

“Là, ci darem la mano,” (There, we’ll join hands together) DON GIOVANNI, Act I; duet, music by W.A.Mozart, libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte, 1787; sung by Don Giovanni and Zerlina...

SYNOPSIS:

Don Giovanni happens upon the scene of a rustic wedding between Zerlina, a very attractive peasant girl, and Masetto, her longtime village beau. The Don interrupts the ceremony to try to entice Zerlina to his castle, where, he promises her, she will have a much more tempting future than the one at hand for her, as Masetto’s wife. In this duet, Zerlina fights against the Don’s attractions but eventually follows him, but, for what turns out to be, an extremely short time...

DON GIOVANNI

Là, ci darem la mano  
La, mi dirai di sì;  
Vedi, non è lontano  
Partiam, ben mio, da qui.

There, we’ll join hands together,  
There, “yes,” I will hear you say,  
“See, it’s not far, my darling,  
Let’s go, dear one, right away.

ZERLINA

Vorrei, e non vorrei,  
Mi trema un poco il cor  
Felice e ver, a rei—  
Ma puo burlarmi ancor.

I want to, yet I don’t want to;  
My heart’s trembling, you can see;  
Of course, I could be so happy...  
But maybe you’re fooling me.

DON GIOVANNI

Vieni, mio bel diletto!

Come now, my charming beauty !

ZERLINA

Mi fa pieta Masetto!

I’m sorry for Masetto!

DON GIOVANNI

Io cangierò tua sorte,

I’ll change your way of living.

ZERLINA

Presto non son più forte,  
Non son più forte,  
Non son più forte,\*

Soon all my strength will leave me,  
My strength will leave me,  
My strength will leave me.

DON GIOVANNI

Vieni, vieni!  
Là, ci darem la mano, etc.

Come now; come now!  
There, we’ll join hands together, etc.

(They repeat the same text until \*.)

\*Andiam! Andiam!

Let’s go! Let’s go!

ZERLINA

Andiam!

Let’s go!

DON GIOVANNI AND ZERLINA

Andiam, andiam, mio bene,  
A ristorar le pene  
d'un innocente amor!

Let's go, let's go, my darling,  
to make up for the suffering  
with a love that's pure! (Repeat.)