**THE VAMPIRE**

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**Libretto by Wilhelm August Wohlbrück**

**English translation by Jutta Romero, Copyright (c) 1997**

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**CD-1** [61:47]

**[D-1, T-1]** Overture

**ACT I**

**SCENE 1**

(MOONLIT WILDERNESS AT MIDNIGHT – COVEN OF WITHCHES AND GHOSTS IN THE FOREGROUND – A CAVE TO THE SIDE - A RAISED PLATEAU WITH ROCKS IN THE BACKGROUND)

**[D-1, T-2]** NO. 1 INTRODUCTION

CHORUS OF WITCHES AND GHOSTS

You witches and ghosts,

Close cheerfully the circle,

Soon our master will be here with us!

Because of horrible crimes

That is why we are looking for him,

We are looking for his counsel.

Shunning the light, at midnight

When only fear and malice are awake,

By moonlight we prowl

Into the gloomy chasm.

Snake and viper I hear hissing,

Will-o'-the-wisp flickers and among them,

Newts, toads, black cats,

Goblins, witches, devils grimaces

Come on cheerfully, close the circle!

Owl and eagle-owl, you are to shriek,

Yo, hoho, hoho.

The Vampire Master appears leading

Lord Ruthven by the hand.

There comes the master,

In the pale light of the fire!

VAMPIRE MASTER (SPOKEN)

This one here, who already fell into our service,

Asks for a short time

To stay among free people.

His wish will be granted,

If he fulfills his oath,

That until midnight

He'll bring us three victims:

For three brides, tender and pure,

The vampire shall be granted one more year!

LORD RUTHVEN, EARL OF MARSDEN

By the power of all evil,

I swear to you to keep my word;

But now get away from here,

Because one of the victims soon will be here!

(CHORUS WITHOUT THE VAMPIRE MASTER.)

GHOST CHORUS

Softly, softly by the moonlight

Shoo, shoo into the ground!

Thousand crevices, thousand fissures

Are there for us to disappear into.

Let us sit down there and brood,

Until midnight is here.

Softly, softly by the moonlight

Into the ground!

(CLOCK TOLLS ONE - THEY DISAPPEAR LEAVING RUTHVEN ALONE)

**[D-1. T-3]** NO. 2 RECITATIVE AND ARIA

RUTHVEN

Ha! Still a whole day!

That time is very long! -

Two victims are already certain

And the third - the third will be found easily.

Ha! What pleasure, from beautiful eyes

On flowering bosom

In blissful quiver

To suck new life with a kiss!

Ha! What pleasure,

With loving caress,

With lascivious courage

The sweetest blood

Like sap of the roses,

From red-purple lips

Adulatingly to sip! -

And when the burning thirst is quenched,

And when the blood oozes from the heart,

And when they groan full of terror,

Haha! What delight!

Ha, what pleasure! -

Her blood gives me new courage;

Her death tremor gives new life!

Poor darling, pale as snow,

Your heart must have been hurting!

Alas, once I felt the same aches of fear in my warm heart,

Which heaven feelingly created.

Don't remind me with these sounds,

Which mock heaven insolently,

I understand your call!

Ha! What pleasure!

What delight! What delight! What pleasure!

DIALOGUE (CUT)

RUTHVEN

Do I finally see you, my sweet Janthe!

JANTHE BERKLEY (FALLS INTO HIS ARMS)

Only after midnight was I able to leave the house.

RUTHVEN

O, that was high time! Already tomorrow you would have been lost to me forever. You, the bride of another!

JANTHE

O, furtively I had to leave my father! In tears will he be looking for his child - and not find her!

(SHE TURNS AWAY CRYING.)

**[D-1, T-4}** NO. 3 DUET

JANTHE

Beloved parents' only joy.

I reward them with bitter sorrow,

When to honor them should be a sweet duty.

Alas! I have to grieve them,

Because I am forced to love you,

Even so reason speaks against it.

RUTHVEN

Feel by my heartbeat,

More than I am able to say,

That I belong to you forever;

Never will I grieve you,

Forever, forever to love you,

I swear truthfully.

JANTHE

So you are, beloved, mine forever,

And forever, beloved, I am yours!

Ah, only love, love makes me happy,

I devote my life to you alone!

RUTHVEN

Yes, beloved, I belong to you forever,

And forever, beloved, you are mine!

Ah, only love, love makes me happy,

I devote my life to you alone!

JANTHE

When at first you came near me,

I trembled with terror.

RUTHVEN

I know very well, darling, that you did that,

But now you look smilingly at me.

JANTHE

Like with a magic rope

It pulled me later to you. -

RUTHVEN

Our hearts, which found each other,

Are the magic, believe me. -

JANTHE

Yes, I am following an urge,

I am following my heart.

He is mine, forever, forever!

Love smiles from his eyes;

O, how happy shall I be!

RUTHVEN

Ha, in her heart she is afraid,

Poor girl, I feel sorry for her.

But triumph! Now she is mine;

And to suck her sweet blood,

What lust it will be!

RUTHVEN AND JANTHE

Flee towards the back of the cave at the sound of the horn.

(HUNTERS, SERVANTS AND PEASANTS ENTER)

**[D-1, T-5]** NO. 4 CHORUS AND SOLOISTS

CHORUS

Where can she be? -

Where can she be? -

By torchlight

Search the forest.

Awake the echo,

That the sound of the bugle

Shall echo back a thousand times everywhere.

Janthe! Janthe! Janthe!

(SIR BERKLEY, LAIRD OF BERKLEY, ARRIVES)

BERKLEY

Woe, my child! In what wilderness

May she be wandering?

Late at night I missed her at home.

For sure robbers must have abducted her.

Whoever finds her track,

I swear to you, he will receive the father's

Deep gratitude and a great reward.

(LOOKING AROUND)

But woe, which place have we come to?

Since hundreds of years malicious

Ghosts dwell here.

The vampire cave it is called by the people.

CHORUS

Woe. The vampire cave!

Quickly leave with soft steps!

Poor father! Poor father!

Hurry away with soft steps!

JANTHE'S VOICE (FROM THE CAVE)

Woe is me!

RUTHVEN'S VOICE (FROM THE CAVE)

Ha ha!

CHORUS

What yelling!

It came from there!

JANTHE (AS BEFORE)

Woe is me!

BERKLEY

That was my child's voice,

Rescue her dear life!

(HUNTERS AND SERVANTS RUN INTO THE CAVE WITH THEIR TORCHES)

BERKLEY

Woe is me! My strength is waning!

Fear and joy make me tremble;

In what condition will I find her!

(TAKES HEART AND WANTS TO ENTER THE CAVE - A FEW SERVANTS APPEAR WITH RUTHVEN)

BERKLEY

Nasty robber of my child,

Here take the reward of your deeds.

(HE STABS AND INJURES RUTHVEN WHO FALLS)

CHORUS (IN THE CAVE)

She is dead!

BERKLEY

What? My child murdered?

My child murdered!

(HUNTERS AND SERVANTS APPROACH HIM)

ONE SERVANT

Poor father! Woe! Horror!

Chest and neck of your daughter are bloody,

The mark of poison teeth show the horror!

She was a victim of the vampire!

ALL

A vampire! A vampire! Woe! A vampire!

(THEY RUN AWAY - RUTHVEN PAINFULLY TRIES TO GET UP)

RUTHVEN

Woe is me! My strength is waning!

Time will pass idly,

While I am unable to reach the summit,

That while dying I would be able to

Suck in with my eyes the rays of the moon,

Which would give me new strength for living.

Awful! Omnipotent one!

Everything, everything desolate and empty,

Horrible silence everywhere!

Only Hell's scornful laughter I am hearing.

(SIR EDGAR AUBRY APPEARS ON THE PLATEAU)

DIALOGUE (CUT)

EDGAR

Is there no way out?

There is an empty place here,

But which way shall I turn?

Quiet, over there, quiet, something is moving.

RUTHVEN

Cheer up! I hear a human voice!

Whoever you may be -

EDGAR

Ha, an injured person is here on the ground.

RUTHVEN

Whoever you may be have pity -

EDGAR

Whose voice? What do I see! If my eyes are not fooling me in the faint moonlight you must be Ruthven.

RUTHVEN

Aubry, it’s you? My angel sent you, I was assaulted by robbers.

EDGAR

Good God! Dear friend, what can I do for you? Is your injury deadly? Can you be helped?

RUTHVEN

No, human help is too late. But yet, Aubry, if I ever was your friend render me an important service.

EDGAR

Oh tell, what can I do for you? Once you saved my life, oh if only I could repay you, that I could sacrifice my life for yours.

RUTHVEN

There is nothing that can be done for my life. But, Aubry, I beg you -

EDGAR

Don't hesitate to tell me! What

Is it? Should I avenge your

Death? Did you recognize the robbers?

RUTHVEN

No, it's not that which I desire of you! Oh!

EDGAR

So speak already, what is it? What can I do for you?

What strange restlessness in your behavior! Is there someone about whom you are anxious? Is some heavy guilt bothering your conscience? Tell, what is it?

RUTHVEN

Nothing like that - I just beg you, Aubry, guide me up to those rocks

(HE POINTS TOWARDS THE ROCKS ABOVE THE CAVE)

And put my face in such a way that the rays of the moon will penetrate my eyes.

EDGAR

Strange, and what shall - ? Ha, what foreboding! They say that those horrible creatures -

RUTHVEN

Quiet! Carry out my request!

EDGAR

So it is true what I was told in London? Monster! You are a v -

RUTHVEN

Stop, unfortunate one, don't finish! In that hour, as I saved your life, you promised to do for me what I would ask you. Now then, fulfill now what I am asking you for. But promise me first that everything you know about me or what you still might learn about me, or what you may only sense, to keep to yourself.

EDGAR (HESITANT)

RUTHVEN

Only twenty four hours.

EDGAR

Ruthven!

RUTHVEN

Swear! Swear by everything which you hold holy, by your soul's salvation!

EDGAR

You were the savior of my life - alas - I swear.

RUTHVEN

And cursed you shall be into the abyss of hell, all the punishment of perjury shall weigh upon your soul if you break your oath! Cursed shall you be and whoever is a member of your family! Cursed shall be whomever you love and who loves you! Swear it!

EDGAR

I swear! Horrible!

**[D-1, T-6]** NO. 5 INTERLUDE

DIALOGUE (CUT)

RUTHVEN

Ah! - Well, now I will await my fate calmly. - Guide me up there.

(RUTHVEN GETS UP LABORIOUSLY WITH EDGAR”S HELP - HE SLOWLY GUIDES RUTHVEN TO THE ROCKS ABOVE THE CAVE, AND HELPS HIM TO LIE DOWN SO THE RAYS OF THE MOON SHINE ON HIS FACE – EDGAR FLEES IN TERROR TOWARDS THE LEFT)

(RUTHVEN'S FACE STARTS STIRRING - HE SITS UP BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE BY THE RAYS OF THE MOONLIGHT)

**SCENE 2**

(HALL IN DAVENAUT CASTLE – MALWINA DAVENAUT ALONE)

**[D-1, T-7]** NO. 6 SCENE AND ARIA

MALWINA

Cheerfully the golden spring sun smiles over the colorful, newborn field.

Ah, everything I see is only a reflection of a bliss my heart never divined!

(FULL OF JOYOUS FEELINGS BUT WITHOUT PASSION)

The fields in their colorful outfits,

The tree dressed up in its fragrant flower dress,

The chorus of birds, which sounds all around me and exalts to heaven,

Ah, everything rejoices and shares my happiness!

Today it surges in me,

Yes, today it reverberates from outside!

Yes, today the beloved will come back! -

Swing you too, my loving heart,

Glowing with joy skywards,

And in the urge of pleasure and joy,

Beat your creator praise and thanks!

Quiet! Who is nearing the gate?

He is looking up, it is his glance!

It is he, Edgar! It is he! -

Ah, forgive my sin,

When drunk with joy

I don't find words of thanks

In the excess of joy.

(HURRIES OUT TOWARDS EDGAR AND THEN BOTH APPROACH IN JOYOUS HASTE)

**[D-1, T-8]** No. 7 DUET

EDGAR AND MALWINA

It's you, it's you, it is no dream,

Ah, this happiness, I can hardly grasp.

Is it really you? Am I seeing you again?

The joy of heaven pours down on me.

DIALOGUE (CUT)

MALWINA

Already early in the morning you are here?

EDGAR

To be the first to congratulate you on your birthday.

MALWINA

O, Edgar, I am so happy. Since some time ago my father has been talking about you with respect. Since the time that you closed the business deal for him in London against all expectations successfully, he doesn't see in you anymore the unimportant man of whom he always took you. Just a few days ago he told me, "What a pity that I don't have a son like him who would be able to preserve the splendor of the House of Davenaut!"

EDGAR

Ah, Malwina, I just see in that the worry about the splendor of his house. Only the fact that I am a distant relative makes me worthy in his eyes. Believe me, he will never give me the hand of his only daughter in marriage.

MALWINA

No, don't be afraid, I believe he has a hunch about our love and approves. Often his eyes rest significantly on me like he is waiting for my confession! After he received your message that the large estate will be his undisputed property, the otherwise very strict father kissed my forehead and told me moved and full of love, "To see you happy, my daughter, is now my only worry!"

EDGAR

Ah, just status and wealth are his happiness, and I myself have increased the obstacles, which will forever separate me from you.

MALWINA

O, don't cloud with your doubts my glad hopes. This very day, on my birthday, on which my father promised the fulfillment of any request, I will reveal to him the secret of our love. - Quiet, he is coming!

(SIR HUMPHREY, LAIRD OF DAVENAUT, ENTERS FROM THE RIGHT REAR DOOR)

MALWINA

(RUSHES TOWARDS HUMPHREY)

Father! Father! Edgar is back!

HUMPHREY

Sir Aubry, a hearty welcome!

(SHAKES AUBRY'S HAND)

You performed an important task for the Davenauts. But what you did honors yourself! Because you, too, belong to a branch of this noble house and the greater the splendor and wealth of the Laird, the more fame and honor for all the members of the house. Accept my thanks and your happiness shall henceforth be the concern of your father.

EDGAR

Sir, this kindness - !

MALWINA

O, my father!

HUMPHREY

My daughter! It is true that often I have grumbled that a son was not born to me, that the name of Davenaut, since centuries one of the noblest in Scotland, would die with me. Let me embrace you, dear daughter! The day, which brought you to me eighteen years ago, it gives to me today through you a son, worthy of my house, worthy of your love.

MALWINA

My father!

HUMPHREY

I have noticed before what your mouth concealed. I guessed your wish, and I anticipated your request, I greet you as bride.

MALWINA

My father, this kindness!

HUMPHREY

You are standing apart from us, Sir Aubry? Don't you want to share our joy?

EDGAR

(RUSHES HAPPILY TOWARDS HUMPHREY)

Is it possible? May I hope?

HUMPHREY

Do you believe I want to stay in your debt? I promised to take care of your happiness. The name of my son-in-law, it is your guarantee that he will always act like I would: it is the Earl of Marsden!

**[D-1, T-9]** NO. 8 TRIO

MALWINA

What, my father!

EDGAR

Woe, I have lost!

HUMPHREY

Yes, it is the Earl of Marsden,

Whom I choose as my son.

MALWINA AND EDGAR

What, who is it? The Earl of Marsden?

HUMPHREY

Ha, they seem to like my choice.

EDGAR AND MALWINA (TO THE SIDE)

Ah, my good luck was just a dream,

Did it need to leave me so quickly?

Woe, this misfortune to fathom,

My poor heart doesn't have enough space!

HUMPHREY (TO HIMSELF)

Ha, they seem to like my choice!

Yes, he is through rank and nobility,

As well as manners without fault,

Worth to be a Davenaut!

MALWINA

Look at me, down at your feet;

Father, can you forgive me?

Father, alas, to the Earl of Marsden

I could never be a wife!

HUMPHREY

What am I hearing!

Ha, is it possible!

MALWINA

This heart -

HUMPHREY

What?

MALWINA

Has already chosen.

HUMPHREY

Ha! Is it possible!

MALWINA

Alas, I feel, I did wrong,

That I concealed it until now.

HUMPHREY

Who is the audacious one? Speak!

EDGAR

The audacious one, sir, is I!

HUMPHREY

Ha, I hardly can take hold of myself out of anger!

How, depraved one! Can you dare,

To tell me this to my face?

EDGAR

Alas, since the days of my childhood

This heart beat for her,

To make your daughter happy

Is my only desire!

HUMPHREY

Away, you implore in vain, away! -

MALWINA (IMPLORING)

Alas, since the days of my childhood

This heart beat for him,

Take pity on your daughter

Only with him can I be happy!

HUMPHREY

Away, you implore in vain, away,

Because I gave the Earl my word.

And never was broken,

What a Davenaut promised!

(GEORGE DIBDIN, HUMPHREY’S SERVANT, ENTERS AND ANNOUNCES RUTHVEN)

GEORGE

Sir, the Earl of Marsden

Just came riding through the gate,

And the lively youths of the village

Are nearing, singing a merry chorus,

To greet your daughter

Today on her birthday.

HUMPHREY

Lead the merry guests

Into the hall to my daughter.

(HE LEAVES)

**[D-1, T-10]** NO. 9 FINALE

CHORUS OF THE PEASANTS AND GUESTS

Flowers and blossoms in zephyr caress,

Lovely unfolded from the adulating west,

Flower of the highlands, you Davenaut rose,

Wind we for you on today's feast!

May the future strew the happiest destiny,

Like roses, on your path of life,

Flower of the highlands, you Davenaut rose,

Today we dedicate the flowers and blossoms to you.

GEORGE

Look, there comes the son-in-law

Held by the hand of the old squire,

Start the song, you know the one,

Which the old one likes to hear!

(HUMPHREY APPEARS IN THE REAR WITH RUTHVEN)

CHORUS

Sing loud and rejoice,

That it rings throughout the land:

Hail, hail to the House of Davenaut,

Hail to anyone who is related to it,

Which stands strong like our mountains,

Which will go down only with the rest of the world,

Which luster does not give way to the crown,

Which is as bright and shiny as the sun,

Sing loud and rejoice,

That it rings throughout the land.

Hail, hail to the House of Davenaut,

Hail to anyone who is related to it.

(HUMPHREY AND RUTHVEN STEP UP)

**[D-1, T-11]**

HUMPHREY

Here, Malwina, is the man

Whom I think worthy of you,

Worthy of the House of Davenaut.

RUTHVEN

Your choice indeed makes me happy!

But I shall count myself truly happy only

When my lady’s eyes smile friendly at me.

MALWINA (WITHOUT LOOKING AT HIM)

Esteemed sir!

( LOOKS AT HIM)

Ha! - woe is me!

EGAR

God, whom do I see!

HUMPHREY

Unbelievable!

EDGAR

Do I see right - you are - Lord Ruthven?

RUTHVEN (CALMLY)

No, sir! Ruthven is my brother,

Who has been traveling for years

On the continent.

I would be glad to find out,

What you might know about him.

EDGAR (CONFUSED)

What do I know? - he was today -

RUTHVEN

Well?

EDGAR

Woe - no, sir, I know nothing -

Striking is the resemblance of his - your face.

Cutting, like a poison arrow

Flashes his glance through my soul,

This resemblance to his brother,

Forebodes nothing good.

RUTHVEN

Cutting, like a poison arrow

Flashes his glance through my soul,

Ha, to find that dreamer here,

Forebodes nothing good.

HUMPHREY

Cutting, like a poison arrow

Flashes his glance through her soul,

To offend his pride like that,

Forebodes nothing good.

MALWINA

Cutting, like a poison arrow

Flashes his glance through my soul,

That my heart trembles before him,

That forebodes nothing good.

CHORUS

Cutting, like a poison arrow

Flashes his glance through her soul,

That her heart trembles before him,

That forebodes nothing good.

HUMPHREY

Well, Malwina, is that the custom?

Don't you know to receive your bridegroom in a friendlier manner?

RUTHVEN (TO HUMPHREY)

Leave her, venerable sir, I beg you.

MALWINA

Sir, I don't know how it came to be,

That a horrible strange fear -

RUTHVEN

Beautiful lady, o pardon me!

Like the youthful rose smiles,

Which blooms solitary by the wayside,

That is how my innermost mind

Delighted in seeing you;

I will hope, that time

Will be able to make you endure

My poor looks.

EDGAR (TO HIMSELF)

No, my eyes are not deceiving me,

The way he laughs and talks,

All of it shows me clearly,

It is Ruthven, the vampire!

(TO RUTHVEN)

Sir, just two words, please!

Horrible one, I recognized you!

Here is the scar on your hand!

Unfortunate one, how do you dare,

To look at her,

Horrible monster of nature!

RUTHVEN

Quiet! Remember your oath!

**[D-1, T-12]**

HUMPHREY

The pastor has been asked,

The guests are invited,

Prepare everything for the joyful wedding,

Before midnight passes,

You will be forever his.

MALWINA (BESIDE HERSELF)

Ah, my father!

EDGAR

I beg you!

MALWINA

Ah, this rush, grant me a delay,

For a few days I am asking!

HUMPHREY

Be silent!

EDGAR

Sir, delay it just 'til tomorrow!

HUMPHREY

No, impossible!

MALWINA

Ah, my father!

EDGAR

Well, so know -

RUTHVEN

Quiet! Remember your oath!

HUMPHREY

Still today, I gave my word,

The Earl has to leave tomorrow!

It is well known, that he was

Made an envoy to Madrid,

He cannot lose time.

EDGAR

Let him just stay 'til tomorrow.

Sir, don't be so stubborn.

Ah, postpone just 'til tomorrow,

And you save your child!

RUTHVEN

Quiet! Remember your oath!

EDGAR

Ha, I hardly can contain my rage!

But my oath holds me captive

Woe is me, his pale cheeks

Languish already for her blood.

RUTHVEN

I laugh at his rage,

Because his oath holds him captive.

Girl, with your blushing cheeks,

Soon your sweet blood will be mine.

Voices of ghosts, which surround me,

Shouting with joy, “Tthe deed must succeed!”

HUMPHREY

(STEPPING BACK TOWARDS GUESTS AND PEASANTS)

I invite all of you to the feast,

Everyone shall rejoice and be cheerful!

Because still today, I swear aloud,

Marsden will lead the bride to the altar.

You may tell everyone,

That Marsden and Davenaut unite.

CHORUS

Sing loud and rejoice,

That it rings throughout the land:

Hail to the House of Davenaut,

Hail to anyone who is related to it!

EDGAR, HUMPHREY, MALWINA AND RUTHVEN

Terribly urgent the time is pressing,

And I am far from my goal,

But I am not going to tremble!

EDGAR, HUMPHREY AND MALWINA

The one who believes in his own strength,

And banks on God's help,

Nothing can move him!

RUTHVEN

The one who believes in his own strength,

Who has seen the might of hell,

Nothing can move him!

EDGAR, HUMPHREY AND MALWINA

May the clouds gather,

May it roar and bluster,

Nothing shall move me!

With the calamities nearness

His courage increases sky-high,

While the elements bluster

He raises his eyes upwards.

RUTHVEN (TO HIMSELF)

May the clouds gather,

May it roar and bluster,

May the dark night cover the future,

And fate sneer at us teasingly,

Who has seen the might of hell,

Is familiar with horror,

Nothing can move him!

EDGAR, HUMPHREYAND MALWINA

When lightning flashes, when it crashes,

He sees only the might of heaven,

Laughs at thunderstorms.

RUTHVEN

With the calamities' nearness

My courage increases sky-high,

Sneeringly I look up!

When lightning flashes, when it crashes,

I am glad about the might of the evil one!

With the calamities nearness,

My courage increases sky-high,

Sneeringly I look up!

In the bluster of the elements!

**CD 2** [66:49]

**ACT II**

**SCENE 1**

(SQUARE IN FRONT OF MARSDEN CASTLE WITH TABLES AND ARBORS – WEDDING – JOHN PERTH, RUTHVEN’S SUPERINTENDANT, ACTING AS HOST AMONG THE GUESTS - LATER TOMS BLUNT, HIS WIFE SUSE, JAMES GADSHILL, ROBERT GREEN, RICHARD SCROP AND EMMY PERTH ENTER)

**[D-2, T-1]** NO. 10 CHORUS

CHORUS OF DRINKERS

Be merry, dear drinkers, be merry,

Delicious is the wine!

Look, the sun is already setting,

Let us be industrious!

Ah, the day finds soon its end

And there is still so much wine,

Therefore drink a lot!

CHORUS OF DANCERS

Do you hear the violins,

Do you see the dance

Cheerfully and merrily go on?

Hurry to the dance

To joyfully turn in the round dance of the youth!

Banish your worries!

Today and tomorrow

Joy is smiling and no danger is threatening.

Use the hours,

Before they disappear,

So that your youth was not without joy.

When you are older

More stiff and colder,

Life is pressing on you, troublesome and heavy;

Then, alas, you folks,

Unfortunately it isn't anymore as today,

O no, unfortunately not anymore.

Always agile, never ending,

The circle turns now this way and that way.

Lively, just lively,

Curly and more colorful,

This way and that way,

From one side to the other.

CHORUS OF DRINKERS (MEN ONLY)

May the young folks rock

In a fast dance.

Drinking is also fun

Here in the evenings glow!

Even so we are too old to dance,

Just drink, and soon

Everything will turn around you!

ALL

Yippee! That is cheerfulness,

Everyone swims in blissfulness,

Everyone jubilates and revels,

Everyone blusters and everyone is noisy,

Everyone shouts with joy:

That's the way to celebrate a wedding!

Yippee!

DIALOGUE (CUT)

JAMES

But where are the bride and bridegroom?

TOMS

Yes, where are they, the bride and bridegroom?

RICHARD

Are we supposed to celebrate the wedding without bride and bridegroom?

TOMS

I never celebrated a wedding without bride and bridegroom.

JOHN

The bridegroom must be late at Davenaut. My daughter went to meet him.

SUSE

There she is coming. Well, Toms, be careful and don't drink again too much!

TOMS

Suse, you are right! Many times I have drunk too much, but never enough, never enough!

(EMMY, JOHN PERTH”S DAUGHTER, ENTERS)

JOHN

What is it, you look so sad, Emmy? A bride is supposed to be cheerful.

TOMS

Yes, a bride is supposed to have a happy face! Do you remember, Suse, when you were a bride -

SUSE

Be quiet! Do you always have to talk!

TOMS

Yes, if I am not supposed to talk, then I have to drink!

JOHN

Well, Emmy, what's going on?

**[D-2, T-2]** NO. 11 SONG

EMMY

Over there on that cliff

I was looking,

To see if I would see George;

Mountain and valley were glowing

In the evening suns rays,

But he was nowhere to be seen!

When at the merry wedding

The groom keeps me waiting!

Shouldn't that make me sad?

Over there in the shrubs

The nightingale lures with beautiful song,

And he is still far;

Through the green branches of the trees

Looms the full moon;

Quietly the stars are flickering!

Everything shows that evening is here,

And still the bridegroom is missing:

Shouldn't that make me sad?

DIALOGUE (CUT)

JOHN

Well now, he will be coming! You know today was the ladies birthday, and therefore the poor chap probably couldn't get away on time.

EMMY

I would like to be such a distinguished lady, father, then George would probably not let me wait.

TOMS

He will be coming, I tell you. A bride is like a full bottle, one doesn't forget her.

ROBERT (WHO’S BEEN SPEAKING SOFTLY WITH RICHARD)

Yes, yes, like I am telling you, neighbor, last night!

RICHARD

That would be horrible!

JOHN

Well, what's going on here?

RICHARD

Green is saying that the daughter of the rich Berkley, three hours away from Davenaut, was murdered last night by a vampire.

ALL

What? What are you saying? A vampire?

ROBERT

Nothing else; I was there this morning. The daughter was a bride, today was supposed to be the wedding. During the night, at midnight, the father was missing his daughter. Everyone went looking for her! Finally they found her in the vampire cave.

EMMY

That poor girl!

CHORUS (GIRLS ONLY)

Have they found the vampire?

ROBERT

Certainly, the father stabbed him to death.

CHORUS (GIRLS ONLY)

Thank God!

ROBERT

Yes, what good does it do, such a creature is impossible to kill! You stab it to death today, tomorrow it's alive again!

RICHARD (TO ROBERT)

Have you ever seen a vampire?

ROBERT

No, thank God! But I was told they look deadly pale and take their victims during moonlight because it gives them strength and special protection.

EMMY

My dear departed mother often told me an old tale about a vampire.

CHORUS (GIRLS ONLY)

Ah, let us hear it, let us hear it.

RICHARD

But it is already dark!

ROBERT

So much the better! Those stories are the best when told in the dark.

**[D-2, T-3]** NO. 12 ROMANCE

EMMY

Look, mother, there that pale man with a soulless look. Child, don't look at the pale man, or soon he will do you in.

Move away from him!

Already many girls, young and beautiful,

Looked too deeply into his eyes,

And paid for it with bitter agony

And their blood!

I tell you quietly and secretly:

That pale man is a vampire!

May God protect us in this world,

Not to be like him!

CHORUS

Quietly and secretly I am telling you:

That pale man is a vampire!

May God protect us in this world,

Not to be like him!

EMMY

He smiles at me, that pale man,

And cheerful becomes his glance.

Child, are you still looking at him?

Woe is me, you are done for.

Move quickly away from him!

His first glance, with pain of death,

Flashed through your pious heart,

Ah, let that warn you,

Otherwise he will ensnare you!

For quietly and secretly I am telling you:

That pale man is a vampire!

May God protect us in this world,

Not to be like him!

CHORUS

Quietly and secretly I am telling you:

That pale man is a vampire!

May God protect us in this world,

Not to be like him!

EMMY

The girl followed the pale man,

His glance lured her.

She did not take heed of her mother's warning,

And soon she was done in,

She never returned!

A victim to his lust,

With bloody marks on her neck and chest

Her body was found;

She descended into hell!

Now she herself, believe me,

Walks around as a horrible vampire!

May God protect us in this world,

Not to be like her!

CHORUS

Now she herself, believe me,

Walks around as a horrible vampire!

May God protect us in this world,

Not to be like her!

RUTHVEN (APPEARS WITH GEORGE AND STANDS AMONG THE PEOPLE)

DIALOGUE (CUT)

RUTHVEN

Good evening!

GIRLS (STARTLED WITH A CRY OF FRIGHT)

Ha!

EMMY

Almighty!

RUTHVEN

Is John Perth here?

JOHN

Here I am, at your order.

RUTHVEN

You don't recognize me?

JOHN

Ah, is it you milord? Of course I recognize you. You are the brother of our dead master and now the Earl of Marsden. A hearty welcome to your estate; we thought you were still traveling.

RUTHVEN

I can stay only a few hours, some business brought me here to Davenaut. There I heard about your daughter’s marriage. Your loyal duty to my estate requires my thankfulness. I want the wedding to be celebrated at my expense and as splendidly as possible. Consider the estate cellar today as your own.

ALL (EXCLAIMING)

That is a noble sir! Cheer him! Long live the noble sir! Three cheers!

RUTHVEN (TO JOHN)

Light up the great hall right away, - There I want to wind the myrtle wreath into the brides hair.

(MOST OF THE CHORUS LEAVES)

EMMY

So you came on my account, gracious sir?

RUTHVEN

Is that your daughter, John?

JOHN

Yes, gracious sir, my daughter Emmy.

RUTHVEN

Of course I came on your account, beautiful Emmy.

EMMY

Alas, forgive me, gracious sir, that I was so startled when I saw you, but we just had told a horrible tale when you came unexpectedly.

RUTHVEN

(TAKES A RING OFF HIS FINGER)

Here, take this ring as compensation for the scare I caused you.

(PUTS THE RING ON HER FINGER.)

EMMY

What, gracious sir, you are giving me this precious ring?

RUTHVEN

As a wedding guest I am obliged to give you a present! Besides that I will give you a dowry and if you want your future husband can work on my estate.

EMMY

Gracious sir, so much kindness -

RUTHVEN (TO SOME OF THE CHORUS)

Go now, dear folks, get the hall ready.

RUTHVEN (TO ROBERT)

In the meantime I am going to talk to Emmy about her future. Call me when everything is ready so I start the dance with the beautiful Emmy.

(ALL LEAVE EXCEPT EMMY, GEORGE, WHO REMAINS OUTSIDE, AND RUTHVEN)

EMMY

Alas, gracious sir, with what have I earned so much kindness?

RUTHVEN

Through your beauty, dear Emmy, which made me like you at first sight and through your kindness which draws me near you.

**[D-2, T-4]** NO. 13 TRIO

EMMY

You just want to put me to shame,

I am not that conceited,

To take seriously,

What you are saying.

RUTHVEN

No, dear, sweet little one,

Believe me, I am not joking;

It is only your beauty,

Which captivates me.

GEORGE (TO HIMSELF)

O God, what do I see!

They are very intimate!

Can I trust my eyes,

Is that not my bride?

RUTHVEN

What bliss without equal,

Softly to caress your cheek,

To squeeze your soft hand,

Lovingly to look into your eyes,

To put my arm around you,

To press you to my chest!

Alas, what sacrifice I would make,

If you would grant me this pleasure!

EMMY (TENDERLY WARDING HIM OFF)

You just want to put me to shame,

I am not that conceited, to take seriously,

What you are saying.

GEORGE (TO HIMSELF)

Damn, what do I see,

Now he is squeezing her hand,

And she lets him,

That is quite charming.

RUTHVEN

I should almost scold you,

I have done so much for you,

And you don't want to reward me,

Tell me, is that not cruel?

EMMY

You want to lay the foundation for my happiness,

I can see that!

Alas, I don't find words, to tell you my thanks!

RUTHVEN

For my endeavor

You can give me the greatest reward!

A single kiss from you,

Means more to me than money!

GEORGE

A kiss! What do I hear!

EMMY

What? A kiss?

GEORGE

He wants to kiss her? What?

EMMY

What? A kiss? You just want to put me to shame,

I am not that conceited,

To take seriously,

What you are saying.

RUTHVEN

No, dear, sweet little one,

Believe me, I am not joking,

It is only your beauty,

Which captivates me.

(HE KISSES EMMY - THEN TO HIMSELF)

So, now she fell for me,

And the goal is not far,

Haha!

EMMY (TO HERSELF)

To be liked by such a gentleman,

Is no small thing!

Should that not make me vain?

RUTHVEN

Now, she fell for me!

Ha, I hear hell laughing!

GEORGE (TO HIMSELF)

What, she lets him do that?

Ha, by God, he goes too far!

Should that not enrage me?

(HE STEPS INSIDE)

Good evening, my dear.

RUTHVEN

Indeed, see there, the bridegroom!

EMMY

Are you finally coming to the celebration?

GEORGE

Yes, and high time it was that I came.

EMMY

Our new master wants to

Make you Estate Supervisor.

GEORGE

Yes, I can see that, nice affair,

And himself he makes as owner.

RUTHVEN

Jealous? What a laugh!

Poor wretch, I feel sorry for you!

EMMY

Jealous on the first day!

Now really, that is too early!

GEORGE (TO HIMSELF)

Yes, she is right, the old tale:

Women you can trust, but cats never!

RUTHVEN (TO EMMY)

Well, I'm leaving, lovers

Like to be by themselves!

But don't forget, that today

You have to dance with me. -

Ha, my heart quivers with joy,

Now I have my third victim!

You, who are unseen around me,

Rejoice! Soon she will be yours!

(RUTHVEN LEAVES)

EMMY

My heart wavers between fear and love,

And I feel good and bad;

A mysterious urge

Draws me to that stranger!

GEORGE

Like when malicious ghosts hang around,

I'm overcome with a sinister feeling!

A cold horror grips me,

Woe is me! This is not going to end well!

DIALOGUE (CUT)

GEORGE

He is leaving! Now I feel better!

EMMY

You know, George, it is not nice of you that you came so late today.

GEORGE

So, that is just right that you reproach me! But that is a nice thing for you to do, to flirt with a strange young man, that he squeezes your hand, embraces you and at the end even kisses you? Is it not so, that is nice?

EMMY

Ah, that was our new gracious Lord! And he will take care of us!

(SHOWS GEORGE THE RING ON HER FINGER)

Look at the precious ring which he gave me. He is so good, so kind, so ---

GEORGE

Well, just come out with it: so nice, so kind, that compared to him I'm just a blockhead.

EMMY

How you carry on. I'm just nice to him on account of you, so he'll give you a good position.

GEORGE (IRONICALLY)

So? On account of me? Do you think I didn't notice how you looked at him?

(POINTS TO HIS PISTOL)

Do you see the pistol here? I brought it along because I was told the road was not safe. With it I'll shoot myself if you look again at him like that.

EMMY

Don't be so upset, dear George, he is leaving today and who knows if I ever will see him again.

GEORGE

Yes, he has to go back today to Davenaut because he is marrying the young lady. But she is not like you. She loves the young Mr. Aubry and she was not that friendly towards the young Earl. With tears in her eyes she begged her father to let the young lord go away.

EMMY

So he is going to marry the young lady?

GEORGE

Yes, you don't seem to like it? You yourself could become a lady, right? That is your greatest wish! O I'm a fool! To bring you joy, because I know how much you like it that our wedding is fancy, I asked the gracious lord to come here. He must have had a hunch that you would be so friendly to him. I hardly had told him about the wedding, when he jumped up, had his horse saddled, hardly took leave from our old lord and came galloping here. I panted behind to have the pleasure to see him kissing my bride.

(EDGAR ENTERS)

EDGAR

Good evening, George. Is the Earl here?

GEORGE

Yes, the gracious Sir is in the hall.

EDGAR

Please ask him to come right away to me.

GEORGE

I'm going.

EMMY

I'm going with you to the hall.

(EMMY AND GEORGE EXIT LEAVING EDGAR ALONE)

EDGAR

I have to save her, even if it costs my life! If my entreaties cannot move him to give up his plan, I will hurry back to the old Laird to break my terrible oath and tell him the horrible secret, come what may.

(RUTHVEN ENTERS)

RUTHVEN

What, Sir Aubry, you here

EDGAR

Yes, I will follow you everywhere and watch your steps and will beg you to give up the horrible thought; everywhere I will stand up against you to take away with force your victim, Ruthven. I love Malwina and she loves me, too! Leave her alone, don't kill the happiness of two people. I beg you, get away from her, I will ask the Lord to have mercy on you - and the knowledge of this one good deed will be like saving grace for you in the hour of reckoning!

RUTHVEN

Don't waste words. My terrible fate is driving me. Be angry, rage, and rave against the cycle of nature! Can you make it stand still? Ha, I would thank you on my knees! Stay away from me.

**[D-2, T-5]** No. 14 GREAT SCENE (DUET)

EDGAR

All right, you are forcing me to commit the crime,

To break my oath,

God in heaven will forgive me!

If I am able to achieve that you get away from her,

The sin is small indeed.

RUTHVEN

If you stumble on the straight path,

You will fall to the evil might,

Even if the fault seems small;

If they win you,

They spin their web around you,

And hell doesn't let you go.

EDGAR

I will be happy

To endure tortures;

What worse can happen?

Does it give a worse crime,

Than to see the dearly beloved die,

And die so horribly!

RUTHVEN

You think so? Ha, just try it!

And with horror you will see,

What can be worse.

Do you think that nature

Meant me to be this

At my birth?

Then go, betray me!

You will be a perjurer,

And with sweet triumph

You will marry your beloved;

You'll be a husband, then a father,

And a happy man!

But the time will come,

When your soul will be torn from you,

By a thousand viper bites;

She has to step up to the Lord, afraid,

And he says,:

"Repentance does not atone for perjury;

You have to go back with horror

Into the house you just left."

Now you go around, a horrible corpse,

Destined to nourish yourself from the blood of those,

Who love you the most and honor you;

In your heart you have burning ardor.

By your life you had to swear:

Who lives through you, is lost through you;

The blood of the wife, the sons, the daughters,

First it calms your terrible anger,

And before their end they know you

And curse you - and curse themselves!

But what on earth was your most dearest,

A lovely girl with curly hair

Puts beggingly her little hands around you.

The tears are coming into her eyes.

She says: father, spare me,

On earth I will pray for you!

You look into her innocent pure face,

You would like to spare her, but can't!

The devil teases you, anger drives you.

You have to suck it, the precious blood!

So you live, until you go to hell,

To which you belong forever;

Even there the band of depraved

Shy away from you in terror:

Because compared to you they are pure,

And the damned one is you alone! -

(EDGAR LOOKS AT HIM IN TERROR)

RUTHVEN

You stare? You stand before me in terror?

Haha! I pictured nature,

I told you my own story.

Now go! - break your oath!

(RUTHVEN EXITS LEAVING EDGAR ALONE)

EDGAR

Ha, how that horrible picture

Fills me with terror:

No consolation, no way out I see.

She is lost! Woe is me!

**[D-2, T-6]** NO. 15 ARIA

EDGAR

Like a beautiful spring morning,

Life was before me.

All my wishes, all my thoughts

Were a cheerful look from her.

Field and forest just seemed to live

To mirror her.

And with sweet sounds

Just to sing of her.

Her beautiful face

Smiled from every flower,

From the sunsets gold,

From the stars shine,

Zephyr seemed to caress her.

Only of her sang spring and tree,

And sleeping under roses,

The dream dreamt of her. -

But now, darkness surrounds me,

I despair of God's might;

Only calamity bringing demons

Seem to be around.

Sneeringly they triumph,

What I wanted to start

Has to lead to ruin. -

And above all, what threatens me,

Is the least terrible:

Madness! Madness, or death!

(EDGAR LEAVES - RUTHVEN AND EMMY ENTER EMBRACING EACH OTHER)

**[D-2, T-7]** NO. 16 DUET

RUTHVEN

Let's go quietly to the arbor over there,

Where we will be undisturbed.

EMMY

Gracious sir, I think someone is coming -

RUTHVEN

No, dear sweet child!

EMMY

Yes, yes, someone is coming!

RUTHVEN

Just follow me a few steps -

EMMY

Gracious sir! No, I beg you -

George will miss me in the hall!

RUTHVEN

Frightened little fool, let me kiss you!

EMMY

No, ah, let me go back,

Gracious sir, ah, spare me!

If George would see me with you,

He would never forgive me.

RUTHVEN

Do I have to lament still longer?

Does my begging not move you!

Will your eye never tell me,

That your little heart beats for me?

EMMY (TO HERSELF)

Alas, I feel like with a thousand strings,

My whole heart hangs on him.

RUTHVEN (TO HIMSELF)

For a long time she has resisted me,

But now she gives way to impetuosity.

Come now, come, my sweet life!

Lovely light of my eyes!

EMMY

I am not able to withstand

Him much longer.

RUTHVEN

Now then, come only a few more steps -

EMMY

Now then, ah, gracious sir, I beg -

RUTHVEN

Sweet girl, follow me!

EMMY

Gracious sir!

RUTHVEN

O follow me!

EMMY

Alas, I tremble!

RUTHVEN

Follow me!

Are you going to be much longer cruel?

EMMY

Cruel against you? Ah, no!

RUTHVEN

Follow me!

EMMY

All right, so be it! I follow you!

(SHE SINKS ONTO HIS CHEST)

EMMY & RUTHVEN

Softly, softly in the moonshine,

Quietly and secretly we are going forth

Towards the discreet place;

You are mine, I am yours forever!

Moon and stars may listen,

How we exchange soul for soul,

And intoxicate us with love.

(THEY GO TO THE ARBOR - JAMES, RICHARD, ROBERT & TOMS ENTER)

DIALOGUE (CUT)

TOMS

Come here, here we will be undisturbed.

RICHARD

The hall is so hot.

ROBERT

And so much noise that we can't even drink in peace.

JAMES

Here it is comfortably cool and the clear moonlight -

TOMS

Alas, brother, the world is so beautiful!

Do you have a bottle with you?

JAMES

(PULLS A BOTTLE OUT OF HIS POCKET)

That is understood!

RICHARD

(PULLS A BOTTLE OUT OF HIS POCKET)

Me too!

ROBERT

(PULLS A BOTTLE OUT OF HIS POCKET)

Me too!

JOHN

(PULLS A BOTTLE OUT OF HIS POCKET)

Look, I have two in my pocket; because drinking, brother, see, drinking is the thing, you see drinking! It gives many comforts in the world, but only three main pleasures.

JAMES

Ah, I know what you mean: Wine, Women and Song.

TOMS

You are a good Christian, but you are not correct. You see, brother, the first is: drinking! And the second is: drinking! And the third is: drinking!

(ALL LAUGH)

TOMS

Hahaha! Isn't it so, am I right? Because see: singing? Singing is nice, I sing myself, but one can't always sing, one gets tired of it. And women? O yes! O yes! - but - well, we won't talk about it, me and my Suse know about it. But drinking? You see, drinking, that it: drinking!

JAMES, RICHARD, ROBERT AND TOMS

Yes, brother, you are right, brother!

**[D-2, T-8]** NO. 17 DRINKING SONG

TOMS

In fall one needs to drink!

JAMES, RICHARD, ROBERT AND TOMS

In fall one should drink!

That is the right time;

That's when the blood of the grape ripens,

And the wine tastes so good;

In fall one should drink.

TOMS

In winter one should drink!

JAMES, RICHARD, ROBERT AND TOMS

In winter one should drink!

In winter it is cold;

The blood of the grape warms us then

And the wine tastes so good;

In winter one should drink!

TOMS

In summer one should drink!

JAMES, RICHARD, ROBERT AND TOMS

In summer one should drink!

In summer it is hot,

The blood of the grape cools us

And the wine tastes so good,

In summer one should drink!

TOMS

In spring one should drink!

JAMES, RICHARD, ROBERT AND TOMS

In spring one should drink!

Then it's not hot or cold!

Then the blood of the grape refreshes us,

Then the wine tastes twice as good;

In spring one should drink!

Yippee! That is cheerfulness,

Everyone swims in blissfulness,

Everyone shouts with joy,

That's the way to celebrate a wedding!

Yippee!

(SUSE HURRIES IN)

**[D-2, T-9]**

QUINTET WITH CHORUS

SUSE

Finally, old man, I'm finding you!

TOMS

Suse, yes, I am the one.

SUSE

For a long time I have been looking for you,

Nowhere were you to be found.

I swore and cursed,

God forgive my sins!

Here with your drinking pals

I finally find you!

O you dishonorable man,

You are coming with me right away!

TOMS

Dear little wife don't look at me askance,

Alas, I am as merry as a cricket.

JAMES, RICHARD AND ROBERT

Woman, why do you look askance at us,

Today is the wedding feast.

SUSE

Quiet! - quiet, before my gallbladder swells!

If you dare to make a sound,

I will tell each one of you,

Who he is and of what value he is.

TOMS

O dear!

SUSE

Robert Green! You are known

Throughout the land

As a bad husband.

Who now and then

Likes to look at other women

And gambles and drinks.

You, toms, are an old fool!

Who never did and never will amount to anything,

Gambler, glutton, barfly!

Scrop here is identical!

You, James Gadshill, you are a moron,

To make it short, all of you are worthless!

TOMS

Dear Suse, don't fight,

Look, I am full of bliss!

SUSE

Yes, I am telling all of you,

Every single one is worthless!

JAMES, RICHARD AND ROBERT

Quiet! No, by God, that is too much!

(TO BLUNT)

Tell her to be quiet.

TOMS

Suse, leave us in peace!

Drink a little! I'll give some to you!

SUSE

What? What was that? I'm supposed to be quiet?

JAMES, RICHARD AND ROBERT

Yes, we don't want to hear you anymore.

SUSE

Who wants to shut me up?

JAMES, RICHARD AND ROBERT

Alas, we don't want to hear you anymore!

SUSE

No, no, no, no!

Now I'm going to shout even louder!

TOMS

Suse, leave us in peace!

SUSE

No, no, no, no, no, no!

JAMES, RICHARD AND ROBERT

Quiet now! Let her be quiet!

SUSE

I don't want to be quiet!

Just wait, I'll show you

That I can and want to speak!

Did you not like what I said?

Well then, just to spite you,

I'll start all over!

Robert Green, you are known

Throughout the land

As a bad husband!

JAMES, RICHARD AND ROBERT

Has that woman totally lost her senses!

SUSE

Who now and then

Likes to look at other women

And gambles and drinks.

JAMES, RICHARD AND ROBERT (TO TOMS)

Neighbor, say, what are you going to do?

SUSE

You, Toms, are an old fool,

Who never did and never will amount to anything,

A loose boozer,

Gambler, glutton, barfly,

Who never did and never will amount to anything

Than a loose boozer!

JAMES, RICHARD AND ROBERT

Has that woman totally lost her senses?

SUSE

Scrop here is identical;

You, James Gadshill, are a moron!

JAMES, RICHARD AND ROBERT

Neighbor, say, what are you going to do?

TOMS

Do like I do and stay calm,

If it gets too bad, laugh about it!

Even so, she is a dear little wife,

Clink your glasses and cheer her!

SUSE

To make it short, all of you are worthless!

JAMES, RICHARD AND ROBERT

Hahahahahahahahahaha!

JAMES, RICHARD, ROBERT AND TOMS

Clink your glasses and cheer her!

(CHORUS APPEARS)

TOMS

Three cheers for her! Three cheers for her!

JAMES, RICHARD AND ROBERT

Hahaha! Hahahahahahaha!

CHORUS

What a noise! What has happened?

Tell us, what is the meaning of it?

No one can hear a word,

Is it serious or fun?

This scolding, this laughing

Confuses all of us!

Do you want to make us crazy?

Woman, finally be quiet!

(A SHOT RINGS OUT)

DIALOGUE (CUT)

ALL OF THE ABOVE

JOHN

Listen - what was that?

ROBERT

It was a shot!

(ANOTHER SHOT IS HEARD FROM LEFT FRONT)

JOHN

And another one! What can that be?

But look - there - George Dibdin is in haste!

(GEORGE ENTERS OUT OF BREATH)

GEORGE (EXCITEDLY)

Ah, friends - ah, ah friends!

JOHN

What has happened - what has happened?

GEORGE

Ah, Emmy was murdered. And I shot the gracious sir!

JOHN

What terrible crime: how did it happen?

GEORGE

Ah, it was terrible to see, as the moon shone upon the pale face. I won't find anymore peace on this earth. The bad deed drives me into the wide world!

(HE RUNS AWAY – EMMY’S CORPSE IS BROUGHT IN)

**SCENE 2**

(SAME HALL IN DAVENAUT CASTLE AS ACT I SCENE 2)

**[D-2, T-10]** NO. 18 CHORUS

Joy and sorrow in this life

Change as quickly as the hours go by!

We were so cheerful and lively,

To unite the bride with her husband.

Alas, now we move heavy and afraid,

To bury her corpse in the tomb!

(EDGAR SITTING BY HIMSELF WITH HIS HEAD BURIED IN HIS HANDS - AFTER AWHILE MALWINA ENTERS DRESSED FOR THE WEDDING AND SINKS EMOTIONALLY INTO HIS ARMA)

DIALOGUE( CUT)

MALWINA

Edgar!

EDGAR

Malwina, you were crying!

MALWINA

Alas, it did no good to beg my father with tears, futile to ask him for a delay; he made up his mind. The guests are there, the chapel decorated, the return of the Earl is awaited to bless my misfortune by the pastor. In front of the chapel is the coach of the Earl to leave right after the wedding -

**[D-2, T-11]** NO. 19 DUET

EDGAR

Don't say more, I cannot bear it,

You are lost! Woe to you!

And woe is me, I despair,

Only madness stays with me!

O would I be able to quickly end

By my own hands this horrible life!

MALWINA

O, beloved, let me beg you

Not to lose your courage!

There is still a God, who hears us,

If he so wants, all ends well!

With childlike trust

Let us hope for his help.

EDGAR

Time is short, Malwina,

Be forewarned,

O, just hesitate 'til morning comes:

Cunning and great is hell's might,

With evil trickery she ensnares.

MALWINA

What are you saying? What should I fear?

I fear only my father's order!

From everything which otherwise might harm me,

My pure heart and spirit will protect me.

For him who is pious,

The dark might of hell escapes,

No evil spell can touch him.

EDGAR

Greetings beautiful light of heaven!

Which shines through the darkness of doubt!

With great joy, from bright spheres,

It jubilates with thousand angel choirs.

BOTH

For him who is pious,

Who fosters true love in his bosom,

The dark might of hell escapes,

No evil spell can touch him!

(EDGAR AND MALWINA EMBRACE)

**[D-2, T-12]** NO. 20 FINALE

CHORUS OF GUESTS

Flowers and blossoms in zephyr caress,

Lovely unfolded from the adulating west,

Flower of the highlands, you Davenaut rose,

Wind we for you on today's feast!

HUMPHREY

Dear friends come, start the wedding feast

With glad spirit and cheerfulness;

My only child, dear to her father’s heart,

Today I marry her to her noble husband!

MALWINA

Your will, Lord in Heaven, may be,

In trusting humility I submit myself;

O show me a sign of your grace,

I am your creature, have pity on me!

EDGAR

An angel descended to comfort me with hope;

But quickly cold fear grabs me again,

Sneeringly hell comes down on me!

CHORUS

Yes, friends, come and start the wedding feast

With glad spirit and cheerfulness;

The only child, dear to her father's heart,

Today he marries her to her noble husband!

Sing loudly and jubilate!

(RUTHVEN ENTERS QUICKLY)

MALWINA

Almighty!

EDGAR

Woe, horrible!

CHORUS

Ha, welcome!

HUMPHREY

Ha, welcome!

RUTHVEN (TO HUMPHREY)

Sir, I can't excuse myself

For missing my duty,

To delay my happiness;

My mistake I want to commend,

Praise my misfortune,

Even milady looked angrily

At the bridegroom, who came late to the wedding.

HUMPHREY

Save your words, dear son,

Everything is ready!

Let’s go then to the chapel,

There I will put her hand into yours

With the blessings of the pastor.

MALWINA

Ah, my father, have pity!

HUMPHREY

Let's go, friends! With cheerful song

Accompany us to the wedding!

EDGAR

Transfixed and lifeless I am standing here -

O God, how will this end?

MALWINA

Woe is me! Ah, woe!

My father!

RUTHVEN

Ha! Triumph! The goal is near!

She is in my hands!

Triumph! The goal is near!

CHORUS

May the future strew roses

On the path of your life:

Flower of the highlands, you Davenaut rose,

How today flowers -

**[D-2, T-13]**

EDGAR

Stop it!

No, never shall she be your victim!

CHORUS

Ha! What is this?

What a strange beginning!

HUMPHREY

Silly boy!

Get away quickly!

Crazy one, away with you, back!

Your passion is driving you too far.

EDGAR

Ha, nevermore!

Time is pressing!

(EDGAR EMBRACES MALWINA)

I have courage and strength in me,

I will and must rescue the beloved!

HUMPHREY

Ha, throw the raging one into chains!

CHORUS

Ha! What is this?

What a strange beginning!

EDGAR

I will hold onto her

And only let her go with my life!

HUMPHREY

Away with him!

Separate them, he has lost his senses!

EDGAR

Ha, nevermore!

Ah, have pity!

Cheated father, ah, you don't know

What you are doing.

You will lose your child before dawn,

If you let her be the bride of this monster.

HUMPHREY

What, raging one!

You dare to insult the man

Who the Laird chose for his son-in-law?

Ha, be afraid of my anger!

RUTHVEN

Time is passing!

It is getting late! -

Horror shivers through my limbs!

MALWINA

Courage and trust are leaving me,

God in Heaven, have pity!

CHORUS

Whatever turn this will take,

Woe, it will not end well,

What I hear, what I see,

Shows me misfortune is near!

EDGAR

Ha, don't trust that villain!

Look at his depraved face!

His eyes flame like hellfire!

He languishes for her blood!

You will never, never see her again!

CHORUS

Woe, what was that?

What a strange beginning!

RUTHVEN

The hopeless loves flame

Burns in him in wild fury!

Ha, tie up his impetuosity!

You can hear that madness speaks from him!

HUMPHREY

Yes, tie up his impetuosity,

You can hear that madness speaks from him!

Away with him, he’s lost his senses.

RUTHVEN

Yes, away with him, he’s lost his senses!

CHORUS

You can hear that madness speaks from him!

Away with him, he’s lost his senses.

EDGAR (BESIDES HIMSELF)

Malwina, hear me!

In mortal dread I beg you!

Ruin threatens you this night!

O delay just until daybreak,

O delay just -

HUMPHREY

Away!

(SOME SERVANTS TAKE EDGAR AWAY)

RUTHVEN

Time is passing, it is getting late!

Horror shivers through my limbs!

MALWINA

Courage and trust are leaving me,

God in heaven, have pity!

EDGAR (OUTSIDE)

Malwina - Malwina!

CHORUS

Whatever turn this will take,

Woe, it will not end well!

What I hear, what I see,

Shows me misfortune is near!

RUTHVEN (TO HUMPHREY)

Time is passing, it is getting late,

Let us get on with the deed.

HUMPHREY

My friends, on with cheerful song

Accompany us to the wedding.

MALWINA

Father, ah, father! With tears

Let me beg you!

Father! Ah, father! Have pity

With my poor soul!

My strength is waning,

O let your daughter find pity!

O allow me time, daybreak is not far!

Alas, let us wait 'til tomorrow!

CHORUS

O allow her time, daybreak is not far!

Why such a hurry?

RUTHVEN

My time is pressing!

HUMPHREY

Say, can't we wait?

RUTHVEN

You know what duty requires!

HUMPHREY

I would like to give in!

RUTHVEN

I can't wait any longer!

DA HUMPHREY

Sir, let us wait until tomorrow.

RUTHVEN

No! Nevermore!

It cannot and must not be!

You gave me your word.

Do you want to dishonorably break it?

HUMPHREY (VEHEMENTLY)

Ha! Who dares to talk like that to me?

RUTHVEN

Do you want to dishonorably break it?

HUMPHREY

Ha! Who dares to talk like that to me?

On! On then to the wedding!

MALWINA

No, nevermore!

HUMPHREY

On to the wedding!

MALWINA

I will never consent!

Ha, not love, just horror,

I feel for this man.

HUMPHREY

Ha! You dare to oppose?

Ha! Degenerate one! All right then!

So strike you your father's curse!

MALWINA AND CHORUS

Woe!

CHORUS

What has happened?

HUMPHREY (RELUCTANTLY)

On! Start the wedding procession!

**[D-2, T-14]**

CHORUS

After the terrible weather noise

Joy smiles cheerfully,

Flower of the highlands, you Davenaut rose,

May every danger turn to luck!

EDGAR (STILL OUTSIDE)

In vain you curb my frenzied strength,

I must get inside!

I will destroy this demons deed.

RUTHVEN

Don't let him in!

EDGAR (CRASHES IN)

Stop it!

RUTHVEN

I am lost! Woe is me!

EDGAR

Know, this monster of nature -

RUTHVEN

Aubry! Think about your oath -

Ruin threatens you!

CHORUS

Woe!

EDGAR

I don't hesitate before the Almighty's fury -

I shout it with thundering voice:

RUTHVEN

Ruin threatens you!

CHORUS

Woe, what will we hear?

EDGAR

This monster here -

RUTHVEN

Torment shivers through my limbs!

The thunder of God throws me down!

Woe is me!

EDGAR (MIGHTILY)

This monster here -

Is a vampire!

ALL (SHOUTING WITH TERROR)

Woe!

(A FLASH OF LIGHTNING SMASHES RUTHVEN - ALL FALL DOWN STUNNED)

CHORUS

Ha! What was that? What has happened here?

HUMPHREY

God, my child, what misfortune threatened you!

MALWINA

For him who is pious,

Who fosters true love in his bosom,

The dark might of Hell escapes,

No evil spell can touch him!

EDGAR, MALWINA AND CHORUS

For him who is pious,

Who fosters true love in his bosom,

The dark might of hell escapes,

No evil spell can touch him!

HUMPHREY

I lost the right of the father!

Beloved daughter, can you forgive me?

So that I may win you back,

With my blessing as a father

I will put your hand into his!

(TO EDGAR)

You will be my son and the heir of my name!

(HUMPHREY UNITES EDGAR AND MALWINA)

MALWINA

Deep in my heart

Thankfully I feel your kindness,

Father, I don't find words.

EDGAR

May I believe, may I hope?

Alas, I see heaven open!

This bliss I can't bear.

CHORUS

Out of ruins lap

Blossomed a beautiful fate;

To the almighty praise and thanks!

To him our song of praise is dedicated!

**END OF OPERA**