

~~CHILDREN: A needle pulling thread
MARIA: La, a note to follow sew
CHILDREN: A note to follow sew
MARIA: Tea, a drink with jam and bread
CHILDREN: Jam and bread
MARIA: *(Rising)*
That will bring us back to doe
ALL: *(Children crowd around MARIA)*
That will bring us back to
*(MARIA goes down the scale until her final "Do" is
practically bass.)*
MARIA: Do ti la so fa mi re do
ALL: *(Singing with a happy laugh)*
Do.
(Blackout)~~

ACT I

Scene 6

*Outside the villa. A shallow scene showing the villa
and wall that runs around it. D.L.C. is a stone bench.
After a moment LIESL enters D.R., turns and waves to
someone offstage.*

LIESL: Good night, Rolf.

ROLF: *(Walking on with his bicycle)* Liesl!

LIESL: *(Going to him)* Yes?.

ROLF: You don't have to say good night this early just
because your father's home—

LIESL: How did you know my father was home?

ROLF: Oh, I have a way of knowing things.

LIESL: You're wonderful.

ROLF: *(Resting the bicycle on its stand)* Oh, no, I'm not
—really.

LIESL: (*Crosses D.L.*) Oh, yes, you are. I mean—how did you know two days ago that you would be here at just this time tonight with a telegram for Franz?

ROLF: (*Following her*) Every year on this date he always gets a birthday telegram from his sister.

LIESL: You see—you *are* wonderful.

ROLF: Can I come again tomorrow night?

LIESL: (*Sitting on the bench*) Rolf, you can't be sure you're going to have a telegram to deliver here tomorrow night.

ROLF: (*Sitting beside her*) I could come here by mistake—with a telegram for Colonel Schneider. He's here from Berlin. He's staying with the Gauleiter but I—(*Suddenly concerned.*) No one's supposed to know he's here. Don't you tell your father.

LIESL: Why not?

ROLF: Well, your father's pretty Austrian.

LIESL: We're all Austrian.

ROLF: Some people think we ought to be German. They're pretty mad at those who don't think so. They're getting ready to—well, let's hope your father doesn't get into any trouble. (*He goes to his bicycle.*)

LIESL: (*Rising*) Don't worry about father. He was decorated for bravery.

ROLF: I know. I don't worry about him. The only one I worry about is his daughter.

LIESL: (*Above bench*) Me? Why?

(*ROLF gestures to her to stand on the bench. She does and he studies her.*)

ROLF: How old are you, Liesl?

LIESL: Sixteen—What's wrong with that?

ROLF: (*Singing*)

You wait, little girl, on an empty stage
For fate to turn the light on,

ROLF MONOLOGUE

MARIA: *(Rising)* Rolf, I am glad to meet you finally.

ROLF: *(C. Coldly)* I have a telegram for Captain von Trapp. *(He holds it out. FRANZ enters on the balcony and starts downstairs.)*

MARIA: You stay here with Liesl. I'll take it to him. *(She starts R., reaching for the telegram. He snatches it away. She stops at his R.)*

ROLF: I'm under orders to make sure the Captain gets it.

MARIA: I think you can trust me to give it to him.

ROLF: I have my orders.

LIESL: Silly, they're married. *(ROLF sees FRANZ.)*

ROLF: Oh, Franz! This telegram is to be delivered into the hands of Captain von Trapp.

FRANZ: *(Saluting)* Heil!

ROLF: Heil! *(ROLF returns the salute and gives him the telegram in front of MARIA's face. FRANZ exits upstairs.)*

LIESL: *(Shocked)* Rolf!

MARIA: Even Franz.

ROLF: Yes, even Franz. Even me! Even everybody in Nonnberg except the great Captain von Trapp. If he knows what's good for him, he'll come over to the right side.

~~LIESL: Rolf, don't talk like that.~~

(FRANZ re-enters balcony, comes down steps.)

ROLF: And if he doesn't, he'd better get out of the country —there are things that happen today to a man like that. He'd better get out quick. *(LIESL runs to MARIA.)* Cry all you want, but just remember what I said before it's too late. *(To MARIA.)* And you remember too. *(He exits U.C. followed by FRANZ.)*

MARIA: Liesl—don't cry.

LIESL: How could he turn on Father that way?

MARIA: Liesl—maybe he wasn't threatening your father—maybe he was warning him.