

# Opera Funtime

Presents

# LA TRAVIATA



By Giuseppe Verdi

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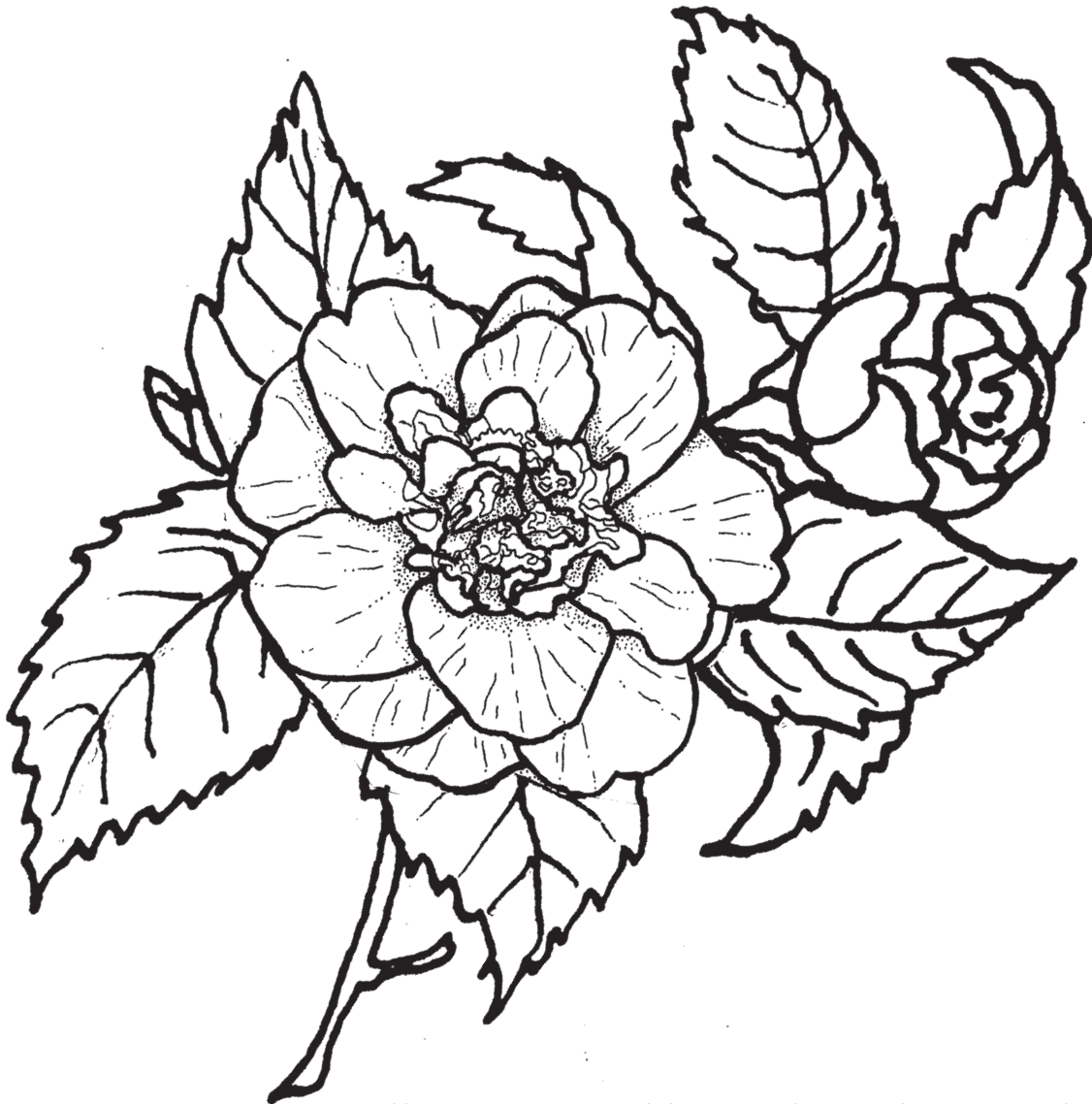
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A YOUNG PERSON'S INTRODUCTION TO THE ARTS

# LA TRAVIATA

by Giuseppe Verdi

A tragic story of love, sacrifice and illness



CRAFTS

DRAMA

STORY

GAMES

MUSIC

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# GIUSEPPE VERDI

(1813-1901)

Giuseppe Verdi lived a long and creative life. He was born in Le Roncole, Italy, where his father operated a small inn. When Verdi was eight years old, his father bought him an old piano, which he quickly learned to play. By the time he was twelve, he had become organist in his church.

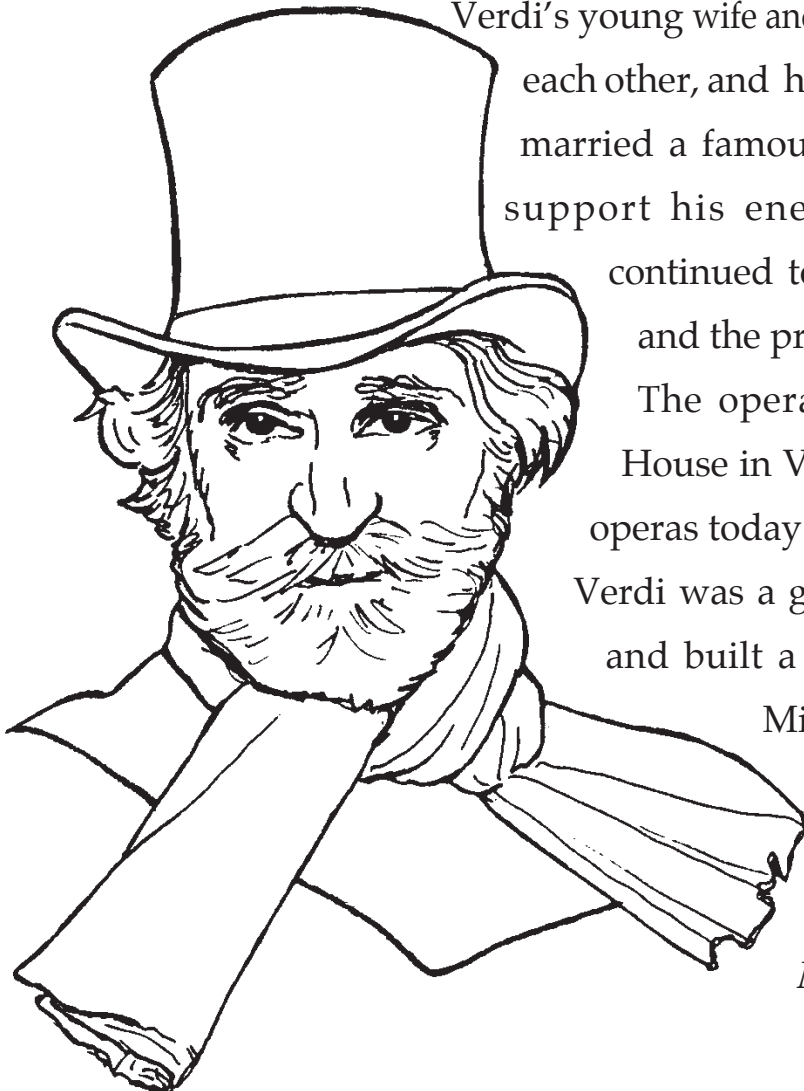
As a young man Verdi attracted the attention of a wealthy music patron and merchant, Signor Antonio Barezzi. Signor Barezzi made it possible for the young Verdi to pursue his musical studies, and provided an atmosphere of encouragement and inspiration. After two years in Milan, Verdi returned to Busseto to conduct its orchestra. He married his childhood sweetheart, Margherita, daughter of his patron, Signor Barezzi.

Verdi's young wife and two children all died within a few years of each other, and he was heart-broken. He met and eventually married a famous singer, Giuseppina Strepponi. With her support his energy and enthusiasm returned. Verdi continued to compose operas. He enjoyed gardening and the privacy of country life near Busseto.

The opera *La traviata* opened at La Fenice Opera House in Venice in 1853. It is one of the most popular operas today.

Verdi was a generous man of great wealth. He founded and built a retirement home for aging musicians in Milan called Casa di Riposo per Musicisti.

Verdi wrote more than twenty-six operas. His most famous include *Aida*, *Falstaff*, *A Masked Ball*, *Il Trovatore*, *Nabucco*, *Macbeth*, *Rigoletto*, and *The Force of Destiny*.





The story of *La traviata*, which means “she who has gone astray,” was based on a novel by Alexandre Dumas *fils* (son), whose father wrote *The Three Musketeers* and *The Count of Monte Cristo*. It was called *La Dame aux camélias* (“The Lady of the Camellias”), and was based on the real-life story of Marie Duplessis. The story and title have inspired many writers to refer to *Violetta*, the heroine of *La traviata*, as “the fragile flower gone astray”.

Alphonsine Plessis (pronounced pleh-see) was born in the French countryside in 1824. When she moved to Paris, she changed her name to Marie Duplessis (doo-pleh-see). Mademoiselle Duplessis was a beautiful and charming woman who loved giving parties, inviting well-known artists, writers, and nobility to her home. Everyone knew that Marie’s favorite flowers were camellias, and the lovely flower became her trademark. Marie Duplessis died of consumption (tuberculosis) at the age of twenty-three.

How many words of three letters or more  
can you make from the name  
**MARIE DUPLESSIS?** (We found 200)

**FRANCISCO MARIA PIAVE** (1810-1876) adapted Dumas’ story to create the lyrics (words) for this new opera. He was born in Venice and worked as stage director at La Fenice Opera House. Verdi and Piave became best friends and worked together on ten operas. Even though Verdi’s “artistic temperament” sometimes proved difficult, he and Piave were able to complete the first draft of *La traviata* in five days!

# CHARACTERS



**Alfredo**  
tenor

**Violetta**  
soprano

**Germont**  
(Alfredo's father)  
baritone

# IN THE OPERA



**The Baron**  
(Violetta's former  
boyfriend)  
tenor

**Flora**  
mezzo-soprano

**Doctor Grenvil**  
bass



# VERDI and VIOLETTA

Verdi is one of the most beloved, successful, and appreciated composers in all of opera. He was born at the right time, in the right place, and possessed the talent and enthusiasm to continue in the rich operatic tradition of Italy. He set a standard not previously known.

His great talent is reflected not only in the music of Violetta's arias\* but in his genius for understanding and conveying the drama of a story through his characters. Violetta, a soprano\*\*, must possess great acting ability and three demanding vocal "styles," all at the same time.

A lyric soprano sings with a light, clear, almost innocent quality of voice. A coloratura soprano must possess great vocal agility as she sings high trills and runs, rather like putting herself through "vocal gymnastics." A dramatic soprano uses a powerful, strong voice to convey the intensity of the story or the emotions of the character.

Violetta's arias in **Act I** are primarily those of a coloratura soprano, confirming the frivolous, fun-loving young woman she is. In **Act II**, Violetta is mostly a lyric soprano, still believing she can control her own destiny. In **Act III**, despite the tragedy about to unfold, Violetta is a compelling dramatic soprano.

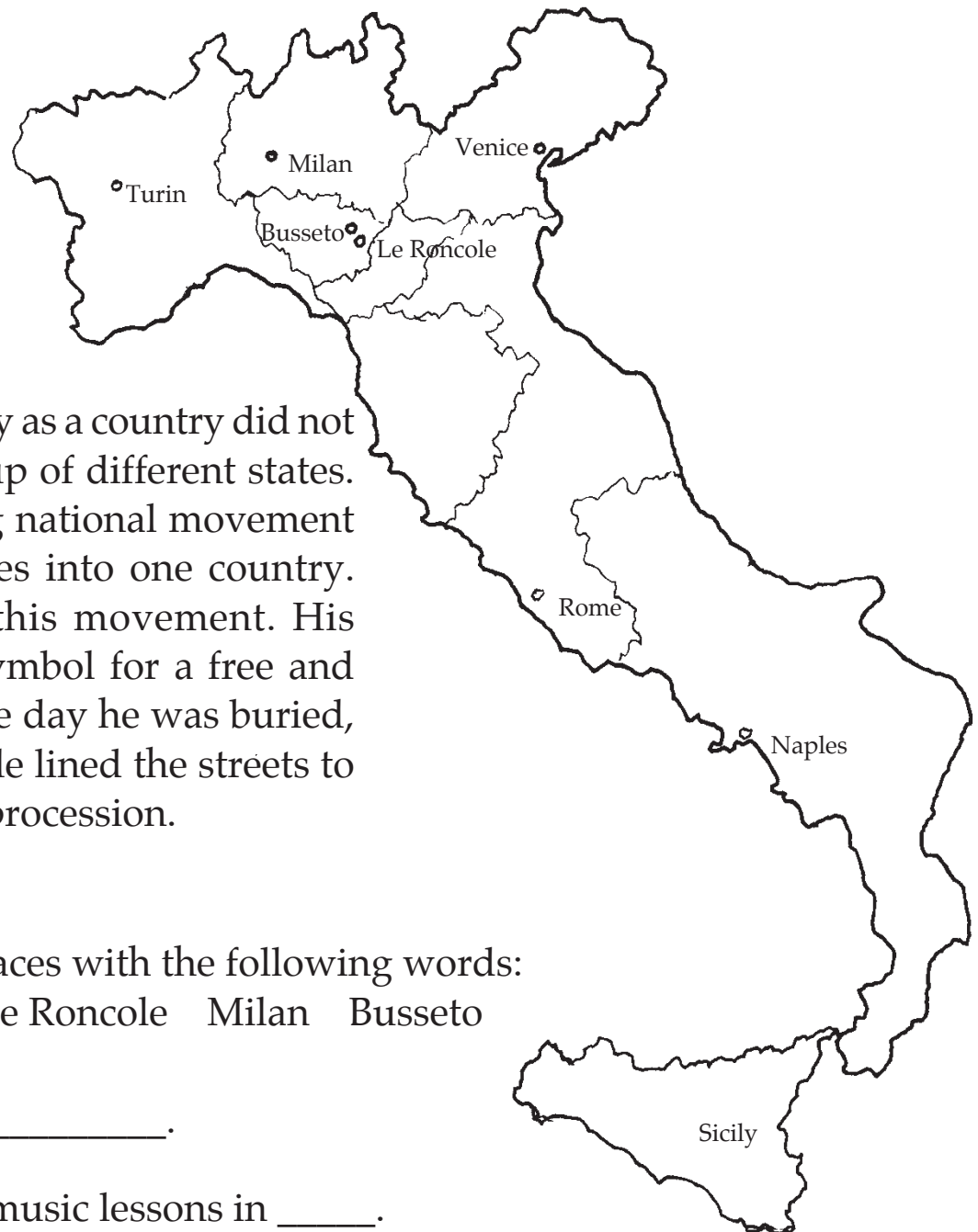
\*An *aria* is a song sung by a single voice, as in a solo, within the opera. Two voices singing together is a *duet*. Three voices singing together is a *trio*. Four voices is a *quartet*.

\*\* A *soprano* sings in the uppermost part of the female vocal range. Violetta and Annina are *sopranos*. A *mezzo-soprano* sings in a lower range. Violetta's Parisian friend, Flora, is a *mezzo-soprano*.

The highest male vocal range is that of a *tenor*. Alfredo is a *tenor*. The middle range for a male voice is a *baritone*. The Baron is a *baritone*. The lowest male voice is a *bass*. Dr. Grenvil is a *bass*.



# VERDI'S ITALY



In Verdi's time Italy as a country did not exist. It was a group of different states. There was a strong national movement to unite these states into one country. Verdi supported this movement. His music became a symbol for a free and united Italy. On the day he was buried, thousands of people lined the streets to watch his funeral procession.

Fill in the blank spaces with the following words:

Venice Milan Le Roncole Milan Busseto

Verdi was born in \_\_\_\_\_.

Verdi had private music lessons in \_\_\_\_\_.

Verdi married Margherita in \_\_\_\_\_.

Verdi founded his retirement home for musicians in \_\_\_\_\_.

*La traviata* was first performed in \_\_\_\_\_.

# LA TRAVIATA

The first music you hear is called the *prelude*,  
not the *overture* as in many other operas.

Both the opening act and the last act begin with the same music,  
giving a hint of the tragedy that lies ahead.

ACT I, Paris, 1850

## TENDER SADNESS

Prelude  
(orchestra)

Slowly and Smoothly Verdi

The musical score is written for piano and bass. It begins with a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat major). The time signature is 3/4. The first system consists of four measures. The second system starts with a measure number '5' above the first measure and also consists of four measures. The music is marked 'pp' (pianissimo) in the first measure of the first system. The tempo is 'Slowly and Smoothly'.

*The mood changes dramatically as a party begins at Violetta's Paris home.  
Many of her friends are there. Violetta is introduced to Alfredo.  
He is an admirer and concerned about her poor health.*

**FLORA:** Come, fill your glasses. Let's raise a toast!

**ALFREDO:** Yes, a toast to our beautiful hostess!

**ALL:** We join you. Good health to us all!

# DRINKING SONG

Alfredo

Fast, but not too fast

Verdi

Come friends, let us celebrate love, life and song!

As we raise yet another toast, let us join the happy throng! The

magic we find as we feel spirits rise

is the reason we join in song to our heart's delight!

*Early in the evening it is clear that Alfredo has special feelings for Violetta.*

*As the other guests go into the ballroom, they are left alone.*

*Violetta has a fainting spell.*

**ALFREDO:** What is it, Violetta? Are you not well?

**VIOLETTA:** It's nothing. I just felt a bit weak.

**ALFREDO:** Your health is not good.

**ALFREDO:** Why don't you give up all this partying?

**VIOLETTA:** Why should I do that?

**ALFREDO:** If you were mine I would gladly care for you  
and keep you from all this nonsense.  
Perhaps you've never really known true love.

**VIOLETTA:** Ah, yes, you're right.  
But such a love is not possible, at least not for me.

**ALFREDO:** Don't be silly. Why is your heart so cold?  
I have loved you from the first time I saw you.

## LOVE THEME

Alfredo

Passionately Verdi

Fall - ing in love makes my life now worth liv - ing.  
If you'll be mine, all my dreams can come true.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 3/4 time. The top staff is the vocal line with lyrics, and the bottom staff is the piano accompaniment. The tempo is marked 'Passionately' and the composer is 'Verdi'. The lyrics are: 'Fall - ing in love makes my life now worth liv - ing.' and 'If you'll be mine, all my dreams can come true.'

**VIOLETTA:** Time is passing. There is nothing more important in  
this world than the pleasure of the moment. Nothing!

**ALFREDO:** Surely you have loved someone before.

**VIOLETTA:** I have never known what it means to be in love.

**ALFREDO:** These wild parties will be the death of you!

**VIOLETTA:** What would you have me do?

**ALFREDO:** Forget all this, and let me care for you.

**VIOLETTA:** Are you saying you really love me?

**ALFREDO:** Yes, truly and deeply...for more than a year now....

**VIOLETTA:** Say no more, for I cannot return your love,  
and I don't want to hurt you.  
You are to speak no more of love, agreed?

**ALFREDO:** I promise.

**VIOLETTA:** Then take this flower (hands him a camellia)  
and return it when it wilts.

**ALFREDO:** (*Puzzled*) When? Tomorrow?

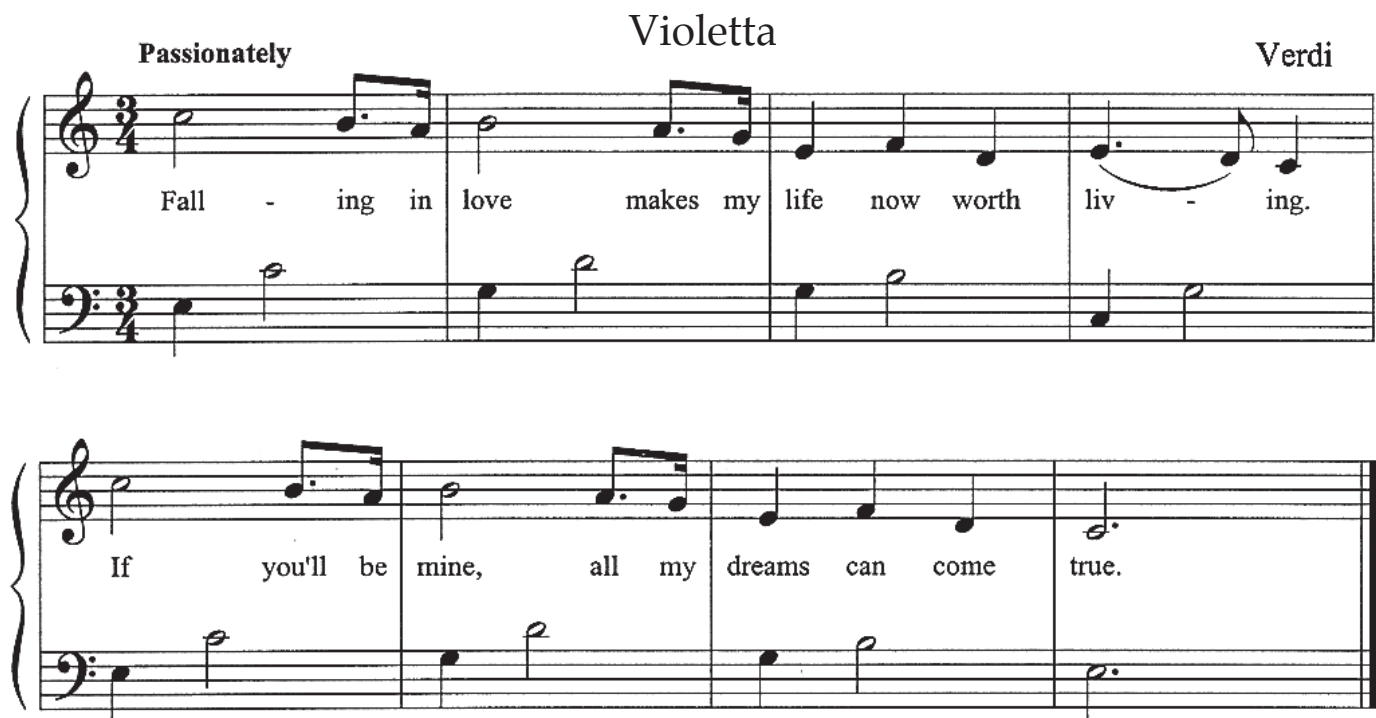
**VIOLETTA:** Yes, tomorrow. Do you still say you love me?

**ALFREDO:** More than words can tell. Until tomorrow...

*Alfredo leaves, and a short time later Violetta's guests thank their hostess for a fine party and say their goodbyes. Now alone, Violetta reflects on what Alfredo has said to her. She wonders if she could truly love him and give up her frivolous life.*

## LOVE THEME

Passionately Violetta Verdi



Fall - ing in love makes my life now worth liv - ing.  
If you'll be mine, all my dreams can come true.

**VIOLETTA:** (*to herself*) This is madness.  
How could I give all this up? I must forget him.

# ALWAYS FREE

Violetta

Verdi

**With Expression**

I will live this life of mine for pleasure, seeking only  
that which I choose. I shall not attend to any  
duty, your affections I will refuse.

## ACT II, Scene 1: A country house south of Paris, three months later

*Violetta has had a change of heart and realizes that she does love Alfredo.  
They move to the quiet south of France.  
They are happy to be together, far from the hustle and bustle of their former lives.*

*Violetta's devoted maid Annina enters, looking distressed.*

**ALFREDO:** Annina, where have you been?

**ANNINA:** I've just returned from Paris. My mistress sent me there.

**ALFREDO:** For what purpose?

**ANNINA:** To sell some of her things.  
We need the money to pay our expenses.

**ALFREDO:** Why didn't you tell me?

**ANNINA:** I promised my mistress that I would say nothing.

*Alfredo decides to go to Paris  
to buy back what Violetta sold and pay her debts.  
He is upset that he didn't know this was happening.*

**ALFREDO:** How could I have been so blind?  
I must correct this embarrassing situation.  
My honor is at stake.

*In the meantime Violetta realizes Alfredo has gone,  
and asks Annina if she knows where he is.  
Annina explains that Alfredo is in Paris and that his father,  
Georgio Germont, will be calling on her later that day.  
He is concerned that Alfredo will waste the family fortune  
on the lifestyle he and Violetta are living.*

**VIOLETTA:** Oh, my dear Germont,  
I would never allow Alfredo to do such a thing.  
This lifestyle is of my doing.  
I am the one who pays for it, not Alfredo.

*She shows Germont the bills which not even Alfredo has seen.  
Germont is touched when he realizes how much Violetta is giving up  
because of her love for Alfredo.*

**GERMONT:** But, lovely lady, living here with Alfredo is scandalous  
in the eyes of many, and my daughter's future is at stake.  
How can you be happy without the blessings of family  
and friends? One day your beauty will fade.  
What will you do if Alfredo's love fades as well?

**VIOLETTA:** Since finding Alfredo, I have begun a new life.  
Nothing matters except loving him.

**GERMONT:** If you truly love him, you must make a sacrifice to prove it. My daughter is engaged to a fine gentleman who now threatens to leave her because of your relationship with my son. Please, I beg of you, forget Alfredo. Allow my daughter the happiness she deserves.

**VIOLETTA:** How could you ask such a thing? But...I love Alfredo so much that, if you insist, I will do it. If I must, I will give up your son forever. Now go.

## THE REQUEST

Germont

Verdi

*Tenderly*

1. Please Vi - o - let - ta, hear my plea. Hap - py my  
2. But since Al - fre - do you have claimed, her pride is

daugh - ter longs to be. She is to mar - ry  
dashed, she's now a - shamed. For he's with - drawn his -

1

soon, you see, a gen - tle - man of no - bil - i - ty.

2

pledge to her, and my Al - fre - do is the one who's blamed.



*Germont leaves the house, but lingers just outside in Violetta's garden.*

**VIOLETTA:** May heaven grant me strength to do what I must do.  
*She sits at her desk, writes a letter, and rings for Annina.  
She begins writing another letter when Alfredo enters.*

**ALFREDO:** Writing letters, are you?

**VIOLETTA:** Yes, uh, just finishing...

**ALFREDO:** To whom were you writing?

**VIOLETTA:** To you.

**ALFREDO:** Then give me the letter.

**VIOLETTA:** Not now. Later.

**ALFREDO:** Speaking of letters - I'm most disturbed over a letter  
I just received from my father.  
He said some hateful things, but I hope when he visits  
us and sees how happy we are,  
we'll be able to work out some of our differences.

Note on Germont's song, *The Request* - opposite page:

When part of a piece of music is repeated with different words or singers,  
a kind of short cut ("shorthand") is often used to save space,  
because paper was very expensive in those days.

Germont sings two verses in this piece.

At the beginning of the third line there is a #1,  
and at the end of that line there is a *double bar* and a *repeat* sign: ||  
The *repeat* sign means go back to the beginning and sing the second  
verse, then take the second ending #2, to the end.

**VIOLETTA:** I think perhaps it might be better  
if I weren't here when he comes.  
I'll see him later.  
Oh, Alfredo, you do love me, don't you?  
Please tell me that you love me.

*As Violetta exits, she bursts into tears.  
Alfredo sits down, opens a book, reads awhile,  
glances at the clock, and muses to himself.*

**ALFREDO:** It's so late now, I doubt that my father will get here today.

*A servant enters and speaks to Alfredo.*

**SERVANT:** Madame has departed for Paris. Annina is with her.

**ALFREDO:** What took them to Paris?

**SERVANT:** Maybe this note from Madame just delivered by  
messenger will explain.

**ALFREDO:** Why do I feel that this letter will be bad news?

*He opens the letter and reads it*

Violetta! No! This can't be possible.  
Please say you don't mean good-bye!

*Germont, who has been waiting in the garden, enters.*

**GERMONT:** My dear son, what is troubling you?

**ALFREDO:** She's gone...off to Paris and that horrid party at Flora's!  
How could she?

**GERMONT:** Don't judge too quickly, and don't think of revenge.  
Just think of coming back to your loving family.

## A FATHER'S PLEA

Germont

Verdi

Moderately

Oh, my son, what have you done that has kept you on the run? Your fi -

de - li - ty is gone; it's now van-ished like the sun. Will you not re-turn once more to those

hap - py days of yore? Help your fa - ther's heart to mend and our dreams a - gain re - store.

### ACT II, Scene 2: Paris

*The party at Flora's elegant house in Paris is in full swing.*

*Many fashionable guests are there, and the entertainment includes troupes of gypsies, matadors, and picadors.*

*Alfredo and his father enter and see Violetta on the arm of a former boyfriend, the Baron.*

# SONG OF THE GYPSIES

## Act II, Scene 2

## Chorus Women

**Spirited** Dm A7 Dm Verdi

Women

We come as gyp-sy girls, from lands long miles a - way. We

Percussion

A7 Dm 3

of - fer ma - ny gifts and treas - ures ev - 'ry day. Tell - ing your

C7 F C7 F 3

for - tune for to - day or just what love you hope you will find. What lies a -

C7 F A7 Dm 3

head, what went be - hind, we are pre - pared to read your mind.

The *percussion line* indicates a rhythm instrument (drum, cymbals, tambourine, castanets, clapping hands, etc.) which accompanies the rest of the song.

Try adding your own rhythm section, perhaps tambourines as the gypsies might have had, but be careful!

The rhythm pattern changes several times.

# SONG OF THE MATADORS

## Chorus Men

Fast Verdi

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in 3/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). The tempo is marked 'Fast'. The score consists of six lines of music. The first line begins with a Cm chord symbol. The second line has G7, Cm, G7, and Cm chord symbols. The third and fourth lines have Eb and Bb7 chord symbols with accents (>) over the notes. The fifth line has a Cm chord symbol. The sixth line has G7, Cm, G7, and Cm chord symbols. A repeat sign (:||) is placed at the end of the sixth line. The lyrics are: 1. Once there was a ma - ta - dor, slim and hand - some; 2. But to win his la - dy's love he must gam - ble, - bold and proud a he - ro was he. win - ning in the bull - ring, for all to see. Mat - a - dors live life with pas - sion, love and great am - bi - tion, risk - ing all they have to give them - selves just one more chance. Once there was a ma - ta - dor, slim and hand - some; bold and proud a he - ro was he.

Remember the *repeat sign* (:||) on page 15 ? Here's another one.

Sing the first verse to the sign,  
then repeat to the second verse and continue on to the end.

The little letters above the melody line are *chord symbols*.

(It's more musical "shorthand").

Instead of writing out a bass clef (bottom) line,  
the chord symbol tells what chord should be played with the melody line.

# CHORUS

## Men and Women

Why don't you try singing this piece in two parts (top and bottom notes)?  
That's how it appears in the opera, and is not difficult to do.

**With Enthusiasm** Verdi

Let us cheer for the brave ma - ta -  
dor who risks it all for the sweet - heart he  
loves; and for deeds he will dar - ling - ly  
do, with pride and skill, and with help from a - bove.

*Violetta is upset when she sees Alfredo,  
especially since the Baron has forbidden her to speak to him.  
Alfredo is on a winning streak in a card game  
and declares that bad luck in love is always good luck for a gambler.  
The Baron asks if he may join the game.  
They play together, and Alfredo wins a fortune from the Baron.  
Fearing the Baron's anger over his losses,  
Violetta warns Alfredo to leave quickly for his life may be in danger.  
She agrees to meet him later in secret.  
Furious, Alfredo insults her and refuses to listen to her warning.  
In desperation she tells him she has given the Baron her word  
that she will leave Alfredo, and that she now loves the Baron.  
Alfredo, in his anger, summons the other guests.  
He humiliates Violetta in front of them,  
and hurling his purse of winnings at her feet,  
says his debt to her is now repaid.*

**ALFREDO:** *(shouting hysterically)* Everyone gather round!  
This woman has spent all her money on me, and  
I want you all to witness that I am paying her back in full!

*The crowd gasps in disbelief at his outburst.*

**GUESTS:** How could he? What a brute! Such cruelty!

**GERMONT:** I can't believe a son of mine could behave so badly.  
No man of honor would treat a woman that way.

**BARON:** You have offended everyone present.

**GUESTS:** Please leave this house. Go at once!

*Alfredo flees, realizing that he acted out of anger and pride.*

*Violetta, miserable, is being consoled by her friends.*

*They remind her that Alfredo is not worthy of her affections.*

**ACT III: Violetta's modest apartment in Paris a short time later**

## TENDER SADNESS

Slowly and Tenderly                      Orchestra                      Verdi

The musical score is written for piano and consists of two systems of music. The first system has four measures. The second system starts at measure 5 and also has four measures. The music is in a minor key with a common time signature. The first system begins with a piano (*pp*) dynamic marking. The notation includes treble and bass clefs, a grand staff bracket, and various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and accidentals.

*Violetta, back in Paris, has had a relapse of her illness.  
She is lying in bed, barely clinging to life.  
Her faithful maid, Annina, is attending her.  
The doctor arrives.*

**DR. GRENVIL:** Are you feeling a little better today?

**VIOLETTA:** Yes, I slept well. How kind of you to look in on me.

**DR. GRENVIL:** You'll soon be up and about, I'm sure.

**ANNINA:** *(To Dr. Grenvil out of Violetta's hearing)*  
Is she really improved?

**DR. GRENVIL:** Alas, no. I just said that to soothe her.

*Dr. Grenvil leaves, and  
Annina brings in a letter that has just been delivered to Violetta.  
It is from Alfredo's father, in which he writes:*





**ANNINA:** Prepare yourself for a happy surprise.

**VIOLETTA:** Can it be that Alfredo has already returned?

**ANNINA:** Yes, my lady.

**ALFREDO:** (*rushing in*)  
Violetta, my own dear love. Can you forgive me?

**VIOLETTA:** Of course, beloved Alfredo.

*She collapses in a fit of coughing.*

**ALFREDO:** My love, you're so weak.

**VIOLETTA:** Oh, it is nothing.  
*But when she tries to get up, she is unable to speak.*

**ALFREDO:** Call the Doctor. Hurry!

*Now somewhat revived, Violetta responds*

## TOGETHER AGAIN

Very Tenderly                      Alfredo and Violetta                      Verdi

(Alfredo) 1.Noth - ing more, dear      Vi - o - let - ta,      will a - gain re -  
(Violetta) 2.We will see a      place to be where      health can be re -

mind us      of the hard - ships,      pain and  
stored, \_\_\_\_\_      and your love will      once a -

1 heart - ache be - hind us.      2 gain be my re - ward.

**VIOLETTA:** Tell the Doctor that now that I have my beloved  
Alfredo back, I want so much to live again.  
But I fear it is too late, too late.

*Germont and Dr. Grenvil enter*

**VIOLETTA:** Germont, you've come back as my friend  
and brought my dear Alfredo.

**GERMONT:** You're more than a friend.  
You're as dear to me as my own daughter.

**ALFREDO:** Violetta, my love. You must live!

*She hands him a locket with her picture.*

**VIOLETTA:** My dear Alfredo, when you look at this,  
remember me and the love we shared.  
Suddenly I feel so much better -  
no longer wracked with coughing and pain.  
I feel whole again and prepared for what lies ahead.

## FAREWELL

Verdi

**Triumphantly**  
(Violetta)

My love, how sad to leave you know - ing just how much you

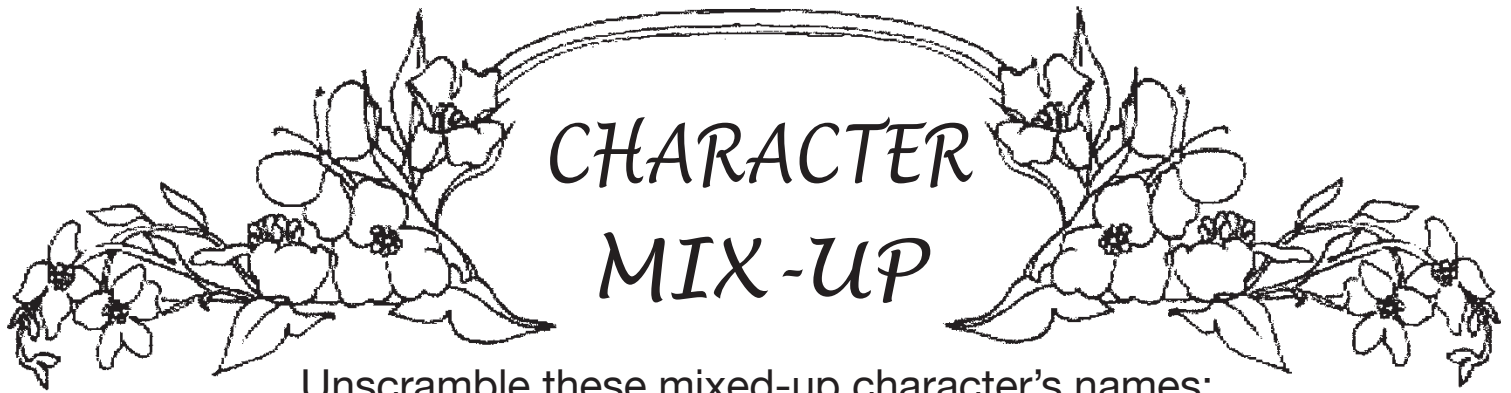
(Alfredo)

care. — You'll be for - ev - er in my heart; and I'll be al - ways there.

*Violetta turns her eyes toward heaven, takes one last breath,  
and falls back, lifeless.*

**ALL:** Oh no, she's gone. May heaven receive her soul.

**THE END**



# CHARACTER MIX-UP

Unscramble these mixed-up character's names:

1. **ROLAF** \_\_\_\_\_ throws a party.
2. **INDERFS** \_\_\_\_\_ attend the party.
3. **SPYGIES** \_\_\_\_\_ tell fortunes at the party.
4. **STAVERNS** \_\_\_\_\_ serve at fancy parties.
5. **AMODARTS** \_\_\_\_\_ are what some guests masquerade as.
6. **ADIPCORS** \_\_\_\_\_ tease the "bulls" at Flora's party.
7. **SONTEAG** \_\_\_\_\_ introduces Alfredo to Violetta.
8. **DORFALE** \_\_\_\_\_ falls in love with Violetta.
9. **TATLEOVI** \_\_\_\_\_ loves Alfredo, too.
10. **NANNIA** \_\_\_\_\_ is Violetta's maid.
11. **ROCDOT VILGERN** \_\_\_\_\_ is her physician.
12. **HET NOBAR** \_\_\_\_\_ is Violetta's former boyfriend.
13. **TEMGRON** \_\_\_\_\_ is Alfredo's father.

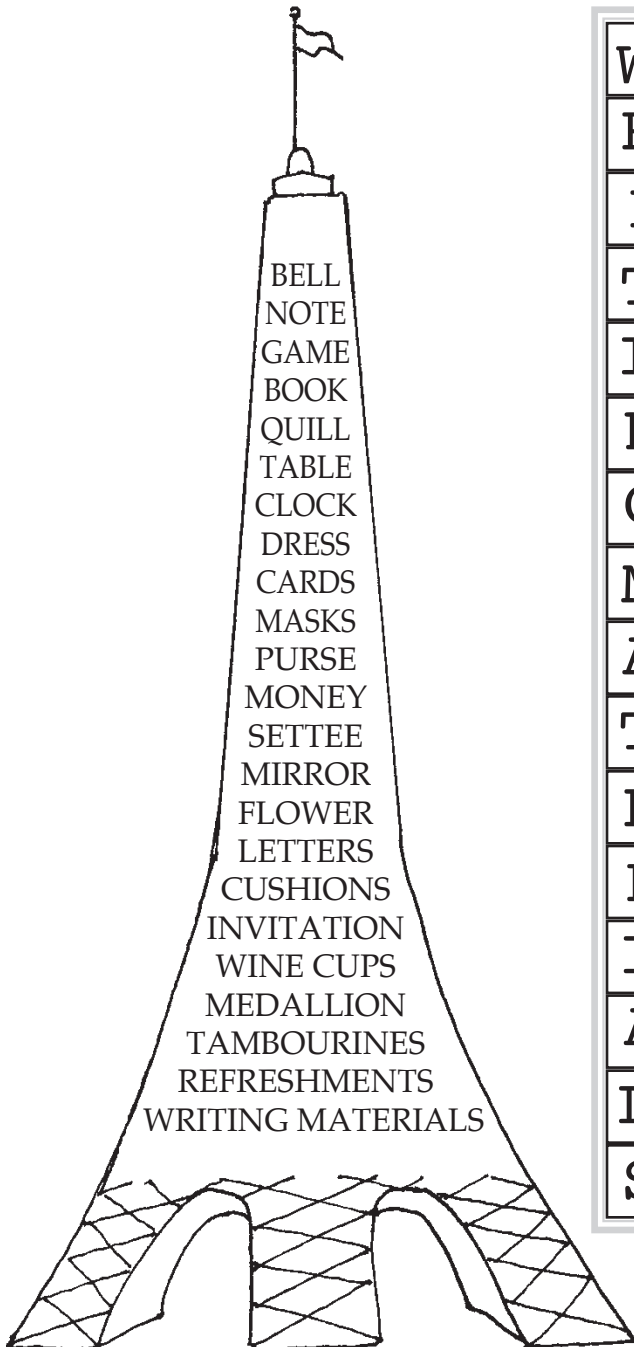
Whose name is in this rebus?

$V + O +$    $- ER + AH =$  \_\_\_\_\_

# PROP SEARCH



Look forward, backward, upside down, and diagonally,  
and circle the props you will see in the opera.



W	I	N	E	C	U	P	S	G	A	M	E
R	R	T	P	U	R	S	E	A	I	O	T
I	E	K	E	S	W	I	T	R	H	N	O
T	W	Y	O	H	U	T	R	H	N	E	N
I	O	D	N	I	K	O	I	O	S	Y	S
N	L	R	F	O	R	C	I	L	O	B	E
G	F	E	W	N	I	T	O	E	E	R	N
M	A	S	K	S	A	L	S	L	O	O	I
A	N	S	T	T	O	S	L	R	C	E	R
T	E	T	I	U	R	R	N	A	L	I	U
E	T	V	W	E	Q	E	H	B	D	E	O
R	N	N	T	C	U	E	A	I	T	E	B
I	S	T	A	R	I	T	E	D	B	O	M
A	E	R	L	O	L	T	O	M	O	I	A
L	D	S	F	A	L	E	D	K	E	D	T
S	T	N	E	M	H	S	E	R	F	E	R

Taking the remaining 57 spaces in order, find what Violetta says to Alfredo as she sends him away in **Act I**

“ \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ ”  
\_\_\_\_\_

# PUZZLING PLOT

Search for these facts throughout *Opera Funtime*, and then put them all together!

Alfredo meets Violetta at a (14 across).

She gives (18 across) a (15 across).

They fall (17 across) love.

The couple moves

to the (7 down).

They run out of (19 across).

Alfredo returns to

(6 across) to get a (8 across).

His (15 down) asks Violetta  
to forget Alfredo.

He says she is ruining  
the family's (2 down).

For Alfredo's good,  
she (14 down) not to love him.

Alfredo sees her with an old (13 down).

He becomes (21 across) and (4 down) her.

Violetta is very (20 down) and very (1 down).

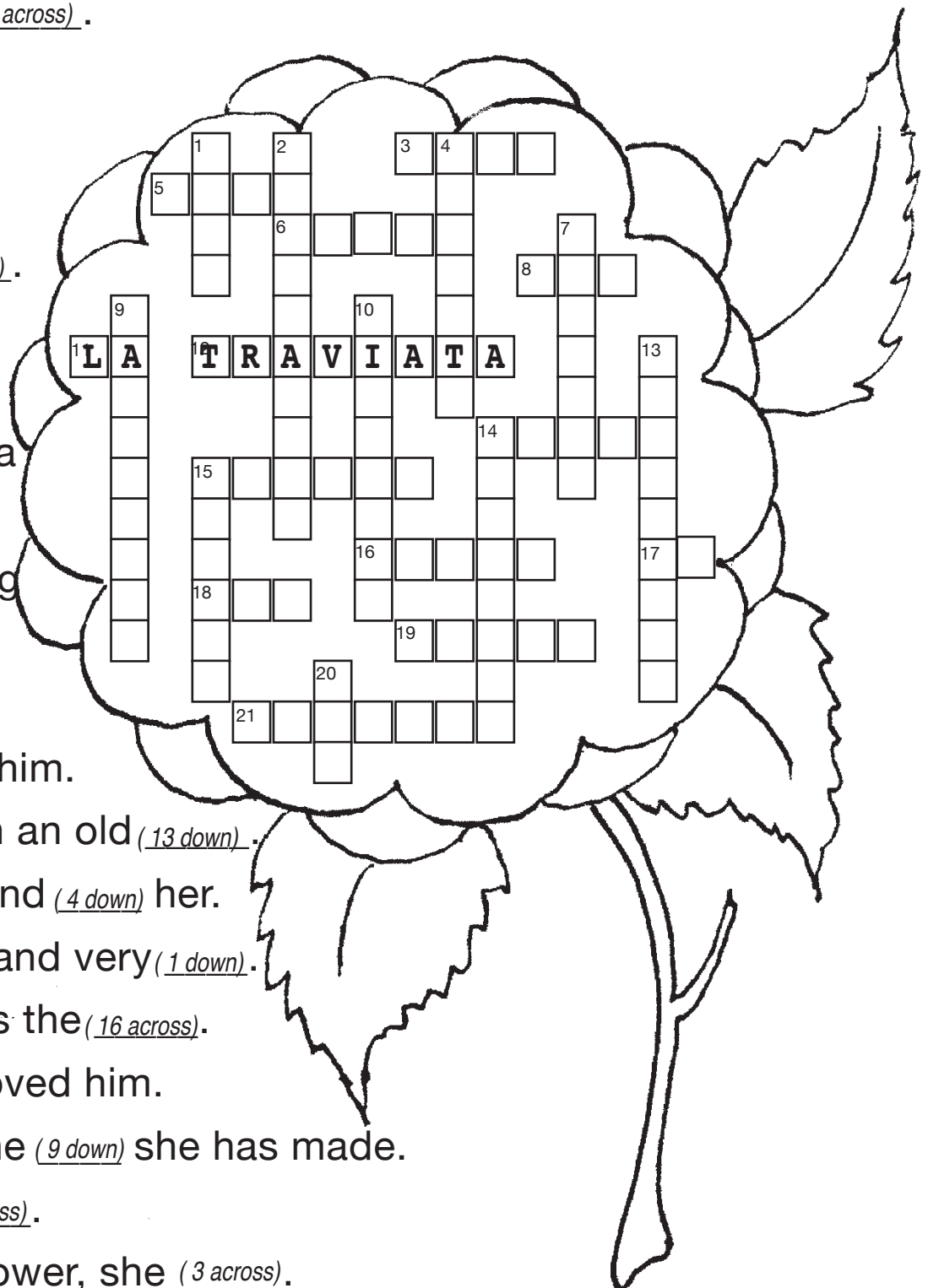
Finally, Alfredo learns the (16 across).

All along, (10 down) has loved him.

The Germonts see the (9 down) she has made.

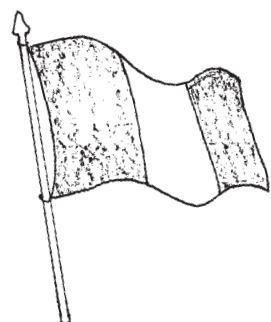
They rush to her (5 across).

But, like the faded flower, she (3 across).

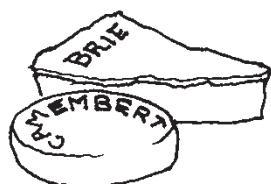


# FROM FRANCE

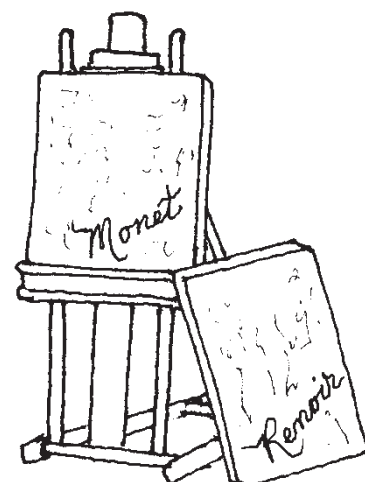
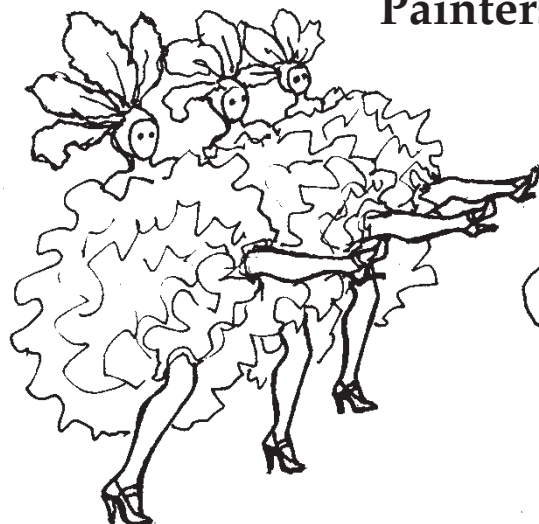
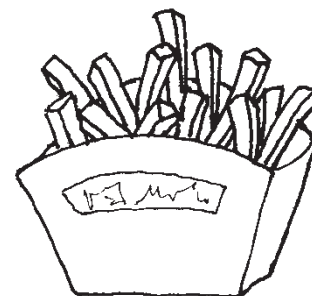
All of these things are from France or are commonly known as French. Circle the one which is no longer IN France, then fill in the blanks about it.



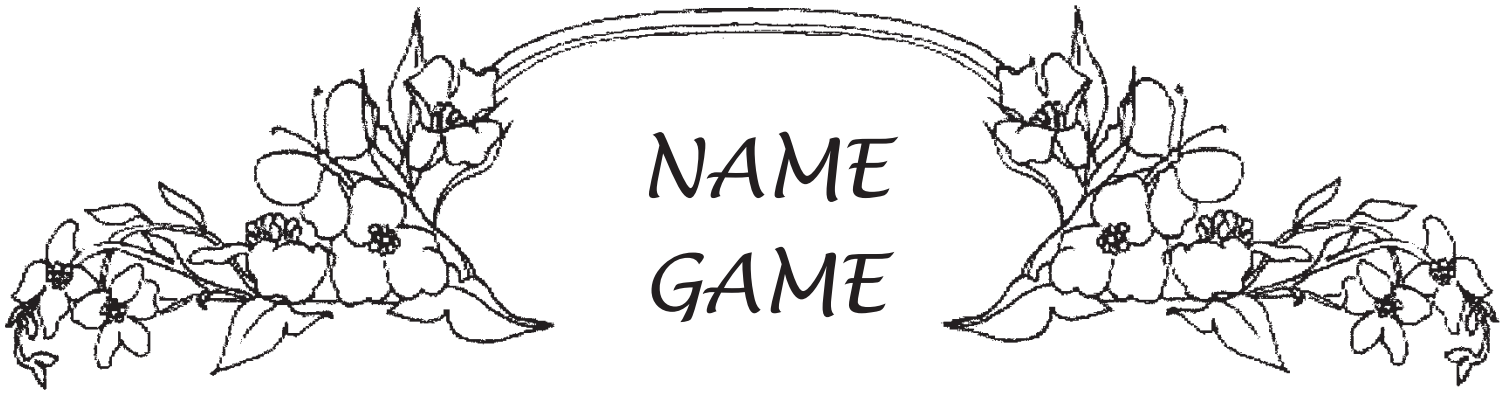
Now identify each picture by drawing a line to its name.



- Can Can
- Eiffel Tower
- Champagne
- Cheeses
- French Bread
- Statue of Liberty
- French Fries
- Fleur-de-lis
- French Flag
- Beret (tam)
- Painters



The \_\_\_\_\_ was a gift of friendship to the \_\_\_\_\_ people in 1875. It is located in \_\_\_\_\_.



# NAME GAME

The names of the two main female characters have to do with flowers. *Flora* means flower, and is also the name of the Roman goddess and protector of flowers.

*Violetta* is the Italian word for Violet.

*La traviata* is based on a story called "The Lady of the Camellias," where the heroine always carried a bouquet of camellias or pinned them on her dress.

Many girls were named for flowers.

Draw a line to link each flower with a female name.

**Camelia, Daisy, Fern, Iris, Ivy, Lily, Rose, Violet, Pansy**

Can you unscramble  
the above flower names?

LEVITO = \_\_\_\_\_

SNAPY = \_\_\_\_\_

SOER = \_\_\_\_\_

SIRI = \_\_\_\_\_

YILL = \_\_\_\_\_

YIV = \_\_\_\_\_

NERF = \_\_\_\_\_

SIDYA = \_\_\_\_\_

LACMIALE = \_\_\_\_\_

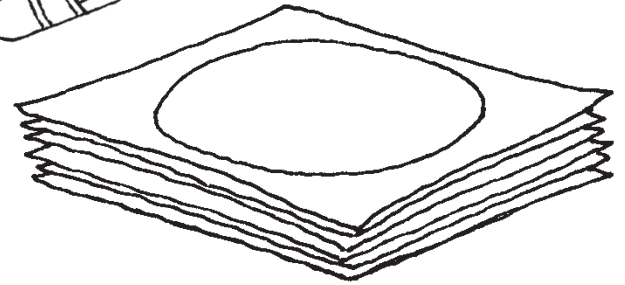
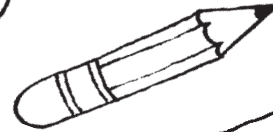
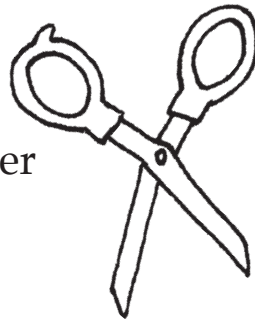




# MAKE A CAMELLIA

## Materials needed:

White crepe paper or tissue paper  
Yellow and green pipe cleaners  
Cup or glass or 4" circle pattern  
Pair of scissors  
Pencil

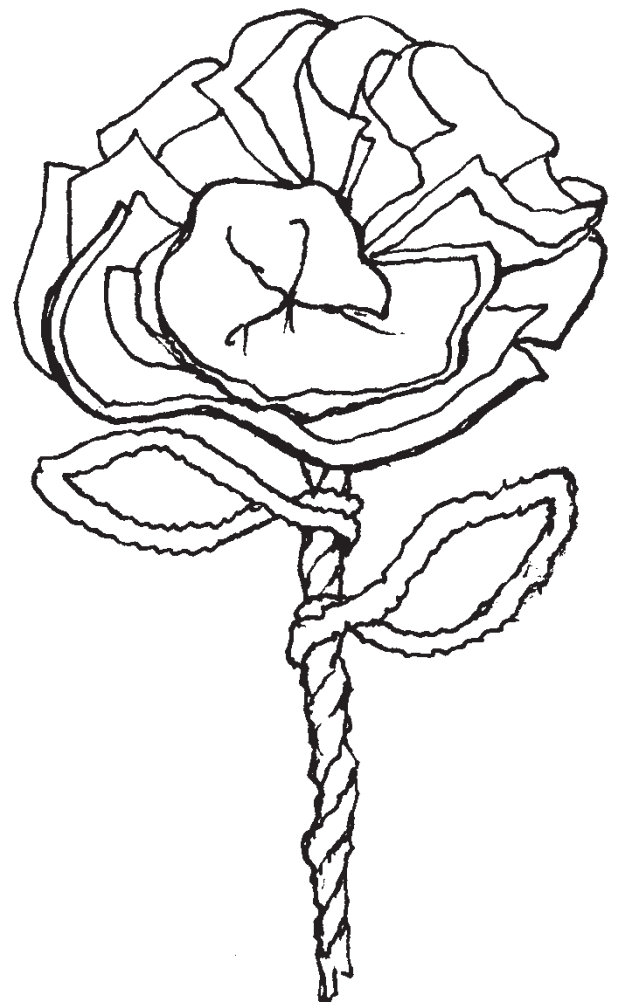
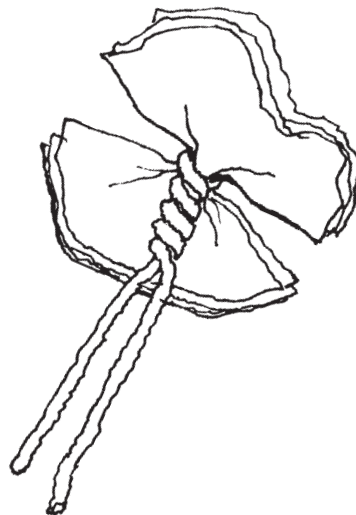
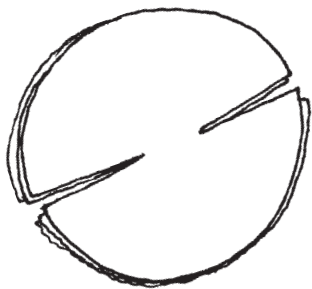


Fold paper over and over into a square of six to eight layers.

Place cup or glass or 4" round cardboard pattern on top of your white paper.

Draw the circle and cut it out.

Cut a slit on each side of the paper - almost to the center.



Bend yellow pipe cleaner and  
twist tightly around the middle of the circle.

Separate the paper layers,  
bending and shaping the petals.

Fluff out the flower.

Add green pipe cleaners for leaf shapes.





Can you find the *HIDDEN TREASURES* at Flora's party?

Wine glass, top hat, playing cards, money bag, camellia, book, bell, quill, mask, mirror, clock, envelope, medallion, and tambourine

# SOLUTIONS

## Page 7 - VERDI'S ITALY



Verdi was born in Le Roncole

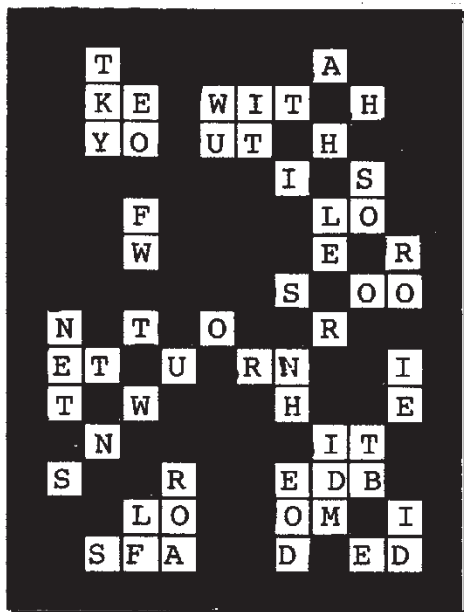
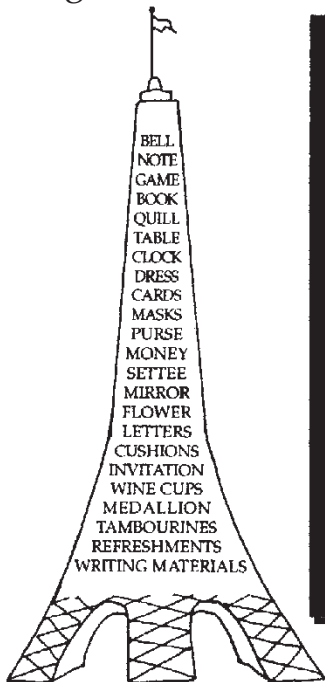
Verdi had private music lessons in Milan

Verdi married Margherita in Busseto

Verdi founded his retirement home for musicians in Milan

*La traviata* was first performed in Venice

## Page 26 - PROP SEARCH

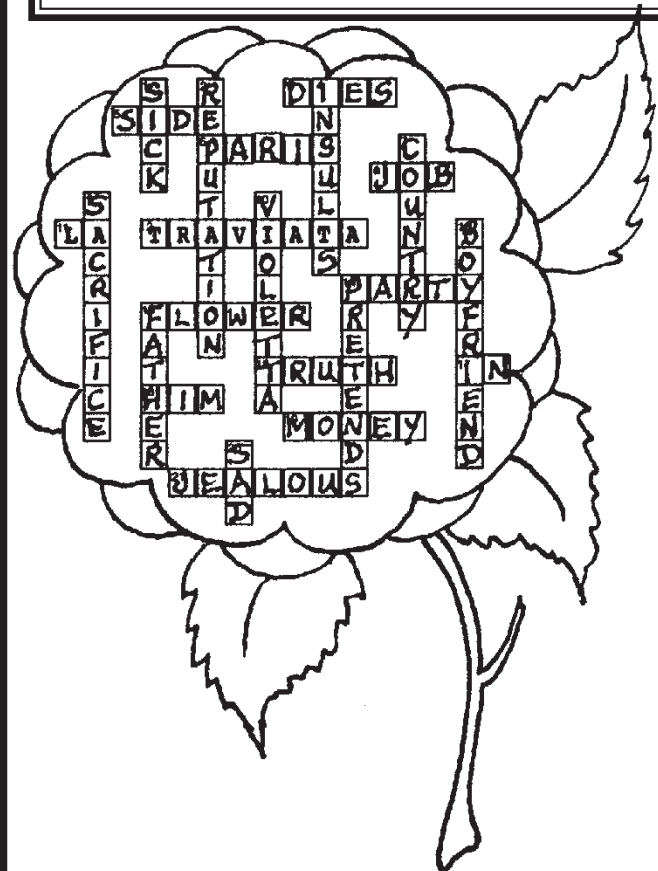
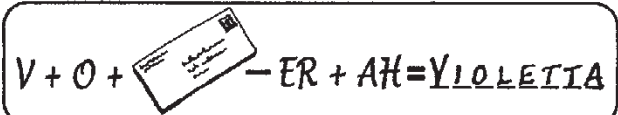


Taking the remaining 57 spaces in order, find what Violetta says to Alfredo as she sends him away in Act 1.  
 "TAKE WITH YOU THIS FLOWER, SOON TO RETURN IT WHEN ITS RED BLOOM IS FADED."

## Page 25 - CHARACTER MIX-UP

1. ROLAF ELORA throws a party.
2. INDERFS ERLENDS attend the party.
3. SPYGIES GYPSES tell fortunes at the party.
4. STAVERN SERVANTS serve at fancy parties.
5. AMODARTS MATADORS are what some guests masquerade as.
6. ADIPCORS PLCADORS tease the "bulls" at Flora's party.
7. SONTAG GASTONE introduces Alfredo to Violetta.
8. DORFALE ALREDD falls in love with Violetta.
9. TATLEOV VIOLETTA loves Alfredo, too.
10. NANNIA ANNINA is Violetta's maid.
11. ROCDOT VILGERN DOCTOR GRENVIL is her physician.
12. HET NOBAR THE BARON is Violetta's former boyfriend.
13. TEMGRON GERMONT is Alfredo's father.

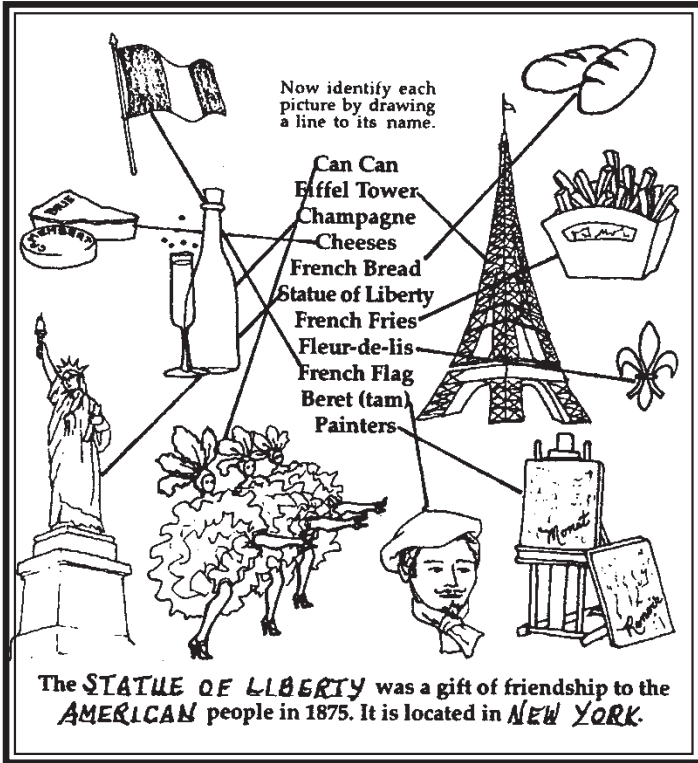
Whose name is in this rebus?



## Page 27 - PUZZLING PLOT

# MORE SOLUTIONS

Page 28 - FROM FRANCE



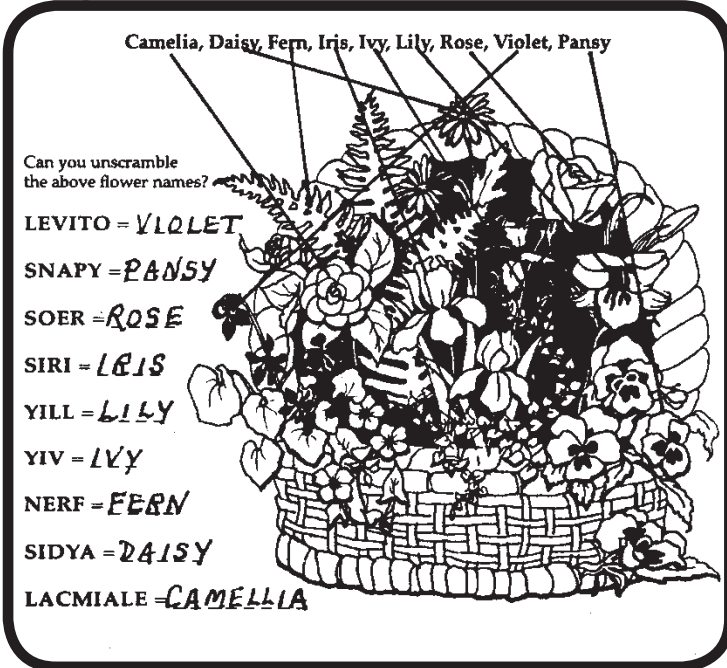
Page 31- HIDDEN TREASURES

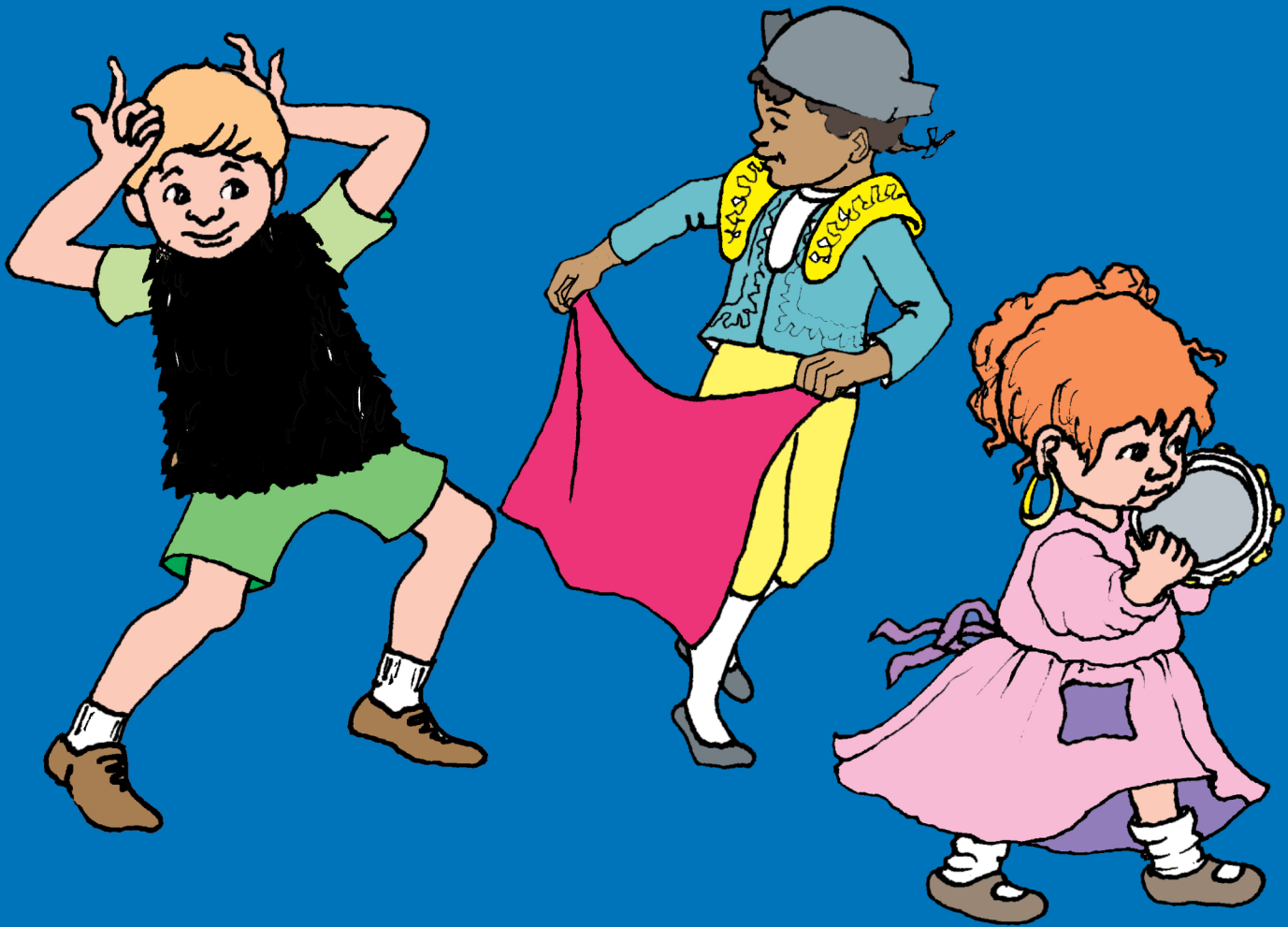


Can you find the **HIDDEN TREASURES** at Flora's party?

Wine glass, top hat, playing cards, money bag, camellia, book, bell, quill, mask, mirror, clock, envelope, medallion, and tambourine

Page 29 - NAME GAME





# OPERA'S FUN FOR EVERYONE



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