

Marosi didn't *rusb* here out of his patriotic duty. He hurried here to see you. Marosi, would you mind leaving us for a moment?

MAROSI (*moves away a few steps*)

Yes, of course. Forget that I am even here.

LÖRENTHY

You see, Treszka, I don't know how... (*sees Marosi still close by*) Well, Private, you are *dismissed!*

MAROSI

I'm going, sir! (*He exits.*)

LÖRENTHY

Treszka, you are a very clever, pretty and charming young woman. I appreciate your attention.

TRESZKA

I am overjoyed!

LÖRENTHY

You shouldn't be.

TRESZKA

What? I shouldn't? Tell me the truth.

You wish that I *not* pursue you?

LÖRENTHY

Yes. Talk about anything to me, but not about love! Let's be friends and comrades and leave love to others. Consider courting Private Marosi, who is filled with jealousy because of your pursuit of me.

TRESZKA (*pouting*)

Marosi? He always runs after me. I don't like that. I like ones that are hard to get. Like you. That's what interests me and attracts me. The more you reject my advances, the harder I pursue. I am such a nice, good, loving girl. I can be thrifty, domestic, industrious and will make such a good mother. I *love* children. Isn't that sufficient for you? Papa's only desire has been to get rid of me, you understand? He wants to become a grandpapa at any cost.

LÖRENTHY

I am already too old of a young man to become a father. My soul has aged quickly for many reasons. Once you bite into a sour apple, the taste is *ruined for life!*

TRESZKA

So that's it.....you have loved another.

LÖRENTHY (*largely to himself*)

Love songs, Tokay, poetry, and the

moon. How the moonlight brought romance. I once loved a devilishly beautiful woman. Then, one summer evening, I looked deeply into her eyes and realized that she did not love me.

### Song

TRACK 6

LÖRENTHY

I was mistaken;  
My heart was taken by love's deceit.  
I found rejection  
Through her deception,  
Tortured by her conceit.  
We walked and made  
A vow of faithful love and  
Kissed by moonlight...  
Until one moonlit night,  
Her eyes betrayed our love  
Once so bright...  
She felt forbidden.  
Hope I was given, now out of sight.  
I now am older, live as a soldier,  
Sleeping in the moonlight...  
Moon rays enraptured  
The souls you once captured,  
Oh, moonlit nights!  
Your rays uncovered  
An unfaithful lover,  
Oh, moonlit nights...  
Your glow reminds me  
Of promises broken,  
Words of romance  
That were tenderly spoken.  
Tears have been shed  
For these memories at night,  
Once caused by the soft moonlight.  
Oh, moonlit nights... (*goes off*)

### Dialog

TRACK 7

MAROSI (*returning, to Treszka*)

It's either him or me!

TRESZKA

How delightful! And just what do you plan on doing?!

MAROSI

Just wait and see! After I receive my officer's commission I will challenge Lörentthy to an old-fashioned duel at twenty paces!

TRESZKA

Bravo!

MAROSI

We stay overnight in the neighboring village and tomorrow we move with the 18th Regiment who are stationed here at Baroness Risa's estate. Field Marshal Lohonay has enlisted volunteers throughout the provinces to serve as the "enemy" during these exercises. I have heard rumors that your father will attack the enemy at noon tomorrow.

TRESZKA

Papa hasn't told me. But, I do know that he had his shoes shined earlier today. That must mean an attack is imminent.

MAROSI (*excited*)

He won't order a *night* attack, will he?

TRESZKA (*a trumpet fanfare is heard*)

One never knows with dear old Papa.

Look, the Hussars and officers are arriving.

MAROSI

It's members of the 18th Regiment arriving for the maneuvers.

GUEST (*runs in, laughing*)

The Hussars are coming! Protect the women!

### Song

TRACK 8

MAROSI

When Hussars are marching out,  
All the women cheer and shout:

"Heisa! To the Hussars!"

ALL

"Heisa! To the Hussars!"

MAROSI, ALL

Handsome men who bravely fight,  
Woo the ladies in the night. Heisa...  
Cav'Iry Captain leads his men.

He commands his troops to win.

When he shouts his men uphold

Orders that they're told.

Soldiers commissioned,

Given their mission,

Drawn sabers thrashing!

Horses are dashing!

ALL

You will discover no better lover

Than the brave Hussar!

MAROSI

Ladies will greet them,

Hoping to meet them!

Coily their glances

All hope for romances!

ALL

Eyes tell the story,

searching for glory!

When trumpets call the Hussars!

MAROSI

Hussars are marching!

Women are watching!



Autumn maneuvers starting today!  
Horses are saddled, ready for battle,  
Stallions that lead our men on their way.  
Young and wild, these fiery horses  
Chase their mares.  
Like their steeds, these soldiers seek  
The young and fair!  
But beware: they'll love you today,  
Then run away, Hey!  
Hussars are marching...  
*(Cavalry Captain von Emmerich  
approaches followed by officers,  
including Lörently. They greet the  
Baroness. Lörently stays in the  
crowd trying to remain unobserved)*

**Dialog/Reprise** TRACK 9  
VON EMMERICH

Gracious Baroness, we thank you for the warm invitation to conduct our military exercises on the estate grounds and for the courtesy you have extended to my officers in allowing them to reside in your private residence for the evening.



*The guests anticipate the Hussars' arrival*

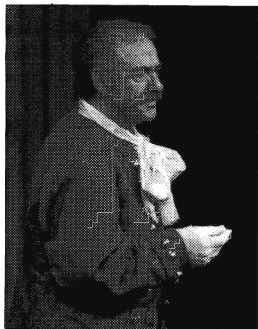
RISA (*graciously*)  
Cavalry Captain, I welcome you and your men. I hope your stay will be pleasing and rewarding.  
VON EMMERICH  
Let me present to you and your guests the officers of the 18th Regiment, 1st Division, 2nd Squadron: Deputy Officer von Fritsche, Lieutenant Sturmfried, Lieutenant Köppler, Lieutenant Elekes.  
Baroness, I present to you a man known for his bravery in the face of danger and his heroics on and off the battlefield: First Lieutenant von Lörently.  
RISA (*as he comes forward*)

If I am not mistaken, I have heard about you. How you would sacrifice all for your military duties. You must have broken many women's hearts for this cause?  
LÖRENTLY (*adopting her tone*)  
Only one, but she was found to be a traitor in her own right. No different from the common enemy.

RISA  
I have heard it said that enemies make strange bedfellows.  
LAJOS (*entering*)  
Everything is in order, my lady.  
RISA (*breaking the tension*)  
Ladies and gentlemen, let us retire to the winter gardens.

MAROSI, ALL  
After work the task will be:  
Join the festive revelry!  
Heisa! To the Hussars!  
Romance women with their song!  
Dance the *csárdás* all night long!  
Heisa! To the Hussars!  
Soldiers with their elegance,  
Wake a lady's confidence.  
Arm in arm, the courtship starts,  
Stealing captive hearts.  
Soldiers commissioned...  
Couples conspiring,  
Hearts are inquiring!  
Leads to more questions,  
Laughs and suggestions,  
Toasting and dancing  
Brings more romancing,  
When trumpets call the Hussars!  
Hussars are marching!  
Women are watching!  
Autumn maneuvers starting today...  
*(All go off, laughing.)*

**Dialog** TRACK 10  
LAJOS (*enters, to Lörently*)  
I'm the old farm-hand who was hired by your father, who carried you in his arms and played with you when you



**Lajos** (*Spiro Matsos*)

were just a boy.

LÖRENTHY

You must have me confused with someone else.

LAJOS

Perhaps I am wrong. My eyes are not what they used to be. I could swear...

LÖRENTHY

Nonsense, old man. (*joking*) Are you sure that you haven't been nipping a shotful during tonight's festivities?

LAJOS

Oh, no sir, I don't drink.

LÖRENTHY (*forgetting himself*)

Yes, that's true... that is.... not... I

mean... *You* should know better than I.

LAJOS (*bows and leaves*)

Forgive me, sir.

LÖRENTHY (*to himself, sadly*)

Good night, Lajos!

## Song

TRACK 11

WALLERSTEIN (*entering in a tizzy*)

Such bad luck is always near me.

Forced to join this military,

I was called for active service

For maneuvers with reservists.

Army life is not my passion.

Dressing wounds is *not* my fashion!

Quite truthfully, I hate to fight

And wish I could go home tonight!

First Reserve Lieutenant

Leads a part-time mission.

I have no ambition for a soldier's life.

Broken bones, diphtheria,

Gangrene and malaria...

This is the prescription

For a soldier's life.

Wallerstein from Mährisch-Ostrau.

I'm the talk of all the town now!

Staff accountant's my position.

Keeping books is my obsession.

Once I dreamed I'd ride in saddle

Like a Hussar dressed for battle!

A horse had other plans in mind and

Kicked me where the sun won't shine...

First Reserve Lieutenant...

## Dialog

TRACK 12

WALLERSTEIN (*to other volunteers*

*who have entered during his song*)

Comrades, where is your patriotic

spirit? As the enemy team in the exer-

cises, we must prepare ourselves at all

times for battle. One never knows when

the Field Marshal will order the attack!

TURI (*as the men groan*)

If we are not given rest, food and drink soon, a mutiny will occur and our dear "Commander" Wallerstein will face an embarrassing punishment at the hands of his platoon.

LÖRENTHY (*enters briskly*)

At ease, men!

WALLERSTEIN

Thank you, Lieutenant, Sir! (*salutes*)

LÖRENTHY

At ease, soldier. To whom do I have the honor?

WALLERSTEIN (*still saluting*)

Lieutenant of the Volunteer Infantry, Sir!

LÖRENTHY

At ease. Your name, soldier?

WALLERSTEIN

Wallerstein of Mährisch-Ostrau, Sir.

LÖRENTHY

I am first Lieutenant Lörenthy.

and tonight I will sleep in the stables.

WALLERSTEIN

Why would you want to do that? You



**Volunteer Wallerstein** (*Nathan Arnett*) with **Lieutenant von Lörenthy**

being such a handsome young man and the Baroness being a widow. Ah, if I could enjoy the favors of the party she is giving tonight...

LÖRENTHY

Would *you* like to go into the house and enjoy the party?

WALLERSTEIN (*thrilled*)

Oh, yes, only for a short time... just enough time to enjoy the pleasures of the Baroness' company.

LÖRENTHY

Well, Volunteer Lieutenant Wallerstein from Mährisch-Ostrau, as your superior officer, I order you to go and enjoy the Baroness' party.

WALLERSTEIN

But the platoon exercises?

LÖRENTHY

I'll take over for you and if something happens, I'll simply call you.

WALLERSTEIN

My dear First Lieutenant, I thank you very much. What a honor it is for me, First Lieutenant. Once again, thank you. (*going*) Hopefully, the servants' room is free so that I can clean myself up! I have a most beautiful new tunic for tonight's occasion! Good night, Lieutenant!

**Scene**

TRACK 13

STARKE (*comes in with provisions*)

First Lieutenant von Lörenthy?

LÖRENTHY

Yes?

STARKE

My gracious Lady regrets that you are not attending the party with the other officers. She has asked me to bring you food and drink.

LÖRENTHY

Please tell your gracious "lady" that I appreciate her offer, but ever since I have arrived here, I have lost my appetite. However, I would ask that you extend the same hospitality to these men. Please give them *my* food.

STARKE

I will tell my Lady and see personally that these men are taken care of for the night.

LÖRENTHY (*as the men go off to eat*) Thank you.

LAJOS (*enters*)

My old friend, it has been a long time. A bottle to rest your weary soul?

LÖRENTHY

Lajos, it is good to see you again.

LAJOS

I knew it was you the first time I saw you.

LÖRENTHY

I apologize for my reluctance to speak to you earlier. This place brings back such bad memories. I had hoped to stay unnoticed. But you, my friend, are a welcome sight. How are you doing?

LAJOS

Sometimes better, sometimes worse.

My years passed hoping that I would see you again before I leave this world. You have brought me this last gift in life.

LÖRENTHY (*drinking*)

We can drink and reminisce about what we once had... and forever lost. I joined the cavalry with the hope of forgetting my past and the cavalry has brought me back to relive the disgrace. Platoon Sergeant Turi! TURI (*from off a little way*)

Yes, sir?

LÖRENTHY

Sing something that will make this wine taste doubly nice.

TURI, MEN

As ordered Lieutenant!

Lonely soldier tells the story,  
Faithful friends discover,  
Memories told of former glory,  
Dreaming of his lover.  
At the brook where first he met her,  
Spoken vows forever,  
Full of love and life and laughter,  
Endless days to treasure.  
Time will heal the heart that's broken.  
Sharing life with others.  
Now she tells the words we've spoken  
To another lover...

TURI, MEN (*rousing themselves, coming near to the Lörenthy*)

There's no greater glory  
Than a soldier's life!  
Fame, champagne and women  
*Calm the battle strife!*

Romance without sorrow.  
Here today and gone tomorrow.  
No more need to borrow  
When you live the soldier's life!

Romance without..... (*They all go.*)

## Dialog

RISA (*has entered*)

Lieutenant.

LÖRENTHY (*formally*)

Baroness.

RISA

I come to ask you a favor. You and your comrades are my invited guests tonight and yet, you alone have chosen to sleep with the horses. You have not entered the house. The officers are starting to grow suspicious. Although no one knows of our past, I am sure that someone will soon discover...

LÖRENTHY (*cutting her off*)

What do you *want*, Baroness?

RISA

Nothing more than for you to come inside for a moment and cool the rumors.

LÖRENTHY

I cannot... I won't. You must know that I will never enter *your* house again.

RISA

And what if for some reason you *did* cross through the doors of my house and I ordered you to stay?

LÖRENTHY

Then... it would be an embarrassing sight. I would stay until daybreak, dance so crazily, insult your guests, break your best crystal and china. And the women... I would kiss all the women—except you, of course—and drink until I was sick. Respectfully, Baroness.

TRACK 14

RISA (*intently*)

Are you sure this would be your reaction?

LÖRENTHY

Positively, Baroness.

RISA

Your word of honor?

LÖRENTHY

You have my word of honor, Baroness.

RISA (*ligher*)

Thank you. That's enough for now, Lieutenant. (*starts to exit*) Josse! I know there have been misunderstandings between us. You believe I have taken from you everything. That is why I have come to you... to ask for your understanding and forgiveness.

LÖRENTHY

There are things which one can never understand and never forgive.

RISA

But there are also fond memories between us that can never be forgotten. Our time together. Let's admit it, Josse, we both, you and I, have such memories.

LÖRENTHY

Had... Risa.

RISA

You remember... when we stood here at the gate, when we walked through the gardens in the moonlight during those cool summer evenings. You kissed me and we looked into each other's eyes.

LÖRENTHY

Different memories now live in me.

RISA

And these are?

LÖRENTHY

That once I loved... (*looking into Risa's eyes*) loved as one can only love who knows no other love... And amidst this dream of happiness and joy there came a man who bought up all my father's promissory notes, who had me thrown out of my inherited property, a century-old family estate where I was born and raised. Yes, thrown out in disgrace... and why? (*turns away*) All to make a pretty bridal present for the woman I once loved and who I thought loved me...

## Finale

TRACK 15

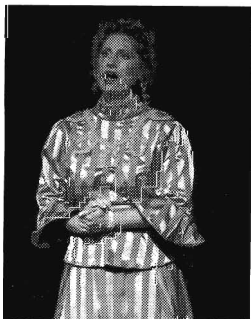
RISA (*interrupting as music is heard*) Josse, don't talk that way! It was an arranged marriage by my father. I had no choice but to honor his wishes. You don't know how I suffered... how I wept... and how unhappy I was and am now! My marriage was nothing. My life has been miserable ever since you left. I have only one hope: to make up for all the pain I have caused the man I truly love.

LÖRENTHY

You were given an opportunity Risa.

RISA (*echoing his earlier words*)

Moon rays enraptured the souls you once captured! Oh, moonlit nights... The spring brought hope Of new life shared together.



*Risa remembers the past*

Flowers once fragranc'd our love.  
The stars shone bright  
In those nights spent together,  
Shared by the moonlight above.  
Like Autumn's changing,  
Love's season has faded.  
All life takes flight, chilled by the night.  
My heart remembers  
The vows that were traded  
In the moonlight.  
My love for you has grown stronger,  
Sleepless nights waiting  
For winter to end.  
My love for you has grown stronger,  
Longing, dreaming,  
Wishing for spring again.  
The tears no longer I hide inside,  
The sorrow of my foolish pride.  
How I wish you could see  
What your love means to me,

Kept inside this foolish heart...

LÖRENTHY (*moved*)

Remember when

At first we met in moonlight?

Remember when

The moon would guide our way?

The fire inside awakened by our kisses,

Far from the life that we both have today,

Remember when...

The vows of lovers were given.

The moon that shone in May?

The warmth of spring

That gave us hope is driven

Far from the world

That we both know today.

Remember when...

Here is the heart

Of a long-forgotten soldier,

Far from the life we lived

When we were young.

Winter is near,

Making all the nights seem colder,

Chilling the spring

Where once our love belonged.

Dreams in the moonlight

Have vanished forever.

Gone is the May.

Autumn steals life that is fading away.

*(Lörenthy and Risa stand facing each other unable to give into their true feelings. Risa turns away. Turi and the volunteers reenter after making their evening rounds.)*

TURI

First Lieutenant, we have finished our night maneuvers and request that we

be allowed to turn in for the night.

LÖRENTHY (*absently*)

Yes....your men can turn in for the night.

TURI (*a bugle is heard*)

Sir, the men request that you tell them a story about the life of a career soldier.

LÖRENTHY (*with bottle in hand*)

Very well, Sergeant. There once was a family with a magnificent estate, very

much like this one. The estate had

been in the family for many generations.

The father, who owned the estate, had

a son name Josse.... or whatever his

name was. The mother died when the

son was very young. This boy Josse

loved the property and the workers,

who became like brothers and sisters

to him. When he was about ten years

old, he met a young girl who lived not

far from here... I mean, not far from

Josse's home. They played as children

and soon became young adults who

discovered that they cared for each

other more than just as friends. Josse's

father made some bad business

decisions and acquired some major

debts that jeopardized the family's

financial stability. The financial stress

of the situation weighed heavily upon

the father, until he unexpectedly died

one day. The son tried desperately to

reassure his father's creditors that he

could eventually repay his father's debt.

The creditors had no patience and

demand payment promptly. There

was a young man in the community of

considerable wealth who looked at

the son's inherited estate as a twofold opportunity. This young man paid off the creditors and seized control of the property and house. He had Josse thrown out into the street without any recourse. But the humiliation for Josse didn't end with the loss of his family's home and inheritance. (*Soft music is again heard.*) It was soon discovered that the new owner had his eye on Josse's childhood sweetheart. He looked at his newly acquired estate as security that would eventually win favor with the young girl's father. The father willingly gave his daughter's hand in marriage to the young man. Josse was heartbroken. One night in May, he tried desperately to convince the one he loved so deeply to run away with him. She chose not to go. Josse, however, did leave to escape his past life and joined the cavalry. There he found the family he could trust and depend on in his time of need.

(*Lörentz is unaware that Risa has returned and been listening.*)

RISA (*interrupts his story*)  
Lieutenant, I have heard this tale before. There is more to it. I beg you and your men's indulgence to allow me to *finish* the story.

This soldier Josse years later returned to his homeland and there encountered the person he once loved. This young, naive girl Josse once knew was now a much wiser woman. Now a widow, she realized she had made many mistakes in her life. If she could relive that night when Josse asked her to leave all, she

would now accept his proposal. One night, much like this one, she begged his forgiveness. But the soldier was stubborn and couldn't overcome his resentment. Although it is believed he truly loved the woman, his pride was too strong. He couldn't express his true feelings. He had missed his opportunity. Although he still had his soldiers to share stories during the cold nights in the fields, the moonlit nights through the years to come would bring back painful memories of what could have been. He lived out the rest of his life a lonely man. (*slowly turns to him*)  
My love for you has grown stronger.  
Sleepless nights waiting  
For winter to end.

My love for you has grown stronger...  
(*Risa slowly, sadly exits.*)

END ACT I / END CD ONE

## ACT TWO

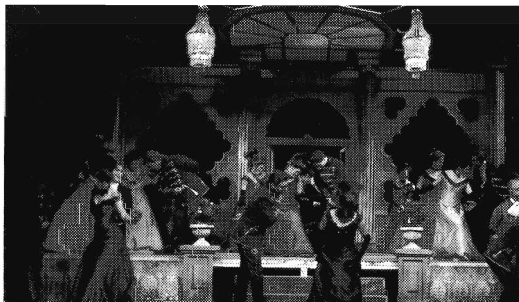
(*Later the same night in the winter garden of Baroness Risa's estate.*)

Chorus

CD TWO, TRACK 1

GUESTS

Joyful dancing! Laughter and song  
Is welcomed here today!  
Sorrow ending.  
Worries and cares  
Have vanished far away.  
Those who languish,  
Spoiling our festive celebration  
Must beware,  
For no one wants you here...  
With swinging and singing  
The music's charming.  
Dancing the quadrille offers us a thrill.  
With swinging and singing...  
Bashful men with timid hands  
Are sent away!  
Soldiers will be gentlemen,



*The guests dance in the Winter Garden*

Greeting ladies, kissing their hands.  
Bow using form.  
Offer your arm, graceful the charm.  
Ladies hope for etiquette...  
Soldiers will be gentlemen...  
Joyful dancing...

VON EMMERICH

Private Marosi, the guests would love  
to have you entertain them with one of  
your songs.

MAROSI (*carries roses*)

If it's agreeable to the Baroness and  
her guests?

RISA

I would be delighted.

**Song**

MAROSI, then ALL

One day poor Gretel felt

A sense of curiosity.

She hoped one day to find a way

To serve her Cavalry.

She coyly sighed and bat her eyes

As soldiers gathered near.

A Hussar came and asked her name

And whispered in her ear:

"Kiss me, darling kitten,

Let me be the one.

With me, you'll be smitten,

We could have such fun.

Gretel, don't deny me,

Darling kitten, sit beside me.

Kiss me, darling kitten,

Let me be the one..."

Poor Gretel was so bashful

When she met this brave Hussar!

But when they kissed,

Could not resist her duty to the war!

As private, corporal, sergeant, captain,  
Gretel fought and fought!

She would not stop to be the top

Of every rank she got!

"Kiss me, darling kitten..."

Then Gretel wished that she might meet

The soldier in command.

She set the match with a dispatch,

Requesting her demand.

When she arrived, the General's eyes

Were softened by the sight.

She stood at ease, to flirt and tease,

And won her final fight.

"Kiss me, darling kitten,..."

At night when Gretel goes to bed

She dreams of victory,

And how she gave her life away

When she served her cavalry.

When men march, by poor Gretel sighs

In hope that they might hear

The gentle sound of humming found

In Gretel's song so dear... Hmm...

(*They all hum the refrain.*)

**Dialog/Duet** TRACK 3

TRESZKA (*enters, sees bouquet*

*Marosi carries*) So, Marosi, roses for

the Baroness, but none for me?

MAROSI

Believe me, if I thought roses would

win your heart, I would give you a

dozen every day!

TRESZKA

One never knows until he tries.



*Private Marosi attempts to offer flowers  
to Tresszka.*

MAROSI (*falls on one knee*)

Tresszka, if you would only give me a  
chance. No one could ever love you  
more than I do.

TRESZKA (*amused and intrigued*)

And what about Lieutenant Lörentzhy?

MAROSI

One private in your arms is better  
than one lieutenant in your thoughts.

TRESZKA

Let *me* be the judge!

MAROSI

Maiden, if you take my hand

We can set the wedding plans.

Men who wish to court and kiss you,

They'll know I'm your faithful man.

First I'll kneel down on one knee,

Then propose you marry me,

Then forever be together.

Happy will our marriage be.

TRESZKA

Do you mean it?

MAROSI

You have seen it!

TRESZKA

Then your offer is denied!

MAROSI

Women tease you and appease you

Till your love is verified.

TRESZKA

For a soldier, where's the glory

In opponents' fast defeat?

MAROSI

Quick pursuit is my own story,

Trap your foe with hugs and kisses.

TRESZKA

Then I will retreat!

BOTH

Winning woman's heart

Is not so easy to achieve.

Many men who fight the fight both day

And night, will never succeed!

Yes, never try to analyze

A woman's fickle heart.

Tempered like the seasons,

They mislead you from the start.

Never try to... *(They dance off.)*

## Dialog

TRACK 4

*(Baroness Risa and guests enter.*

*Wallerstein is with them.)*

WALLERSTEIN

I am Volunteer Wallerstein of

Mährisch-Ostrau.

RISA

Yes, of course, but who invited you

to this party?

WALLERSTEIN

First Lieutenant Lörenthy! He gave me strict orders to attend tonight's party.

He sends his greetings and requested that I be your escort for tonight's party.

RISA

How nice of the Lieutenant. So, he told you that you should be my escort.

WALLERSTEIN

Yes, in place of him. Those were his exact words.

RISA

How very kind of him...and of you.

*(Marosi approaches with the roses.)*

MAROSI

Honored Lady Baroness, here please...

ELEKES *(grabs the flowers)*

Stop! Private, I'll take care of this myself.

VON EMMERICH

Lieutenant! Halt! I'll take care of this myself!

ELEKES

Pardon, Cavalry Captain, I protest.

This is *my* duty!

MAROSI *(grabs backs the roses)*

Excuse me, Lieutenant, the honor is mine! My gracious Baroness, my name is Private Rudolf von Marosi from Folsan. I present these roses to you with the hope that you may favor me with the next dance.

RISA

Willingly, Private. But first I would like to offer an entertainment for my guests.

*(addressing the crowd as music is heard)* Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to present for your enjoyment, a song. A waltz to the moon, reminiscent of relations that have long passed but have not been forgotten.

TRESZKA *(with an edge)*

To whom is the song dedicated?

RISA

To whom else but the stars?

TRESZKA

A lieutenant's stars!

RISA *(with a certain bite)*

Yes, stars that have long since fallen, stars that *you* may never see... or *have*.

## Scene

TRACK 5

RISA, then ALL *(repeating Lörenthy's Act I romance)* Moon rays enraptured....

TRESZKA *(as music continues)*

Baroness, I am sorry that the stars did not respond. What a pity, it was such a beautiful serenade.

RISA *(responding)* No matter. I want to dance and live for today! Private Marosi, this dance is yours. Maybe afterwards we can take a walk through the gardens. The air in here is thick! I trust that if called upon, you would kindly serve as my escort for the rest of the evening.

MAROSI

With all pleasure, Baroness.

*(Risa offers her hand to Marosi as she smiles at Treszka who exits.)*



RISA, ALL

If you're romancing,  
Best to start dancing.  
There's no denying love is sighing  
With the waltzes tonight.  
Nothing's better  
When you're dancing together,  
Arm in arm  
Holding your lover forever!  
ALL  
Nights of romances,  
Amorous glances,  
Starting a night of passion.  
The dance in three-quarter time  
Is the fashion,  
The violins playing the melodies,  
Bringing back memories,  
Filling our hearts with pride,  
Waking desires inside.  
Faithfully waltz to the music side by side.  
*(All waltz in and out, talking.)*  
LAJOS *(enters)*  
Baroness, a soldier is waiting outside  
and requests entry. He has a very  
important message for the officers.  
RISA  
Tell him I will receive him after  
the dance.  
LAJOS  
He says it's urgent, my Lady.  
RISA *(Lajos goes.)*  
*It can wait until after the dance.*  
FEKETE *(enters, to von Emmerich)*  
Captain, the Field Marshal has given  
the order for the maneuvers to begin.  
He has ordered a surprise attack.  
The enemy is coming!

VON EMMERICH *(tipsy)*

Well, send him my regards once he  
is here!  
LACZI  
Lieutenant, an enemy patrol is roaming  
around the grounds of the estate preparing  
for an attack. The exercises have started.  
Sir, as much as I would love to continue  
this promenade, cannons are being  
positioned at the slope of the hill!  
ELEKES *(to a lady; he is tipsy)*  
You dance like a goddess... If I were  
Jupiter, I would...  
FEKETE *(interrupting, more sober)*  
Captain, the First Lieutenant has requested  
that the officer report immediately....  
*(A trumpet fanfare sounds.)*  
ALL *(variously)*  
What's that? It's the trumpet call to  
start the exercises... That melody...  
VON EMMERICH *(also sobering up)*  
Ladies and Gentlemen. Our apologies,  
but we must leave immediately.  
*(The officers start to exit.)*  
RISA *(interrupting jokingly)*  
Gentlemen! Who's afraid of a trumpet  
call? It's all very simple! We have  
disturbed the First Lieutenant von  
Lörentny's sleep and now he would  
like to take his jealousy out on us by  
interrupting our party. I ask you not  
to fall for this trick. Captain, may I  
have this next dance? *(The guests begin  
to dance, sing again.)*  
LÖRENTNY *(entering suddenly)*  
Has everybody gone crazy? Baroness,

we are not only dancers, but also  
soldiers. Captain, the "enemy"  
infantry is now marching against us,  
cannons are being positioned and  
two volunteer cavalry units have been  
ordered to attack. The Field Marshal  
Lohonay has ordered this to test our  
readiness.

RISA *(embarrassed)*

Forgive me, Captain.  
LÖRENTNY *(with sarcasm)*  
Gracious Baroness, sorry for having  
disturbed your entertainment...

VON EMMERICH

Lörentny, are you serious or is this a  
joke? *(A cannon volley is heard.)*

LÖRENTNY

There is your answer, sir.

*(General chaos breaks out. The  
officers rush out. The guests say  
good-bye to the soldiers.)*

MRS. VON BERGEN

Ladies and gentlemen, let us go into  
the garden to watch the war-games.

LÖRENTNY *(as they all leave)*

Good evening, Baroness.

RISA

Stay!

LÖRENTNY

I am very sorry, but...

RISA

Please, stay. I forbid you to leave.

LÖRENTNY

You forbid me? With what right, may  
I ask?

RISA

With what right? Your own word of

honor, dear Lörently.

LÖRENTLY

Risa!

RISA

You have passed through my doors  
and now you are a prisoner until day-  
break! Your word of honor, remember?

LÖRENTLY

Risa...

RISA

There are enough officers out there.  
It will go well without you.

LÖRENTLY

For Heaven's sake! Don't distract me  
from my obligations as a soldier.

RISA

Those exercises out there are nothing  
but charades... games... one shoots  
with blanks and fights with dull sabers!  
However, *my* fight for you is real.

LÖRENTLY

Nothing but one of your misleading  
tactics.

RISA

"Tactics!" Yes, if you want to call it that.  
Tactics are played out by two opposing  
forces, enemies! Tactics are as much a  
part of a woman's life as they are a  
man's and have to be taken as seriously  
as the game that is being played outside.  
You insult me by not attending tonight.  
The officers are spreading rumors  
about us, which my guests have accepted  
as fact and yes, for this I wish to retaliate.  
Nothing is stopping you from leaving,  
except your word of honor. It's the only  
thing holding us together now. Leave and

it will all be over! Here is *your*  
opportunity!

LÖRENTLY

You want to destroy me? I will be sent  
before my commander and demoted.  
Very well, I'll stay. Do you remember  
my promise to you?

RISA

No, Josse?

LÖRENTLY

To dance so crazily, insult your guests,  
break your best crystal and china...  
and the women?... Maybe tonight, just  
one woman.

RISA

Josse!

LÖRENTLY

Lajos, my friend, I need champagne  
and find me someone who can play  
the *Csárdás*. I plan to drink and dance  
until the sun comes up!

LAJOS (*going*)

Yes, sir!

TRESZKA (*entering*)

Lörently, it's you!

LÖRENTLY

There you are, my dear. A happy  
occasion brings me here to you tonight,

Treszka.

TRESZKA

Me?

LÖRENTLY

I have so much... so much to tell you.

TRESZKA

Wouldn't it be better if you ran after  
your squadron?



*Treszka (Lauren Pastorek) with Lörently*

LÖRENTLY

I run only after you, darling, and  
nobody else in the world. You are  
always so good and kind to me.

TRESZKA (*amazed*)

Lörently! What has happened to you?  
I believe you are pursuing me!

LÖRENTLY (*making sure that Risa  
can hear*) Treszka! Let us talk openly  
and honestly! You must know how  
happy you make me...

RISA

Pardon, I hate to interrupt this  
tender exchange....

LÖRENTLY (*cutting Risa off*)

Oh, absolutely not, my gracious

Baroness! It's the perfect moment and even better that you are so nearby. Treszka, what one normally confesses in private, I will now, with the Lady Baroness' blessing, declare aloud and publicly: I love you and want you to be my wife!

RISA

Lörentny!

TRESZKA (*perplexed*)

Yes, but dear God. I don't know you at all, and it is happening so quickly.

LÖRENTNY

Oh, my sweet one. You may wait and give me an answer tomorrow! (to Risa) Aren't you happy for me? LAJOS

Sir, the officers are looking all over for you.

LÖRENTNY (*drinking*)

So? I don't care. I have proposed to this lovely girl. Lajos, bring the gypsy violinist.

RISA

I forbid it!

LÖRENTNY

...and deny your invited guest?

RISA

It appears you have more authority in my house than I. I won't disturb you any longer. (*starts to go*)

LÖRENTNY

Please, Baroness, stay here! You don't disturb me at all. Your presence humors me. Treszka, let's dance.

TRESZKA

Yes, of course.

LÖRENTNY

Violinist, the *Csárdás*, if you please!

**Scene**

TRACK 6

LÖRENTNY (*singing the lament*)

*Turi sang earlier, as he dances*)

Lonely soldier tells his story...

FEKETE (*enters, salutes; guests*

*mumble*) First Lieutenant, the officers are unable to find the horses and demand your presence.

LÖRENTNY

Let them go on searching!

LACZI (*enters, salutes*)

The Cavalry Captain is growing impatient and orders you to report to him immediately!

LÖRENTNY

Tell him I will see him in the morning.

MAROSI (*rushing in*)

Oh, my God, First Lieutenant. Come! Come immediately! Your whole squadron is being taken prisoner!

LÖRENTNY

It doesn't interest me right now!

MAROSI (*running off again*)

You're mad! You are digging your own grave!

VON EMMERICH (*storming in*)

First Lieutenant Lörentny!

LÖRENTNY (*dancing*)

Hello, Emmerich!

VON EMMERICH

I order you to immediately....

LÖRENTNY

To Hell with your orders!

VON EMMERICH

Attention!

LÖRENTNY

Sorry! I have no time right now!

VON EMMERICH (*shouting*)

I order you for the last time! First Lieutenant, we are losing the battle! Damn it! (*exits*)

TRESZKA

You must stop this. My father will be furious and will punish you severely. It's no use. (*She goes.*)

RISA (*grabbing Lörentny*)

Stop this nonsense! Josse, stop!

LÖRENTNY (*dismissing the violinist*) Enough!

RISA

Go now... Please go!

LÖRENTNY

No! It's what you wanted. Your orders and my "Word of Honor!" MAROSI (*enters quickly*)

Lieutenant, the entire 18th & 14th Regiments have been cornered by the enemy volunteers. The Captain has ordered the flag of defeat. What a humiliation! Field Marshal von Lohonay is on his way here, Baroness. He is angry and wants answers!

RISA (*as Marosi exits*)

Please hurry, Josse. Perhaps he will not discover...

LÖRENTNY (*furiously*)

*I will stay!* Before your eyes I will stand before my commander and be

stripped of my officer's commission for insubordination. I have lost all—this house, my family name, my dignity as a soldier, my trust in loving someone, all at the hands of my real enemy... you, Risa.

### Finale

TRACK 7

ALL (*re-entering*)

Heaven help us, what misfortune...  
Comes the Gen'ral fraught with anger.  
Poor Lieutenant, now in danger,  
Hopes the Gen'ral calms his anger.  
Is the title of this story  
"The Lieutenant's Fall from Glory?"  
Soon the peaceful autumn weather  
Turns to icy winter weather,  
When the Gen'ral sounds his battle call!  
WALLERSTEIN  
First Lieutenant, you will find

Danger follows close behind.  
I'll support you, "one for all!"  
Standing right *behind* the General!  
ALL  
Dear Lieutenant, what has brought you  
To this sad condition?  
"Derelict of Duty" will revoke  
Your high position.  
WALLERSTEIN, ALL  
I would rather die  
By telling secrets to the enemy  
Than to face the Gen'ral's yelling  
At the army's inquiry...  
We are lost! Heaven help us...  
Oh, dear me!  
What will now become of me?  
We can see! He has lost all bravery!  
WALLERSTEIN  
We shall die! He is near!

ALL  
He's consumed with fright and fear!  
WALLERSTEIN  
He is near! We shall die!  
ALL  
There's no use to run and hide  
For the Gen'ral stands outside!  
Poor Lieutenant, he's in danger.  
Here's the Gen'ral, fraught with anger!  
LOHONAY (*storms in*)  
In all my years nothing like this has  
ever happened! The mind of a local  
volunteer, Sergeant Turi, outsmarts  
the finest officers of my regiment!  
What a mess! You call yourself soldiers?  
Chicken catchers is what you are! All  
subordination... gone! What a scandal!  
Awful negligence! I should shoot you all!  
(*crosses to Cavalry Captain von  
Emmerich*) What are you, Captain, a  
soldier who leads his troops into battle?  
No, a dance master who leads his  
officers in the Nutcracker's *March of  
the Toy Soldiers!*  
LOHONAY (*turns on Wallerstein, who  
laughs hysterically*) Quiet! You were  
with them, too: a volunteer who left his  
post. I could have you sent to the  
stockade and served mush for the rest  
of your life! First Lieutenant Lörenthy,  
why weren't you at your post?  
RISA (*interrupting*)  
I can explain. I forced the Lieutenant  
Lörenthy to stay with me. He wanted  
to leave and I wouldn't let him go...  
LOHONAY (*amused*)  
Lörenthy! She seems to have your



Wallerstein and his fellow volunteers

obedience and respect more than your commander does! What do you have to say for yourself? Lieutenant, where is your saber? your shako? You stand there speechless when not more than fifteen minutes ago you drank champagne and you danced the *Csárdás!* Fine! Tomorrow morning you will give a report. In fact, all of you will give reports before my jurisdiction as commander on whether or not the First Lieutenant's officer's commission should be revoked. Colonel Wulff will oversee the inquiry in the morning, and if the facts prove insubordination, Lieutenant Lörentny, you'll continue your service in this Regiment by shining my shoes! (*stunned silence from all*)

END ACT II

## ACT THREE

### Entr'acte

TRACK 8

(*The next morning in the winter garden of Risa's estate. Marosi appears in formal uniform.*)

### Dialog

TRACK 9

LAJOS (*enters*)

Private Marosi, the Baroness would like to see you.

MAROSI

*Which* Baroness? I have no time right now! The report is to begin any moment.

LAJOS

Baroness Treszka. She has been sitting in the garden all night crying.

MAROSI

Send her in, Lajos. With all the attention I received from the Baroness Risa last

night, she probably wants to tell me that she is sorry for the way she's been acting. (*Treszka enters, weeping.*) Treszka darling! Your hands are frozen. Have you been outside in the cool air all night?

TRESZKA

Yes, I want to die!

MAROSI

Die? Treszka, don't say that. Oh, I understand. Die because of First Lieutenant Lörentny? Don't you know he's infatuated with Baroness Risa?

TRESZKA

Of course. But why then did he propose to *me* last night?

MAROSI (*shocked*)

Proposed?

TRESZKA

Yes, in this room, at this very spot last night before we danced the *Csárdás*. Baroness Risa eye-witnessed all of it.

MAROSI (*hurt*)

And because of this you want to die?

TRESZKA

Yes, because I am not sure his proposal was sincere. Maybe he only wanted to make Baroness Risa jealous.

MAROSI (*sarcastically*)

In any case, you still love the Lieutenant! Let me be the first to congratulate you. I hope you will be happy in the years to come. But beware, my lady, once I receive my officer's commission, the Lieutenant and I will be equals! (*creates an imaginary gun*) Then, something terrible is going

to happen to your husband!

TRESZKA

Marosi, please!

MAROSI (*reciting "paces" as he marches off*) Good-bye! One, two...

RISA (*enters*)

My dear Baroness Treszka, you...

here so early?

TRESZKA

Yes, Baroness.

RISA

You look like you've been up all night. Are you waiting for someone?

TRESZKA

Yes, I wait for you!

RISA

For me?

TRESZKA

Yes, my dear Risa. I know that you still love Lörentny. I saw your concern for him when my father questioned him. But now he has chosen me. You yourself were a witness to his marriage proposal. My dear Baroness, I come to ask for your blessing.

RISA (*trying to remain calm*)

And what if I don't grant it?

TRESZKA

He will still be mine. He belongs to me now!

RISA

You talk as if he is an object one possesses. Do you really love him?

TRESZKA (*thrown by this*)

Why ask me? He will be my husband, a commissioned officer of the Hussars.

RISA (*turns slightly away*)

Would you still love him without his

rank, authority and uniform? As an ordinary man?

TRESZKA (*unsure*)

I love all types of men!

RISA (*sincerely*)

Precisely! Treszka, you are still young and have so much to look forward to. I have made mistakes in my life: decisions that were made by a young, naive girl who thought love was about all one possessed, and not about what one feels from the heart. I suffer and have made another suffer because of these mistakes and now realize I may not be able to reverse them. Treszka, I carry no ill will for you. I would hate to see someone with so much suffer the same fate.

TRESZKA (*quietly*)

Do you think Lörently still loves you?

RISA (*wistfully*)

I'm not sure. He is a proud man who, through all that he has suffered, carries his real emotion inside like a soldier.

TRESZKA (*to herself*)

And after the report is given to my father, he will no longer be an officer. I am sure that will easily be corrected when I use a few of my own autumn maneuvers on dear old papa! Lörently has no choice but to go along with my wishes! I'll seek out my soldier and take control! (*exits*)

**Song**

TRACK 10

RISA (*alone*)

My heartbeat drowns in painful tears  
And hopes for guidance from above.

Restore the time of childhood years

To send me back the one I love.

Why should a heart that's always true

Be punished for eternity?

My tortured heart now pleads for you

To understand and give your love to me.

My life will never see a day,

Far from the time that we once knew.

Will all our hopes now fade away

Like autumn leaves that drift from view?

My love for you is never stronger.

For only you does my heart beat.

These painful tears will fall no longer

If pride will offer its defeat.

Love's magic moments,

The nights we shared together.

Love's magic moments,

Is hope lost forever?

Can we again find magic within?

Is our love lost forever?

Love that we once shared together...

Has vanished forever, forever more!

**Dialog**

TRACK 11

LÖRENTLY (*has entered*)

Good morning, Baroness.

RISA (*quickly wiping away tears*)

Josse... good day.

LÖRENTLY

I came early to get my sword. I thought

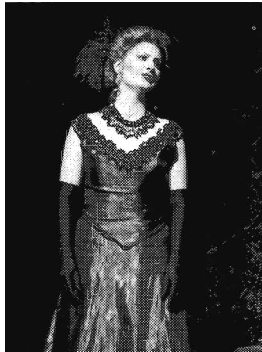
it would be best to have all things in

order when I report in front of the

Commander.

RISA (*after a pause*)

Josse! I am sorry about all that has happened to you. I know I don't de-



*Baroness Risa alone*

serve it, but I ask for your forgiveness.

LÖRENTLY (*simply*)

If you want it, then...I forgive you.

RISA

No, Josse! Not in this manner, not out of politeness, but really from the depths of your heart. I know what you will say to Field Marshal von Lohonay at the report. You will take the blame, admit to all and give up your status as an officer.

LÖRENTLY

What if this were true?

RISA (*desperate now*)

You must not allow this to happen. Defend yourself, protest, fight the report. Tell them that you were influenced by me, that I made you and the officers stay... I was responsible. I want to help you save the one honorable thing you

have left in your life: your name and rank. (*breaking down*) Please forgive me, Josse, please... for everything wrong I have caused in your...

LÖRENTHY  
Risa, I do forgive you. I do... (*embraces her tenderly*) But I have given my hand in marriage to Treszka, the daughter of my commanding officer...  
RISA

You would give up any chance for happiness to marry a woman you don't even love? All based on a hasty obligation?

LÖRENTHY (*quietly*)

I remember *you* once honored such an obligation. Maybe Treszka will not want a soldier without these stars (*referring to his uniform*). But, I have asked for her hand in marriage and if she says yes, she will never know that I loved someone else. (*He goes off*)

RISA (*quietly, to herself*)  
She knows, Josse. (*She exits.*  
*Wallerstein rushes in.*)

WALLERSTEIN

It isn't here! Where is my saber?! What will I do? If I am seen by the Field Marshal at the report he will surely have my head! I'm not cut out to be in the military! I, a bookkeeper? Well, it's no place for a man like me! I'm just like my friend Löbl! Oh, how I wish Löbl were here. He would find my saber and straighten everything out with the Field Marshal.

## Song

WALLERSTEIN

I had a friend in Luhatschewitz,  
Known to all in his home town.  
We were comrades in our youth,  
Always known to pal around.  
With reddish hair and big buck teeth,  
A giant nose, all pale and thin,  
Though he is an ugly man,  
We are still the best of friends.  
If right or wrong, I'm always faithful,  
Never have I questioned why.  
What's mine is his, he's always grateful,  
My friend until I die... Why?  
He's my best friend, Herr Löbl!

For him I tell this fable.

By his side through thick and thin,  
Everything I'll do for him,  
For I'm his only friend.

One day I wished to study French  
To soothe my curiosity  
"Pack your bags," I told my friend,  
"We must go to gay Paris!"  
He said "Let's go!" and off we went  
To *laisser les bons temps rouler!*

First, we found the Moulin Rouge,  
Where we studied hard all day.

At first I said "*je parle Français*"  
To a *grisette* next to me.

I'll introduce *ma chère beauté*.  
My friend, *c'est mon ami! Ou!*

*C'est mon ami. le Löbl!*  
*J'ai pour lui une fable.*

*Je vais avec lui*  
Through thick and thin.

TRACK 12

Everything I'll do for him.

*Je suis l'ami* of him!

When I was still a single man  
I saw a girl who was so sweet.  
Secretly I told my friend  
"Here's a girl I'd like to meet!"  
With my dear friend we thought it best  
To send the girl a *billet doux*.  
With a note she answered me  
"Nine PM we'll rendezvous."  
The time was set at night to cover  
In a place where we'd converse.  
When I arrived to meet my lover,  
My friend had met her first! Yes!  
He's my best friend, Herr Löbl!...

For one year

I've been happily married  
To a wife I love so dear.  
Löbl visits at our home,  
Mostly when I'm never there!  
A month ago my wife delivered me  
A son to call my own.  
Never have I been so blessed,  
"Til the day I brought him home.

With reddish hair  
My son looks charming,  
Giant nose, all pale and thin.  
My neighbors find it most alarming  
Junior looks like my friend! Yes!  
He's my best friend, Herr Löbl...  
(*He dances off.*)

## Dialog

TRACK 13

(*The officers enter, await their superior, stand formally.*)

COLONEL WULFF

Attention! His Excellency, Field Marshal

Lieutenant von Lohony presiding, commander and judicial authority in this military inquiry.

LOHONAY (*enters with documents*)

Officers, you will all give testimony regarding the facts of last night's events and whether First Lieutenant Josse von Lörently was derelict in his duties in the maneuvers that were conducted. You will then give your depositions to Colonel Wulf and I will render my decision based on his recommendations. If insubordination is proven, the First Lieutenant's officer's commission will be revoked and he will serve time in the stockade as part of his punishment. After his release, he will be demoted to Private and serve out the remaining time in his regiment without promotion.

Colonel...

COLONEL WULFF

Gentlemen, your depositions will be given to me in the main hall. Please follow me. (*Officers exit.*)

LOHONAY

What a mess! It must be cleared up!

RISA (*approaches him*)

Now it's time to intervene. Your Excellency, maybe it is improper to disturb you during this important military matter. I apologize...

LOHONAY (*charmed*)

On the contrary, Baroness, I give you *my* apology that in your beautiful estate we have to conduct such an unhappy event. You have such beautiful hands, so charming they should be anointed

with a kiss. (*kisses her hands*)

RISA

For such a strong, brave and handsome military man, you offer such tender words and elegant actions.

LOHONAY

We Hungarians try to offer our companions both strength *and* tenderness.

RISA

Is compassion one of your Hungarian virtues?

LOHONAY

Yes, of course.

RISA

You cannot imagine how relieved I am to know this. Because Lieutenant Lörently is a good friend and I wanted....

LOHONAY (*more formally*)

Yes, I noticed you last night. How good a "friend" is he?

RISA

Oh, he's not *that* kind of friend.

LOHONAY (*taking her hand again*)

I'm glad. However, he will need your friendship when I demote him to Private.

RISA

Your Excellency, he is not guilty.

LOHONAY (*annoyed now*)

Of course he is. He is lucky that I don't hang him for his misbehavior! The man left his post last night and spoiled the whole exercise... a damned mess!

RISA

For Heaven's sake. I was the one who

caused him to leave his post and miss his orders...

LOHONAY

Enough! As I suspected, you are more than just friends. No woman would lie by giving up her name and reputation for a man just out of friendship.

MAROSI (*rushes in*)

Your Excellency! I have to come to offer you my congratulations!

LOHONAY (*annoyed*)

Private Marosi, shouldn't you be giving your deposition to Colonel Wulf?

MAROSI

Yes, your Excellency, but I have heard the most wonderful news about your daughter Treszka and Lieutenant Lörently!

LOHONAY (*suddenly alert*)

What news?

MAROSI

They are to be married!

LOHONAY

Married!

MAROSI

Yes, isn't that great news, Baroness?

Risa?

RISA

But I thought *you* were interested in Treszka and hated the Lieutenant!

MAROSI

Me? Nooo...! Lieutenant Lörently is my dearest friend. You will have the finest of son-in-laws, your Excellency. He is an obedient and reliable soldier, sir!

LOHONAY (*thrilled*)

My daughter to marry an officer in



my regiment? It's what I have always dreamed of!

MAROSI

Of course, you must think of how heart-broken you and your daughter will be when he is demoted to a private. His new rank would not be appropriate for the daughter of a high commander.

LOHONAY

What? Who said anything about *de-moting* First Lieutenant von Lörentz? I know only the best about this man! He's a good soldier... reliable, punctual, without a blemish on his record.

RISA (*dumbfounded*)

Yes, but, you said the man had left his post and ruined...

LOHONAY (*blustering*)

It was probably some tactical strategy on his part. I find this whole inquiry about his insubordination without merit! (*tears up the report as officers return*) Gentlemen! I render this report null and void! First Lieutenant Josse von Lörentz, these charges of insubordination are baseless and without merit. You will retain your officer's commission without any blemish on your military record.

TRESZKA (*rushes in*)

Father!

LOHONAY

Ah, my dear daughter!

What a joyful day!

TRESZKA

Yes, father. I have brought your friends to celebrate the engagement.

LOHONAY (*becoming teary*)

My daughter—who was a naive and innocent child just a few years ago! To be married!

TRESZKA (*a hint of sarcasm*)

I, father? Who told you *that*?

LOHONAY

What?

LÖRENTZ (*suspicious*)

Treszka, you *are* accepting my proposal, are you not?

TRESZKA

I am very sorry, Lieutenant, but I cannot be your wife.

LOHONAY

What? But....he....I thought....the report....It's *destroyed!* (*tries to recover the pieces*)

TRESZKA (*looking at Risa*)

I was told by a very special person that I should love from the heart. (*Lobonay listens to his daughter.*) That true love does not come from a man's uniform, wealth and social status in this world. Right, Father, just as *you* taught me?

LOHONAY (*choking back tears*)

Such moral standards! Like father,

like daughter! (*They embrace.*)

LÖRENTZ

But whose engagement *are* we celebrating?

TRESZKA

Yours, of course!

Earlier this morning Baroness Risa told me all about your secret engagement and how you were waiting for the right time to announce it to the world.

(*approaching them*) You are made for each other: one who has wealth and social status, the other with a beautiful uniform and prestige. All superficial values of course, but—to each their own. I, on the other hand, love a common private named Marosi.

MAROSI

Treszka! (*they embrace*)

TRESZKA (*aside*)

For the time being!

LOHONAY (*thoroughly pleased*)

Well, let's toast the couple with superficial values and ideals! (*All toast and cheer. Risa and Lörentz embrace and kiss.*)

**Finale**

TRACK 14

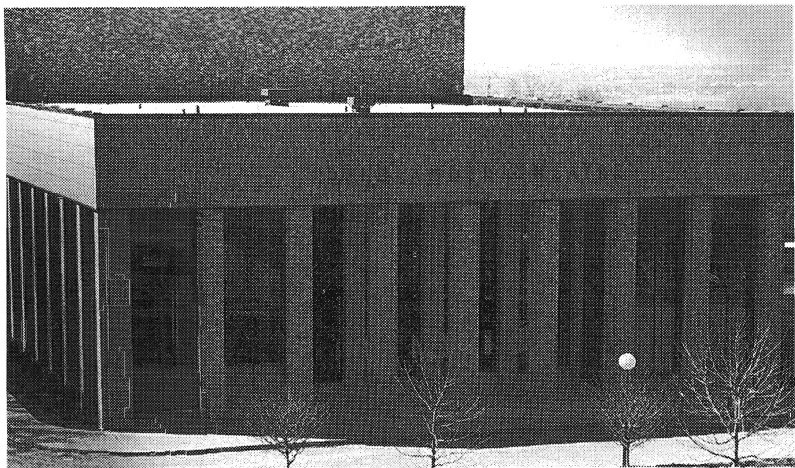
ALL

Hussars are marching!

Women are watching!

Autumn maneuvers starting today...

END ACT III / END CD TWO



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# Autumn Maneuvers

## CD ONE (55:41)

### ACT I

- 1 Overture (7:35)
- 2 Dialog/Song: *Dear friends...This little book* (2:41)
- 3 Dialog/Reprise: *Now ladies...Cavalry officers* (2:40)
- 4 Song: *I am a dashing Cavalry boy* (2:27)
- 5 Dialog: *To Hell with you* (4:02)
- 6 Song: *I was mistaken* (3:56)
- 7 Dialog: *It's either him or me* (1:01)
- 8 Chorus: *When Hussars are marching out* (2:29)
- 9 Dialog/Reprise: *Gracious...After work* (3:28)
- 10 Dialog: *Good day, sir* (0:35)
- 11 Song: *Such bad luck* (2:08)
- 12 Dialog: *Comrades!* (1:36)
- 13 Scene: *First Lieutenant?* (3:44)
- 14 Dialog: *Lieutenant? Baroness!* (2:41)
- 15 Finale: *Josse, don't act that way* (14:27)

## CD TWO (54:18)

### ACT II

- 1 Chorus/Dialog: *Joyful dancing...Private?* (2:22)
- 2 Song: *One day poor Gretel* (5:58)
- 3 Dialog/Duet: *So, Marosi...Maiden* (2:53)
- 4 Dialog: *Honored Lady Baroness* (1:44)
- 5 Scene: *Moonrays...If you're romancing* (9:41)
- 6 Scene: *Lonely soldier* (4:28)
- 7 Finale: *Heaven help us!* (3:30)

### ACT III

- 8 Entr'acte (1:42)
- 9 Dialog: *Private Marosi?* (4:03)
- 10 Song: *My heartbeat drowns* (4:10)
- 11 Dialog: *Good morning, Baroness* (2:10)
- 12 Song: *I had a friend* (4:55)
- 13 Dialog: *Attention!* (5:26)
- 14 Finale: *Hussars are marching* (1:01)

