

La bohème

by Giacomo Puccini

Libretto by Giuseppe Giacosa and Luigi Illica

"Parpignol!"

On the bustling city streets the toy seller Parpignol arrives. The children call after him, until their mother's arrive. Our bohemians discuss what they should have for Christmas Eve dinner.

CHILDREN

Parpignol! Parpignol! Parpignol!...
Ecco Parpignol! Parpignol!
Col carretto tutto a fior!
Ecco Parpignol!
Voglio la tromba, il cavallin!
Il tambur, tamburel...
Voglio il cannon, voglio il frustin,
dei soldati il drappel.

SCHAUNARD: Cervo arrosto.

MARCELLO: Un tacchino.

SCHAUNARD: Vin del Reno!

COLLINE: Vin da tavola!

SCHAUNARD: Aragosta senza crosta!

MOTHERS

Ah! che razza di furfanti indemoniati,
che ci venite a fare in questo loco?
A casa, a letto! Via, brutti sguaiati,
gli scappellotti vi parranno poco!...
A casa! A letto,
razza di furfanti, a letto!

A BOY

Vo' la tromba, il cavallin...

CHILDREN

Parpignol! Parpignol! Parpignol!
Here is Parpignol!
With his cart all decked with flowers!
Here is Parpignol!
I want the horn, the toy horse!
The drum! The tambourine!
I want the cannon; I want the whip,
I want the troop of soldiers.

SCHAUNARD: Roast venison.

MARCELLO: A turkey.

SCHAUNARD: Rhine wine!

COLLINE: Table wine!

SCHAUNARD: Shelled lobster!

MOTHERS

What a bunch of naughty rascals!
What are you doing here now?
Go home to bed, you noisy things.
Slaps will be the least you'll get...
go home to bed,
you bunch of rascals, to bed!

A BOY

I want the horn, the toy horse...