

Bastien und Bastienne by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Place: A pastoral village

Time: Indeterminate

Bastienne, a shepherdess (soprano)

Bastien, her lover (tenor)

Colas, a quack magician (bass)

Bastienne, a shepherdess, fears that her "dearest friend", Bastien, has forsaken her for another pretty face, and decides to go into the pasture to be comforted by her flock of lambs.

Before she can leave, however, she runs into Colas, the village soothsayer. Bastienne requests the help of his magical powers to help win back her Bastien. Colas (being a soothsayer) knows all about the problem and comforts her with the knowledge that Bastien has not abandoned her, rather, he's merely been distracted lately by 'the lady of the manor'. His advice is to act coldly towards Bastien, which will make him come running back.

Bastien is heard approaching, so Bastienne hides herself. Bastien swaggers in, proclaiming how much he loves Bastienne. Colas informs him that Bastienne has a new lover. Bastien is shocked and asks the magician for help.

Colas opens his book of spells and recites a nonsense aria filled with random syllables and Latin quotations. Colas declares the spell a success and that Bastienne is in love with Bastien once more. Bastienne, however, decides to keep up the game a bit longer and spurns Bastien with great vehemence. Bastien threatens suicide, which Bastienne merely shrugs off.

Finally, the two decide that they have gone far enough and agree to reconcile. Colas joins them as they all sing a final trio in praise of the magician.

No. 1 - Aria

BASTIENNE

My dearest friend left me,
With him sleep and rest are gone.
I am beside myself with grief
Sorrow weakens my eyes and mind.
Grief and pain froze the heart,
And this distress will be the death of me.

No. 2 - Aria

BASTIENNE

I'm going to the pasture,
Stunned and quite unable to think.
I see to my delight nothing but my lamb flock.
Oh! To be all alone and constantly full of grief
Bring to the heart only agony and pain.

No. 3 - Performance of the Colas (Orchestra)

No. 4 - Aria

COLAS

When a gentle child asks me to tell her fortune,
I read her future quickly from her forlorn looks
I see, only the dearest's favor can serve to satisfy her.
How easy is the magic art for me with two eyes in love.

No. 5 - Aria

BASTIENNE

If my Bastien once in jest stole a flower from me,
I felt in my heart the same pleasure that he felt when he stole the flower.
Why do gifts from another woman dazzle him now?
Everything imaginable was truly offered him by me.
I gladly offered him dairies, fields, and flocks.
Now I should be despised because I did so much for him.

No. 6 - Aria

BASTIENNE

If, like many a woman, I never tired of strangers' flatteries,
I might quite easily win the heart very easily
Of the most beautiful gentlemen of the city.
But only Bastien stirs my feelings,
And with love, another man will never be rewarded.
Go, I say,
Go and learn from my youth,
That virtue also lives in shepherd huts.

No. 7 - duet

COLAS

On the advice that I gave,
Be my child, diligent.

BASTIENNE

Yes, I will strive

Yes, sir, day and night.

COLAS

Will you also be grateful to me?

BASTIENNE

Yes, sir, day and night.

COLAS

Oh, what innocence! For your own happiness

Avoid the gloomy glances now,

Adopt a cheerful manner.

BASTIENNE

Yes, sir, as best I can!

No. 8 - Aria

BASTIEN

Big thanks to you, Mr. Colas,

You have dispersed the shadows of doubt through your wise counsel

And I choose for a bride

The one who promises a lifetime of happiness

The treasures offered me by the "city lady" give me no real delight

Bastienne's loveliness

Makes me more pleased than gold.

No. 9 - Aria

BASTIEN

Go! You tell me a fairy tale.

Bastienne does not deceive.

No, she is not a false beak,

Who says differently than speaks.

If my mouth calls her sweet,

Does she think I'm beautiful,

And if she burns with love,

the fire must spring from me.

10 - Aria

COLAS

Diggi, daggi,
schurry, murry,
Horum, harum,
lirum, larum,
raudi, maudi,
giri, gari,
posito,
besti, basti,
saron glad
fatto, matto,
quid pro quo.

11 - Aria

BASTIEN

My dearest beautiful cheeks
Will I be happy to see you again?
Only her charms satisfy my desire
For her I can disdain gold.
Away with sovereignty, away with treasures!
Your splendor does not work for me.
Only a girl can delight
A hundred times more than you.

Usurers, who through their proud instincts
Are otherwise only charmed by rarities,
Would love her innocence and count themselves fortunate in her.
But it's all for nothing. Here are the limits: she was made for me alone.
And riches will be mocked here with cold curtsies.

No. 12 - Aria

BASTIENNE

He was otherwise faithful and devoted to me,
Bastien loved me alone,
My heart only was his endeavor
Only me, nobody else took him in.
He did not like the most beautiful picture,
Only his eyes were on me,
I could charm and please him more than all the other girls.
And the rich ladies who were often inflamed by his looks
Were not appreciated
When those rich ladies gave him presents,
He gave them to me to keep
He loved me, only me alone.
But now he wants to go after other women

In vain is now my love
And becomes a fluttering spirit.

No. 13 - duet

BASTIEN

Go there!

Your defiance should not frighten me.

I run to the castle,

I swear to you,

and tell the noble lady that my heart belongs to her entirely.

If I find her as loving as before,

I will pledge myself to her at once.

BASTIENNE

I will!

I will go to live in the city,

Gentleman I meet there easily:

Like a dam, I want to live there,

like a lady who can enthrall a hundred gentlemen.

BASTIEN

I will in gold and silver show off,

And a sweetheart full of splendor

Will pay for my favor,

Which makes her happy when my gaze falls on her.

To join her treasures,

she will not find me coy at all.

BASTIENNE

For pretty girls, pretty things are easy to obtain in the city

It takes, to capture the same,

Nothing but that you are friendly.

No. 14 - Recitative and Arioso

BASTIEN

Does my suffering make you more spiteful?

Very well! To please you this instant I will

Fetch myself a knife, dagger, and rope!

BASTIENNE

Good luck!

BASTIEN
I'm going to hang.

BASTIENNE
Good luck!

BASTIEN
No mercy! I'm going to drown myself in the brook.

BASTIENNE
Good luck with the cold bath!

No. 15 - duet

BASTIENNE
Go! Fickle heart!
Find another woman's tender loving ear,
Because I don't love you anymore.

BASTIEN
Well, I want to die;
For my path to ruin will be shown by your hate.

That's why I leave the village and the field.

BASTIENNE
Deceiver! You're fleeing?

BASTIEN
Yes, as you see.
Because another takes you,
My death is already determined.
I'm tormenting myself
but no slave to my rival.

BASTIENNE
Bastien! Bastien!

BASTIEN
What? You call me?

BASTIENNE
You're wrong.
In your eyes my happiness is now no longer to be found.

BASTIEN

Where is the sweet time,
when you enjoyed my jokes?

BASTIEN, BASTIENNE
It is now disappeared. Go! False soul!
Away! I choose for my tender hand
Another marriage bond.
A change in of affection does away with sadness,
And stimulates the appetite for pleasure.

BASTIEN
But if you wanted ...

BASTIENNE
But if you should ...

BASTIEN
Sweetie still call me ...

BASTIENNE
Recognize this heart ...

BASTIEN, BASTIENNE
My love would again be devoted to you.

BASTIEN
I would be yours alone.

BASTIENNE
I would be yours forever.

BASTIEN
Make me happy and give me back your heart
Embrace me,
Only I love you.

BASTIENNE
O joy for my burning breast!

BASTIEN, BASTIENNE
Come on, take it again
Affection and loyalty!
I swear the change
And love you to the grave.
We are reconciled,
Love crowns

Us after the fearful quarrel
Through faithful tenderness.

No. 16 - a trio

COLAS

Children! Children!
See, after storm and rain
Will a nice day be brought
Your happiness must nothing shake
Thank my magic power for that.
Up! Up! Give your hands!
Join your souls and hearts!
Let sorrow never be known to you.

BASTIEN, BASTIENNE

Joyfully! Joyfully!
Prizes the sorceries
From Colas, the wise man!
To free us from grief,
Did he do miracles today?
Up! Up! Begin to sing his praises!
He brings about our wedding celebration.
Oh, hang it all, what a splendid man!