

#30 – Chava Sequence

(Tevya, Chorus)

**TEVYE**

*(Sings)*

LITTLE BIRD, LITTLE CHAVALEH  
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S HAPPENING TODAY  
EVERYTHING IS ALL A BLUR.  
ALL I CAN SEE IS A HAPPY CHILD  
THE SWEET LITTLE BIRD YOU WERE  
CHAVALEH, CHAVALEH.

LITTLE BIRD, LITTLE CHAVALEH  
YOU WERE ALWAYS SUCH A PRETTY LITTLE THING  
EVERYBODY'S FAV'RITE CHILD  
GENTLE AND KIND AND AFFECTIONATE  
WHAT A SWEET LITTLE BIRD YOU WERE  
CHAVALEH, CHAVALEH.

*(CHAVA enters)*

**CHAVA**

Papa ... I want to talk with you. ... Papa, stop. ... At least listen to me ... Papa, I beg you to accept us.

**TEVYE**

Accept them? How can I accept them? Can I deny everything I believe in? On the other hand, can I deny my own child? ... On the other hand, how can I turn my back on my faith, my people? If I try to bend that far, I will break ... On the other hand there is no other hand. No! Chava. No – no – no –

**CHAVA**

Papa ... Papa ...

**PEOPLE (CHORUS)**

*(Unseen, are heard singing as CHAVA exits slowly)*

TRADITION. TRADITION. TRADITION.

**DIMOUT**

**ACT 2 Scene 7**

*(The Barn. YENTE enters L, with two BOYS, teenage Yeshiva students, obviously uncomfortable in the situation)*