“La ci darem la mano” (There you will give me your hand)

The bride-to-be Zerlina is the first target of Giovanni’s seduction in the opera. In this duet, Giovanni points to his palace and promise that it could be hers. Zerlina is interested, too, despite her engagement to Masetto. She likes the idea of wealth and a higher social status.

Don Giovanni
by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte

GIOVANNI
là ci darem la mano,
là mi dirai di sì.
Vedi, non è lontano;
partiam, ben mio, da qui.

ZERLINA
Vorrei e non vorrei;
mi trema un poco il cor.
Felice, è ver sarei,
ma può burlarmi ancor.

DON GIOVANNI
Vieni, mio bel diletto!
ZERLINA
Mi fa pietà Masetto!

DON GIOVANNI
Io cangierò tua sorte!
ZERLINA
Presto, non son più forte!

GIOVANNI
There you will give me your hand, there you will tell me "yes".
You see, it is not far; Let us leave, my beloved.

ZERLINA
I'd like to, but yet I would not.
My heart trembles a little.
It's true I would be happy, but he may just be tricking me.

DON GIOVANNI
Come, my dearly beloved!
ZERLINA
I'm sorry for Masetto.

DON GIOVANNI
I will change your life!
ZERLINA
Soon I won't be able to resist.