
















Così Fan Tutte


Wise old Don Alfonso  bets soldiers Guglielmo  and Ferrando  that
Their "eternally  faithful" sweethearts  will be  untrue: like all women.

Dorabella  and Fiordiligi  admire the portraits of their respective lovers,
Ferrando and Guglielmo, in their lockets. 


Don Alfonso tells them that the soldiers are called to battle.





The women weep.  and the soldiers ask them to wait  and be  true.


Maid Despina  encourages her sad ladies to enjoy meeting new men-  soldiers are
Never faithful anyway. Guglielmo & Ferrando, disguised as mustachioed   "Albanians",
Arrive proclaiming they are in love  with the beautiful sisters. When the women reject them, 
The dejected men pretend to take  arsenic. Despina (disguised as a doctor) 
"Revives" them, but the sisters still refuse  to kiss the ailing gentlemen.



Despina persuades the sisters further declaring: Women rule the Kingdom of Love-
Men must obey! The sisters agree to meet the men as a diversion. 

Alone together, Guglielmo gives Dorabella a heart-shaped  locket, taking her locket
With Ferrando's image; but Fiordiligi  rebuffs Ferrando's advances.
Revealing Dorabella's  locket to furious  Ferrando,
Guglielmo wonders  why  men put up with women.


When Fiordiligi admits she feels love for her "Albanian",
Her sister proclaims love is a thief  to be obeyed.

To remain faithful , Fiordiligi plans to be with Guglielmo at the front-
But Ferrando insists he will die of love for her and she can resist  him no longer.
Guglielmo overhears all and is  furious. Victorious Don Alfonso declares
 Women are all alike-He decides "marriage" is in order.

As the sisters sign the false wedding contract , Don Alfonso announces the soldiers' return!
The "Albanians" flee, and the soldiers arrive to see their sweethearts have married others.

Don Alfonso reveals the disguises,   shocking the women.

Blaming everything on Don Alfonso and Despina, the women swear again to be  true.

The men accept,  wisely admitting they won't put it to the test!

All agree that one must find mirth amongst the troubles of the world.