

GOLDE

(Entering from the Barn)

Papa isn't up yet?

HODEL

No, Mama.

GOLDE

Then enough lessons. We have to do Papa's work today. How long can he sleep? He staggered home last night and fell into bed like a dead man. I couldn't get a word out of him. Put that away and clean the barn.

(SHPRINTZE and BIELKE exit into the barn)~~Call me when Papa gets up.~~~~*(HODEL pumps bucket of water)*~~

START

HODEL

That was a very interesting lesson, Perchik.

PERCHIK

Do you think so?

HODEL

Although I don't know if the Rabbi would agree with your interpretation.

PERCHIK

And neither, I suppose, would the Rabbi's son.

HODEL

(Looking at CHAVA, who is churning butter nearby)

My little sisters have big tongues.

(CHAVA exits with stool and churn, left)

PERCHIK

And what do you know about him, except that he is the Rabbi's son? would you be interested in him if he were the shoemaker's son, or the tinsmith's son?

HODEL

At least I know this ^{boy} does not have any strange ideas about turning the world upside down.

PERCHIK

Certainly. Any new idea would be strange to you. Remember, the Lord said, "Let there be light."

HODEL

Yes, but He was not talking to you personally

PERCHIK

You have spirit. Even a little intelligence, perhaps.

HODEL

Thank you.

PERCHIK

But what good is your brain? Without curiosity it is a rusty tool. Good day Hodel.

HODEL

We have an old custom here. A boy acts respectfully to a girl. But, of course, that is too traditional for an advanced thinker like you.

PERCHIK

Our traditions! Nothing must change! Everything is perfect exactly the way it is!

HODEL

We like our ways.

PERCHIK

Our ways are changing all over but here. Here men and women must keep apart. Men study, women in the kitchen. Boys and girls must not touch, should not even look at each other.

HODEL

I am looking at you!

PERCHIK

You are very brave! Do you know that in the city boys and girls can be affectionate without permission of a matchmaker? They hold hands together, they even dance together ... new dances like this.

(Dance)

END

#8 - Perchik and Hodel Dance

(Orchestra)

~~I learned it in Kiev ... Do you like it?~~

~~HODEL~~

~~It's very nice.~~

~~PERCHIK~~

~~There. We've just changed an old custom.~~

~~HODEL~~

~~Yes, well, you're welcome - I mean, thank you - I mean good day ...~~

~~PERCHIK~~

~~Good day!~~

Far From The Home I Love

cue: HODEL: He did not ask me to go — I want to go...

HODEL: I don't want him to be alone...

TEVVE: But Hodel, baby...

HODEL: Papa...

Antandino — In 4

Acc. solo
1
2
3
4
pp Str., + Plect.

5 In 2

(HODEL)

6
7
8
How can I hope to make you un - der - stand Why I do what I do,

9
10
11
12
Why I must trav - el to a dis - tant land Far from the home I love?

(h)
(Acc. tacet)
+ Acc.

13

14 15 16

Once I was hap-pi-ly cont-ent to be As I was, where I was,

Mand.
W.W. 8 bassa
pp

17 18 19 20

Close to the peo-ple who are close to me Here in the home I love.

W.W.

21

Più mosso

ritard

22 23 24

Who could see that a man would come Who would change the shape of my dreams?

Hus., Flengel Hn.
+ Acc.
+ W.W.

Cello

Meno mosso — In 4

poco ritard

25 26 27 28

Help-less, now, I stand with him Watch-ing old-er dreams grow dim.

W.W.
p
Acc.
+ Hn.

END