

No. 1 Yente/Golde

YENTE: What does a poor skinny tailor want with Tzeitel?

GOLDE: They've always been friends. They talk, they play..

YENTE: Play? What do they play?

GOLDE: I don't know, they're children.

YENTE: From such children come other children.

GOLDE: Motel is nothing! Yente, you said you had news for me.

YENTE: Ah... children, children.

YENTE: They are your blessing in your old age. But my Aaron, may he rest in peace, couldn't give me children. To tell you the truth, Golde, he hardly tried. But what's the use complaining? Other women enjoy complaining. Not Yente. Not every woman in the world is a Yente. Well, I... I have to go home now to prepare my poor Sabbath meal. So er... goodbye, Golde. And it was a pleasure talking our hearts out to each other.

GOLDE: Yente, you said you had news for me!

YENTE: Oh, I'm losing my head. Some day, it will fall off altogether. A horse will kick it in the mud and, 'Goodbye, Yente'. Of course, the news. It's about Lazar Wolf, the butcher. A good man. A fine man. And I don't have to tell you he's well off, no? Yes. But he's lonely, the poor man. He's been a widower all these years. You understand? Of course you do. So! To make it short, out of the whole town, he's cast his eye on Tzeitel.

GOLDE: My Tzeitel?

YENTE: No, the Tzar's Tzeitel! Of course your Tzeitel!

GOLDE: Such a match for my Tzeitel! But... but Tevye wants a learned man. He doesn't like Lazar.

YENTE: Good, so Lazar won't marry him. He wants the daughter, not the father. Listen. Listen to me, Golde. You send Tevye to him. Don't tell him what it's about. Let Lazar discuss it himself. He'll win him over, he's a good man and a wealthy man. So! You'll let me know how it went. And you don't have to thank me, Golde. Because, aside from my fee, which Lazar will pay anyway, it gives me satisfaction to make people happy. True? Of course, true. So, er... Goodbye, Golde, and you're welcome.

GOLDE: Goodbye, Yente. Come! Come, children. Get changed for the Sabbath. Hurry! Hurry with your work!