

Von Trapp Children's Audition Sides

MARIA

(Crosses to CAPTAIN) Thank you, Captain. I forgot to return this whistle, Captain. I won't need it, Captain. *(He takes the whistle and exits D.R. FRANZ and FRAU SCHMIDT exit to third floor. She turns to children with a handclap, catching them off guard.)* Well, now that there's just us, would you tell me your names again, and tell me how old you are. Now you're—?

(Each child, in turn, steps forward in military manner, speaks, and then steps back.)

LIESL

I'm Liesl. I'm sixteen years old and I don't need a governess.

MARIA

(R. of LIESL)

I'm glad you told me. We'll just be friends.

(LIESL steps back. FRIEDRICH steps forward.)

FRIEDRICH

I'm Friedrich. I'm fourteen. I'm a boy.

MARIA

(R. of FRIEDRICH) Boy? Why, you're almost a man.

(FRIEDRICH looks pleased. LOUISA signals the other girls, who giggle.)

LOUISA

I'm Brigitta.

MARIA

(Crosses behind LOUISA, pulling up her braid)

You didn't tell me how old you are, Louisa.

BRIGITTA

(Steps L. of MARIA) I'm Brigitta. She's Louisa and she's thirteen years old and you're smart. I'm nine and I think your dress is the ugliest one I ever saw.

KURT

(Steps R. of MARIA) Brigitta, you mustn't say a thing like that.

BRIGITTA

Why not? Don't you think it's ugly?

KURT

If I did think so, I wouldn't say so. *(Snapping to attention.)* I'm Kurt, I'm eleven—almost.

MARIA

That's a nice age to be, eleven—almost,

MARTA

(Steps forward L. of MARIA, pulling her skirt)

I'm Marta and I'm going to be seven on Tuesday and I'd like a pink parasol.

MARIA

Pink is my favorite color, too. *(GRETEL steps forward and stamps her foot.)* And you're Gretl.

(GRETEL smiles and jumps into her arms. MARIA crosses L.C.)

I'm going to tell you something. *(MARIA sits on chair R. of sofa, puts GRETEL on floor R. of her.)*

I've never been a governess before. How do I start?

LOUISA

(Runs to MARIA) You mean you don't know anything about being a governess?

MARIA

No.

LOUISA

Well, the first thing you have to do is to tell Father to mind his own business.

KURT

No, Louisa, don't. I like her.

BRIGITTA

(Above chair, picking up guitar case) What's in here?

MARIA

My guitar.

BRIGITTA

What did you bring this for?

MARIA

For when we all sing together.

MARTA

(BRIGITTA takes guitar out of case) We don't sing.

MARIA

Of course you sing. Everybody sings. What songs so you know?

KURT

We don't know any songs.

MARIA

(Taking guitar from BRIGITTA) You don't?

ALL

No.

Children's Scene 2

(She exits into the alcove. Lightning and thunder. MARLA jumps, then crosses to the bed and peers under the comforter looking for possible toads. GRETL enters U.C. in her night dress.)

MARIA

Oh, it's you, Gretl. Are you afraid?

(GRETL shakes her head. Thunder and lightning. GRETL jumps up on the bed with MARIA.)

You're not afraid of a thunderstorm, are you? You just stay right here with me. Where are the others?

GRETL

They're asleep. They're not scared.

(Thunder and lightning. BRIGITTA, LOUISA and MARTA run on U.C. in their nightdresses.)

MARTA

Wait for me.

MARIA

(To GRETL) Oh, no? Look. *(To the others.)*

Come, all of you. Up on the bed. *(All three girls jump up on the bed.)* Now all we have to do is wait for the boys.

LOUISA

We won't see them! Boys are brave.

(Thunder and lightning. KURT and FRIEDRICH enter U.C. in their pajamas.)

MARIA

You boys aren't frightened, too, are you?

KURT

Oh, no. We just wanted to be sure you weren't.

MARIA

Was this your idea, Friedrich?

FRIEDRICH

Oh, no. It was Kurt's.

MARIA

That's it, Kurt. That's the one I left out.

(Looking up.) God bless Kurt.

(Lightning and thunder. The boys run and cower at the foot of the bed)

MARTA

Why does it do that?

MARIA

Well, the lightning says something to the thunder and the thunder answers it back.

MARTA

I wish it wouldn't answer so loud.