

~~ANNA: But before settling down to married life I should like to go about a little — see places — learn a little more about Paris, I mean. Where does one go these days to amuse oneself?~~

~~DANILO: With one's fiancé? To a soirée at the Pontevédrian Embassy, I would suggest.~~

~~ANNA: I might find that dull.~~

~~DANILO: Exhilarating, I assure you. They do folk dances.~~

~~ANNA: I never came to Paris for that sort of thing. I need a change. Take me somewhere gay.~~

~~DANILO (singing): At Maxime's once again
I swim in pink champagne —~~

~~He then speaks over the music. After a while they dance a little.~~

~~ANNA: Maxime's.~~

DANILO: I must explain. At Maxime's there will be excellent dancing by young ladies of very doubtful reputation. And when you enter on my arm, everyone will think 'Aha, the new Grisettes! What a peach!' Monocles will flash, and I'll be the target of envious glances. The band strikes up a waltz. Three bars—no more—and you've abandoned three-quarters of your principles. Carried away by the music, you fly into the arms of one man after another; and before you know where you are you will find yourself in the embraces of a madly attractive waiter. Of course he will introduce himself — "I am the Grand Duke of Bryansk. The moment I clapt eyes on you I was visited with an overpowering spiritual malaise. You may have heard we Russians are prone to such things" — But you are not impressed. Disgruntled, he bows, and retreats in good order.

~~DANILO puts ANNA down.~~

~~ANNA (aside): He has certainly danced with me, but what has he said — nothing at all!~~

~~DANILO: Well, that's how it is. So what do we do now?~~

~~ANNA: It's up to you, sir.~~

~~DANILO: Very well, the Moulin Rouge!~~

~~ANNA: And what do we do there?~~

~~DANILO (laughing): Dance of course!~~

~~He laughs and takes her into his arms to dance again. They dance off together. ZETA ENTERS and sees NIEGUS approaching from the other side.~~