

# La Traviata

Courtesan Violetta  throws a grand party celebrating her recovery from a long illness.   
She learns of young Alfredo  who has visited every day of her illness to ask about her.

Her lover, the Baron , declines to make the dinner toast, and   
Alfredo raises his glass to drink to love!   
Violetta retorts that Love is fleeting – Pleasure  should be the only pursuit!

Left alone together, Alfredo declares his love for her.   
Violetta gently suggests he find another – but relenting, she gives him a flower   
Telling him to return when it has faded...

The guests depart, dawn  is breaking. Violetta ponders if true love  is possible for her.  
Should she dare to hope, or continue her life of  freedom and pleasure?

Away in the countryside , Alfredo and Violetta's love blossoms.   
Alfredo, ashamed Violetta pays all their expenses, goes to Paris to sort out bills.  
Meanwhile, his father Germont  comes to beg Violetta to break with Alfredo:  
The scandal of their affair threatens his daughter's betrothal.   
Violetta reluctantly agrees to sacrifice her happiness  for the young lovers. 

Finding Violetta has left him, Alfredo is furious and rejects  the comfort  
Of his father. He heads to their friend Flora's party; certain Violetta will be there.  
Lucky at cards he scornfully throws his winnings at Violetta stating he has repaid all he owes her.  
  Everyone is appalled  and the Baron challenges him to a duel. 

Months later Violetta is dying . A note  from Germont comforts her: the duel claimed  
No lives and Alfredo knows of her sacrifice for his family.

Alfredo and Germont visit unexpectedly.  
Seeing her so ill, they understand the full depth of her sacrifice.  
Violetta forgives  them. But Alfredo's love  is not enough to save Violetta.  
In her final moments, Violetta gives him a portrait to remember her by-   
She will pray for him amongst the angels. 