

#20 – *Entr'acte**(Orchestra)***ACT 2 Prologue****TEVYE**

That was quite a dowry you gave my daughter Tzeitel at her wedding.
Was that necessary?

... Anyway, Tzeitel and Motel have been married almost two months now. They work very hard, they are as poor as synagogue mice. ... But they are both so happy they don't know how miserable they are. Motel keeps talking about a sewing machine. I know you're very busy God, – wars and revolutions, floods, plagues – all those little things that bring people to You – couldn't You take a second away from your catastrophes and get it for him? How much trouble would it be? ... Oh, and while You're in the neighborhood, my horse's left leg ... Am I bothering You too much? I'm sorry. As the good book says ... Why should I tell you what the good book says?

#21 – *Opening – Act 2**(Orchestra)***ACT 2 Scene 1***(Exterior of TEVYE's house. HODEL enters, petulantly, followed by PERCHIK)***PERCHIK**

Please don't be upset, Hodel.

HODEL

Why should I be upset? If you must leave, you must.

PERCHIK

I do have to. They expect me in Kiev tomorrow morning.

HODEL

So you told me. Then goodbye.

PERCHIK

Great changes are about to take place in this country. Tremendous changes. But they can't happen by themselves

HODEL

So naturally you feel that you personally have to ...

PERCHIK

Not only me. Many people. Jews, Gentiles, many people hate what is going on.
Don't you understand?

HODEL

I understand, of course. You want to leave. Then goodbye.

PERCHIK

Hodel, your father, the others here, think what happened at Tzeitel's wedding was a little cloudburst and it's over and everything will now be peaceful again. It won't ... Horrible things are happening all over the land ... pogroms, violence, whole villages are being emptied of their people. ... and it's reaching everywhere, and it will reach here. You understand?

HODEL

Yes, I ... I suppose I do.

PERCHIK

I have work to do. The greatest work a man can do.

MODEL

Then goodbye, Perchik.

PERCHIK

Before I go,

(HE hesitates, summons up courage)

There is a certain question I wish to discuss with you.

HODEL

Yes?

PERCHIK

A political question.

HODEL

What is it?

PERCHIK

The question of marriage.

HODEL

This is a political question?

PERCHIK

In a theoretical sense, yes. The relationship between a man and woman known as marriage is based on mutual beliefs, a common attitude and philosophy towards society ...

HODEL

And affection ...

PERCHIK

And affection ... This relationship has positive social values. It reflects a unity and solidarity ...

HODEL

And affection ...

PERCHIK

Yes, and I personally am in favor of it. Do you understand?

HODEL

Yes. I think you are asking me to marry you.

PERCHIK

In a theoretical sense, yes, I am.

HODEL

I was hoping you were.

PERCHIK

Then I take it you approve. And we can consider ourselves engaged, even though I am going away?

(SHE nods)

I am very happy, Hodel. Very happy.

#22 – *Now I Have Everything*

(Perchik, Hodel)

HODEL

So am I, Perchik. What' the matter?

PERCHIK

(Sings)

I USED TO TELL MYSELF
THAT I HAD EVERYTHING
BUT THAT WAS ONLY HALF TRUE.
I HAD AN AIM IN LIFE
AND THAT WAS EVERYTHING
BUT NOW I EVEN HAVE YOU.

I HAVE SOMETHING THAT I WOULD DIE FOR
SOMEONE THAT I CAN LIVE FOR, TOO.

YES, NOW I HAVE EVERYTHING
NOT ONLY EVERYTHING
I HAVE A LITTLE BIT MORE
BESIDES HAVING EVERYTHING
I KNOW WHAT EVERYTHING'S FOR.

(PERCHIK)

I USED TO WONDER
COULD THERE, BE A WIFE TO
SHARE SUCH A DIFFICULT, WAND' RING KIND OF LIFE?

HODEL

I WAS ONLY OUT OF SIGHT
WAITING RIGHT HERE.

PERCHIK

WHO KNOWS TOMORROW
WHERE OUR HOME WILL BE?

HODEL

I'LL BE WITH YOU AND THAT' S
HOME ENOUGH FOR ME.

PERCHIK

EVERYTHING IS RIGHT AT HAND

BOTH

SIMPLE AND CLEAR

PERCHIK

I HAVE SOMETHING THAT I WOULD DIE FOR
SOMEONE THAT I COULD LIVE FOR, TOO.

YES, NOW I HAVE EVERYTHING
NOT ONLY EVERYTHING
I HAVE A LITTLE BIT MORE BESIDES HAVING EVERYTHING
I KNOW WHAT EVERYTHING'S FOR..

HODEL

And when will we be married, Perchik?

PERCHIK

I will send for you as, soon as I can. it will be a hard life, Hodel.

HODEL

But it will be less hard ... if we live it together.

PERCHIK

Yes.

TEVYE

(Entering)

Good evening.