

# MOZART

## THE MINI MAGIC FLUTE

An Entertainment for the Young

Shortened version by Donald Pippin  
50 minutes, with cast of six  
The three ladies become Pamina, Papagena  
and the Queen of the night

INTRODUCTION. TAMINO, THREE LADIES, SERPENT. (p. 10)

TAMINO                    Oh, help me! The serpent is closer and closer.  
                                 Oh, hear me! Oh help me! Or all will be over.  
                                 A moment of struggle and all will be over.  
                                 To heavenly powers I plead, I implore.  
                                 I plead, I implore.  
Almighty God, with no recourse, no remedy,  
                                 I shall die, for I can go no more.  
                                 *(He falls.)*

THREE LADIES            Turn and behold the serpent slain.  
                                 Behold! Behold!  
                                 The cry for help was not in vain.  
From direst need the youth is freed,  
                                 As ladies bravely intervene.

DIALOGUE:

LADY 1    We've killed the serpent.

LADY 2    And saved this handsome young man.

LADY 3    I told you that these ray guns would come in handy.

LADY 1    Now to the Queen of the Night, to tell her of our brave deed.

MUSIC (p. 22)

Oh, youth so fair, now fast asleep,  
My heart and hand are yours to keep.  
We go while you remain.

Farewell, farewell for now,  
But we shall meet again.

*They leave. Papageno enters.*

MUSIC. PAPAGENO'S SONG (p. 27)

A merry man, I earn my pay  
By catching birds, hip hip hooray!  
My service ever in demand,  
My fame has spread across the land.

My pipe I play, my snares I set,  
Then lure the birds into my net,  
And how my eyes light up with pride  
To see my feathered friends inside.

A merry man, I earn my pay  
By catching birds, hip hip hooray!  
My service ever in demand  
My fame has spread across the land.

And yet despite my great success,  
One secret wish I must confess:  
Though birds provide my daily bread,  
Pretty girls I'd like to catch instead.

## DIALOGUE

TAMINO (*coming to*) If that wasn't the weirdest dream I ever had! A serpent chasing me, closing in on me....Whoah! That was no dream. There it is! Seems to be dead...(noticing PAPAGENO) Say, who are you?

PAP. (*decidedly a backwoods fellow, with a rustic accent*) Who do you suppose? A man, like yourself. The name is Papageno.

TAM. Papageno. Odd name. But this seems to be an odd country. What land is it?

PAP. What land? It's where I live.

TAM. How do you live?

PAP. Another dumb question. By breathing, eating, drinking....

**TAM.** I meant to say, how do you come by your food and drink?

**PAP.** I work for the Queen of the Night. I catch birds, deliver them to the Queen, and she gives me wine, bread, sweet figs....

**TAM.** You could pass for a bird yourself....

**PAP.** A bird? A BIRD? Feel that muscle. Solid rock.

**TAM.** Then it was you that knocked off the serpent?

**PAP.** (*terrified*) A serpent! Where? Are you sure it's dead?

**TAM.** I'm very grateful. You saved my life.

**PAP.** (*recovering*) Don't even mention it. Glad to be helpful.

**TAM.** How did you do it? With no weapon but a net?

**PAP.** I don't use no weapons. Just the naked hand.

**TAM.** You strangled it?

**PAP.** Like a field mouse.

**TAM.** But first.....

**PAP.** Yes, first I sneaked up on the monster, then grabbed it by the tail.

**TAM.** Go on, go on. You wrestled it to the ground?

**PAP.** Right. For a minute there I thought it had me. Yes, sirree! I thought old Papageno was a goner. But then . . .

**TAM.** But then you went for the throat....

**PAP.** Straight for the throat.

**THREE LADIES** (*returning*) Papageno! What are you saying?

**PAP.** I . . . I . . . killed a field mouse.

**TAM.** Who are these three ladies?

**PAP.** They work for the Queen, same as me. I give them the birds, they give them to the Queen, she gives them wine, bread and figs, they give them to me.

**LADY 1** And you expect wine as usual? Today you get vinegar.

**LADY 2** Bread? Oh, no! Not for you! Here's a stone. Watch out for your teeth.

**PAP.** I'm to chew on a stone?

**LADY 3** Certainly not. Because instead of sweet figs, I've brought a padlock for your mouth.

**LADY 1** This will teach you to tell lies to total strangers.

**LADY 2** And to take credit for the brave deeds of others.

**LADY 3** Out with it, Papageno. Was it you that slew the serpent?  
*(He shakes his head.)*

**LADY 1** Then hear it from us. It was we that rescued this young man, who happens to be Prince Tamino. And the Queen was so pleased that she sends him this picture of her dear daughter Pamina. Goodbye, Papageno. Don't eat too quickly.

**LADY 2** Enjoy your meal.

**LADY 3** And don't talk too much.

*(They exit laughing, followed by Papageno helplessly struggling with the lock and frantically beckoning for assistance, as TAMINO gazes enraptured at the picture of PAMINA.)*

**TAMINO** This must be the prettiest girl in the whole world!

**MUSIC.**

**TAMINO'S ARIA. p. 30.**

So fair a face beyond compare,  
With eyes that sparkle and inspire!  
A vision of beauty and divinity  
That fills my heart with light and air.  
I live to claim her for my own,  
Ever, evermore my own.

*(Mid roll of thunder, the Queen of the Night appears.)*

## DIALOGUE

**QUEEN** Lift up your eyes. Behold the Queen of the Night! Prince Tamino, are you ready to prove your courage? I have chosen you to rescue my daughter. Kidnapped by Sarastro, the all-powerful wizard. Stolen, snatched away under my very eyes, leaving behind a helpless, broken-hearted mother. If you are successful, my daughter's heart and hand will be yours.

**MUSIC.** **QUEEN'S ARIA.** p. 37.

You, you, you I've chosen to free my daughter.  
Go forth as knight with shining sword.  
When your assignment is completed,  
Her hand and heart are your reward.

*(The Queen leaves.)*

## DIALOGUE

**TAMINO** What an honor! What a privilege! Chosen by the Queen to rescue her daughter. I'll save Pamina if it kills me!

*(He starts to leave, but is stopped by PAPAGENO, who returns with padlocked mouth, making futile attempts to talk.)*

**MUSIC.** **QUINTET (DUO)** p. 40.

**PAP.** Hm! hm! hm!

**TAM.** Reduced to silence must he suffer  
The consequence of telling lies.  
A helping hand I'd like to offer  
But can only sympathize.

*The THREE LADIES return.*

## DIALOGUE

**LADY 1** The Queen -- too lenient, I would say -- has ordered me to remove the lock and set your tongue free again.

**LADY 2** But watch out! No more lies, or back it goes.

**LADY 3** Prince, she sends you a present, a very special gift:

*(spoken like an incantation)*  
A magic flute whose tone suffices  
To help you out in time of crisis.

**PAP.** Well it's been mighty nice chatting with you lovely ladies, but I'm a busy man. So long, Prince. Have a nice trip.

**LADY 2** And where do you think you're off to?

**LADY 3** We'll tell you where you're going. The Queen has given orders that you are to go with the Prince and keep him company.

**PAP.** To the land of Sarastro? Oh, no! I've heard that he burns people alive, then eats them.

**LADY 1** In that case, you can take these. A set of silver bells.

**PAP.** Oh, great! Just what I'll need when I'm stewing in a pot.

**LADY 2** You may find them more useful than you think.

**MUSIC.**

**QUINTET, p. 50.**

When facing danger you can play  
Bells of silver, flute so mellow --  
These will serve in days to follow.  
Now farewell! You (we) must away.  
We shall meet another day.

You (we) must be off! For now farewell.  
The day's conclusion time will tell.  
For now farewell. For now farewell.

**DIALOGUE**

**PAP.** Aren't you forgetting something? How are we to find Sarastro's palace?

**LADY 1** Reach up. Do you feel a silk-like thread?

**LADY 2** It is woven by the Queen's personal staff of spiders.

**LADY 3** So delicate that you cannot see it, but stronger than a chain of steel.

**LADY 1** It will guide you to the land of Sarastro, but no further.

**LADY 2** Once there, his palace should not be hard to find.

**LADY 3** Follow the thread. Don't let go or you will immediately lose your way.

**LADY 1** But if all else fails.....

**LADY 2** Remember the magic flute.

**LADY 3** Remember the silver bells.

*All exit to the music of the silver bells on p. 85, Tamino and Papageno following the silver thread. The shift of scene is directed by the Queen, the touch of whose magic wand makes the huge boulders light as balloons. Papageno presently returns.*

**PAPAGENO** Where am I? And where's Tamino? I shouldn't have gone chasing after them birds.

*PAMINA enters from the opposite side; PAPAGENO turns and sees her. Both are startled.*

## **DIALOGUE**

**PAP.** Hey, I know you! You're the girl in the picture, the Princess that we've come looking for! Hold still. I've got to check it out. You can't be too careful nowadays. Let's see: two eyes, two ears, two lips, one nose -- yep, you're the one.

**PAM.** Who gave you my picture?

**PAP.** The Prince that your mother sent to rescue you. Well, he didn't exactly give it to me.....Because he fell in love with you the minute he laid eyes on it.

**PAM.** He sounds like the Prince I've always wanted to meet. I like him already.

**PAP.** Some people has all the luck. Now why don't it happen to me? Shucks! Papageno ain't even got a Papagena.

**PAM.** Poor man! No wife? No sweetheart?

**MUSIC**

**DUETTO, p. 61**

**PAM.**                   **The man who feels what love can offer  
                              Reveals a heart sincere and kind.**

**PAP.**                   **Though high and low I've searched all over  
                              The girl for me I fail to find.**

**BOTH**                 **We thrive when all is said and done  
                              Living for love and love alone.**

**PAM.**                   **It touches every living creature,  
                              And love can lighten every load,**

**PAP.**                   **A gift bestowed by Mother Nature  
                              Along a rough and rugged road.**

**BOTH**                 **Love opens wide the doors of life,  
                              Welcoming in the man and wife.  
                              Man and wife or wife and man,  
                              That is how it all began.**

**DIALOGUE**

**PAP.** But you're supposed to be a prisoner. How come you're walking around free, instead of locked up in a dungeon cell?

**PAM.** Oh, nothing like that. Sarastro has been very nice to me. But more of that later. I want to find Tamino. Come on, let's hurry!

**MUSIC**

**DUETTO, p. 81**

**BOTH**                 **Faster, faster! On nimble feet  
                              Our search we'll soon complete.  
                              Brave Tamino we shall find  
                              If we only look ahead and not behind.**

*(They run off.)*

*TAMINO enters from the opposite side.*

**TAM.** Where to find Pamina? Here I am in the land of Sarastro, but I don't even know where to look. I've asked everybody. No answers. Sarastro must be

guarding her very closely, probably locked up in a dark prison. Say, why didn't I think of this sooner? *(He takes out the flute.)* The three ladies told me to save it for emergencies. If this isn't an emergency, I don't know what is.

MUSIC

ANDANTE, p. 77

TAMINO

You weave a spell of slender sound,  
Yet all-compelling.  
To your tone so mild, so tender,  
Even beasts of the jungle surrender.

Enchanted by your slender sound,  
Oh, gentle flute, so all-compelling,  
To your tone so mild, so tender,  
Even beasts of the jungle surrender.

Yet . . . no Pamina . . . .  
She alone does not respond.  
Pamina! Pamina!  
Hear me! Hear me!

*As he plays and sings, Pamina enters as if in a trance, drawn into a magic spell. By the end of the song, she and Tamino are very close.*

TAMINO Pamina!

PAMINA Tamino!

TAMINO You're even more beautiful than your picture.  
*(He reaches out for her hand.)*

PAMINA You've come all this way to find me....

*SARASTRO enters abruptly.*

SARASTRO Hold on! Not so fast!

PAM. Sarastro!

TAM. Sarastro! The kidnapper! The tyrant! The wicked wizard! What right do you have over her?

SAR. *(calmly)* I have every right. *(pause)* I am Pamina's father. It was the Queen of the Night who stole her away from *me* and from her real mother when

Pamina was just a baby. The Queen wanted to turn her into a witch, like herself. *(with a fatherly smile)* But as you can see, this even she was not able to do.

TAM. Pamina, is this the truth? *(Pamina nods.)* So the Queen lied to me, and I believed her. After all, it was her ladies that saved me from the serpent.

PAM. That serpent was the Queen's doing. She wanted you to *think* she was saving you, to get you to help her out.

SAR. Now I want you to help *me*.

TAM. Me, help out a powerful wizard like yourself?

SAR. I have powerful magic, it's true, but only when used to do wonderful things, like healing the sick, turning darkness into daylight, making gardens grow and trees bear fruit. I have little skill when it comes to warding off evil.

MUSIC

SARASTROS ARIA, p. 107

I wield my wondrous magic power  
To serve a good and useful end,  
Bringing the buds of May to flower,  
Striving to heal, restore and mend,  
Striving to heal, restore and mend.

*PAPAGENO rushes in.*

DIALOGUE

PAPAGENO The Queen, the Queen of the Night is on the way! Riding on a bolt of lightning. She looks mad, she looks mean.....

TAMINO And like a fool, I fell for her story.

SAR. The three of us will face her together.

PAM. No, please, I want to handle this by myself.

SAR. Very well. I understand your feelings. We will leave you alone with her. But be careful. She can drag you back again to her dark domain. Come.

*(He withdraws, taking TAMINO and PAPAGENO in tow.)*

*The Queen of the Night enters. THUNDER.*

**QUEEN** Pamina! Hear what I have to say! Sarastro is out to destroy me and my kingdom. He must be punished! Are you on his side or mine? Take this dagger. Prove that you are my daughter. Plunge it into his heart. I want him slain by your own hand.

**MUSIC.**                    **QUEEN OF THE NIGHT ARIA, p. 127**

The fire of hell has made my heart a furnace.  
    **Death to Sarastro!**  
In rage and despair your mother cries.  
    I want him slain,  
    And turn to you, my daughter,  
    To plunge the deadly dagger.  
By your own hand, this day Sarastro dies,  
Or not again shall I call you child of mine.  
    Ah! No beloved child of mine.

    I cast you off forever.  
My one and only daughter I disown.  
    I cast you off forever.  
    No more am I your mother,  
    No more are you my daughter  
    Till the hated foe is dead.  
    A stranger, discarded, forsaken,  
    On the street you'll beg for bread.

Go unwanted, no beloved child of mine,  
    Until, until Sarastro's life is taken.

**Rise! Rise! Rise!**  
    **God of vengeance,**  
    **Do as I ordain.**

*(She exits, leaving Pamina holding the dagger.)*

**DIALOGUE**

**PAMINA** Murder Sarastro! Ordered to kill, by the person who has led me to believe that she was my mother.

*SARASTRO returns with TAMINO.*

**SARASTRO** My dear daughter! You don't have to tell me. I saw and heard everything.

**PAMINA** Oh father! Don't punish her. She is not herself. The shock, the loss .  
.. Be merciful.

**SARASTRO** Here in my domain, we have no time for anger, and we have better things to do than seek revenge.

**MUSIC.**

**SARASTRO ARIA, p. 134**

Within these halls so hallowed,  
We leave no room for wrath.  
The lost that blindly wander  
Are shown the lighted path.  
Here guided by a loving hand  
We journey toward a higher land.

**DIALOGUE**

**SARASTRO** I have no wish to punish the Queen. Still she must not be allowed to continue her violent, destructive ways. She must be put out of business, and you can help me do it. Come along.

*The three depart, hand in hand. PAPAGENO enters.*

**PAPAGENO** Big deal! Pamina has found her daddy, the Prince has found Pamina, but where does that leave me? I'm no closer to finding my Papagena than I was before. And we could have so much fun together -- me, her, a great big table and a dozen kids.....

**MUSIC**

**ARIA, p. 153**

A bride of barely twenty,  
Now Papageno's wife,  
Is paradise aplenty  
And all I ask of life,  
And all I ask of life.

In feasting and dancing we'll revel,  
And worries can go to the devil.  
A banquet of laughter and mirth  
For us will be heaven on earth.

**PAPAGENO** All I want is Papagena, wherever she may be, and all I've got is silver bells. Wait a second! Maybe that's just what I need!

MUSIC

ALLEGRO p. 199

Gentle tone of silver,  
Draw my darling here.  
Gentle bells, continue  
Chiming sweet and clear.  
Bells, play on and draw her near  
With gentle tone.

THE THREE LADIES: *(offstage)*

Now Papageno, turn around!

*A very old black-hooded lady hobbles in, leaning on a cane.*

DIALOGUE

OLD LADY Dear Papageno! I heard your voice. You called me. Here I am.

PAP. Well, pardon me, ma'am, but you're not exactly what I had in mind. You look a little frail to me. Just how old are you?

O.L. I'm eighteen and two minutes.

PAP. (Eighty-two is more like it.) Don't tell me you have a boy friend.

O.L. Of course I do.

PAP. Is he as young as yourself?

O.L. Certainly not. I prefer older men. He's ten years older than me.

PAP. Ten years older than you? And he can still get around by himself? What's this young fellow's name?

O.L. Papageno!

PAP. Papageno? (What a coincidence! But I don't like the sound of this one little bit.) Where is he, this...this Papageno?

O.L. Why, right here, where you're standing.

PAP. Good Lord, you mean me!

**O.L.** Of course I mean you. Who else? I heard you saying that you wanted to marry me. You'll be happy to know that I accept.

**PAP.** Now hold on! I need some time to think this over.

**O.L.** But it's already been decided. You said Papagena, wherever she may be. How could I refuse? I'll be the best wife in the world, and we'll be as happy as two turtledoves.

**PAP.** (I suppose there's no way out of it.) Better to have an old wife than no wife at all.

**O.L.** Then the answer is yes!

**PAP.** (*most reluctantly*) Hm.....yes!

*Lo! A sudden transformation. The cane is thrown away, the black hood is cast off....and there stands a lovely young lady.*

**PAP.** Papagena!!!

**MUSIC**

**DUET P. 200. (Uncut)**

**Pa pa pa pa pa....**  
(for text, see score)

*They make a merry exit.*

*SARASTRO enters with TAMINO and PAMINA.*

**DIALOGUE**

**SARASTRO** As I told you, there is a way to put the Queen of the Night out of action, but it is risky and very dangerous. I don't want you to attempt it unless you feel fully up to it.

**TAM.** Tell me and I'll do it.

**SAR.** There is one thing that the Queen cannot withstand: the light that shines forth from a fearless mind when put to the supreme test.

**TAM.** The supreme test? Go on, tell me more.

**SAR.** You are to walk first through fire, then through water. It requires total concentration, total faith, total absence of fear. If you fail, even for a fraction of a second, you will be burnt to a crisp, or drowned in the sea that will drag you under.

**PAM.** I will not have Tamino undergo this ordeal alone. I shall walk with him. I shall meet the same test.

**SAR.** I was afraid of that. Yet there's no denying that the chance of success is far greater if you are together.

**PAM.** We *will* succeed. Or we will die together.

**SAR.** Remember, for this I have no magic to make it easier for you. You are on your own. Are you ready?

**TAM.** How can we fail? The magic flute will steer us through fire and flood.

*The Queen of the Night appears, quietly, furtively, without thunder.*

**QUEEN** Why, why was I such a fool? Why did I give the magic flute to that treacherous Prince? But it is not too late to get it back. All I have to do is distract him for one moment. What fun! To see him turn into a cinder under my own very eyes.

*Solemn music (p. 186) as the two first walk through fire -- a dancer waving red fabrics.*

**TAMINO, PAMINA** *(after the ordeal)*

Through fire we emerge undaunted,  
Unblistered by the leaping flame.  
Led on by melody enchanted,  
Through water we shall do the same.

**QUEEN** *(to the dancer)* We failed. But there is still one more test for them to undergo. We must not fail again. Try harder, harder, **HARDER!**

*When the solemn music resumes, the dancer this time flourishing blue fabrics, the Queen engages in silent combat with Sarastro as she tries in vain to reach the fearless young couple and eventually collapses in defeat.*

**TAMINO, PAMINA** What glory is the gift of light!  
New freedom rises from the night.

**QUEEN** Disaster! Defeated, exposed by the light,

**Hereafter I dwell in the caverns of night.**

*As the Queen disappears, the music continues. SARASTRO speaks over it.*

**SARASTRO** True love and courage have triumphed over darkness and fear. The Queen of the Night will never rule again. Tamino and Pamina have found each other, and we have another happy couple as well. Papageno! Papagena! Come in, join the celebration!

**FINALE.**

**p. 216**

**With darkness and daylight no longer at war,  
May wisdom and kindness prevail evermore!**

**THE END**