

Rigoletto

by Giuseppe Verdi

Libretto by Francesco Maria Piave

"Bella figlia dell'amore" (Fairest daughter of love)

This is the famous quartet. The Duke is singing to Maddalena. Gilda sees this happen through a window and is heartbroken. Rigoletto tells his daughter what a bad man her "true love" is (and that he'll do something about it).

DUKE (to Maddalena)

Bella figlia dell'amore,
schiavo son dei vezzi tuoi;
con un detto sol tu puoi
le mie pene consolar.
Vieni e senti del mio core
il frequente palpar.

DUKE (to Maddalena)

Fairest daughter of love,
I am a slave to your charms;
with but a single word you could
relieve my every pain.
Come, touch my breast and feel
how my heart is racing.

MADDALENA (to Duke)

Ah! ah! rido ben di core,
che tai baie costan poco,
quanto valga il vostro gioco,
mel credete, so apprezzar.
Sono avvezza, bel signore,
ad un simile scherzar.
Si si!

MADDALENA (to Duke)

Ah! Ah! That really makes me laugh;
talk like that is cheap enough.
Believe me, I know exactly
what such play-acting is worth!
I, my fine sir, am quite accustomed
to foolish jokes like this.
Yes yes!

GILDA

Infelice cor tradito,
per angoscia non scoppiar.
(repeated)
No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no

GILDA

O wretched heart betrayed,
do not break for sorrow.
(repeated)
No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no

RIGOLETTO (to Gilda)

Ch'ei mentiva sei sicura.
Taci, e mia sarà la cura
la vendetta d'affrettar.
Pronta fia, sarà fatale,
io saprollo fulminar

RIGOLETTO (to Gilda)

You are now convinced he was lying.
Hush, and leave it up to me
to hasten our revenge.
It will be quick, it will be deadly,
I know how to deal with him.