

Madama Butterfly



High over Nagasaki harbor,



Goro the marriage broker shows Lieutenant Pinkerton his new house.



As they await the bride, American Consul Sharpless arrives-



He is deeply concerned that Pinkerton takes his wedding vows lightly,

While Butterfly sees Pinkerton as her savior from Geisha life.



Joyous Butterfly leads the Wedding party up the hill.



Pinkerton hears the sad tale of Butterfly's father, who killed himself to save his honor.

Her family is unsure about the marriage,

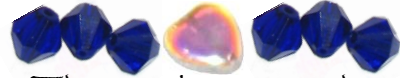
But she is so committed to her new life that she has become a Christian.



Astounded, the family renounces her, leaving her prostrate and weeping.



The sun sets on her despair, Pinkerton comforts her- They are lost in a night of love.



Pinkerton goes to sea as sailors must. With the spring robins he will return.



The robins have already nested three times, but Butterfly is faithful, full of hope and love.

He will return.

Suzuki the maid is fearful: there is no money



Goro in vain presents a new rich husband to save them-but Butterfly always refuses.



Sharpless gently reveals Pinkerton may not return.

Butterfly reveals her son with such knowledge-He will be sure to come.

Spying his ship on the horizon, Butterfly and Suzuki fill the house with flowers,



Beginning a vigil of anticipation.



At dawn Kate, Pinkerton's "real" wife, arrives, she wishes to take the child home with them



Butterfly agrees if He will come for the child himself.



Pinkerton comes, calling her name,

but it is too late now for Butterfly who chooses death before dishonor.



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