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Y_{n}: 1906
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## AZARA

## A New Opera in Three Acts <br> BY

JOHN K. PAINE


## AZARA

BY

## John Knowles Paine

## OPERA IN THREE ACTS

## Libretto by the Composer <br> German translation by Carl Pflueger

## VOCAL SCORE

SCENE OF ACTION：PROVFNCE，ABOUT THE TIME OF THE EARI， CRUSADES．

## CHARACTERS

KANしLIF，King of Proyence ..... Bass
GON＇TRAN，HIs son ..... Trevor
AZARA，WAR1）OF AYMAR Soldrano
AYMAR，COUNT AND VASSAL OF KAINTLF BaRITONE
ODO，COUN゙T AND ROY゙AL PAGE Mez7o SolrranoBARITONEMAI．FK，A SARACLK CHIEF
Mezzo－soldrano G．IRSIlः，A ：HEDHERDESS
Contralto（｀）Y，AS，A SHEHHERU
A HUNTMSMAN Tfinor

Kinghts，Men－at－Arms，Lords，Ladies，Pages，Guards，Burghers，Maidens，Moorish Minstrels and Jancing Girls，Saracens，Attendants，Trumpeters，etc．

# JOHN KNOWLES PAINE <br> AZ̈ARA 

OPERA IN THREE ACTS
Vocal Score with English and German words. (374 pages)
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## PLOTOFAZARA


#### Abstract

Ar r. 1. Rainulf's C'astle-Interior Comrt near the Donjon. King Rainulf, with bis attemdams, awaits tidings from the battle, which is raging near the castle under the leadership of his son (iontran, against the Saracens, commanded by Malck. The fierce saracen war-cry is heard beyond the walls. Ode, the royal page, now enters, and brings word of Gontran's victory. Among those assembled to welcome the return of the victors is Azara, a Hoorish girl, the ward of Aymar, vassal of lainulf. While the king is mmsing ower his son's prowess, le suddenly beholds Azara, and is enchanted with her grace and beaty. He is overwhelmed with a passionate desire to possess her love, and phans to withdraw her from the protection of $A$ yuar. Gontran and his victorions knights now enter and salnte the king. Rainulf extends his arms to Gontran, in gratitude for his noble deeds. Is his promised grerdon, Gontran rlaims the hand of Azara (to whom he is secretly betrothed)and leads her before the king. Raimulf, smeprised and inritated, tries to dissuade him ; telling of a marriage compart with Spath on mite the two thones. The knights decle ite it unworthy of a pince to marry an infidel. Aymar explams that Azara, though a Mostem princess by birth, has been baptised and brought up as a Christian, having fallen into his hands, on the battlefied, in her childhood. Rainulf feigns to disbelieve this, and orders Gontran to depart instantly for Spain, and Aymar to take his warl to another part of the castle, and await his pleasure. Herelpon Gontran, maddencd by the death-blow to his love orders the prisomer Malek, the Saracen chief, to be lead in, and gives him back his sword and scts him free. Ramulf's ratere now bursts all bounds, and he tells the grards to seize Malek and hurl him over the eliff. Gontran intereepts them with his drawn swotd.


Anid the fierce altercation of the courtiers. who are divided in opinion, Halek disappears. Meamwhile Rainulf turn aside with sutden irresolution, and Gontran accuses him of falseness and hypocrisy, with dark hints of past misdeeds. The conrtiers now plead for Gontran, but Rainulf, with rekindled wrath, curses his son and disowns him.

Act I1. An open forest glule by the seashore. Vight. Azara and Aymar have escaped from Raimlf's castle, and are resting intil the dawn shall bring then succor to essow hoyond the sea. Orchestral scene : Soft leping of the waves on the shore: mysterious forest sounds; wood-nymphs appear and flit about in the moonbeams. and hover aromb the slecping Dzara; dawn and daybreak; far-off ecloo of hunting-horms. The shepherds, Garsie and folas, and a hontsman, enter and smprise Azara. They tell her the glad tidings that Gontran was not slain, as sle feared, in the fray cansed by her flight from the castle, but merely stumed by the blow he received. lle was seen by them at dawn in the forest. Aymar immediately sets ont with them to find Gontran and bring liin to Azara. In their absence Halek appears before her. on his way to his neighboring galley. He is struck by her beanty and likeness to the Caliph's Queen. The thath now thashes on his mind; Azara is the very Moslem princess, lost years before amid the confusion of battle, and in quest of whom he had been sent to Provence. He shows Azara the portrat of her mother, and urges ler to return to her aged father, the Caliph, who stills mourus her loss. While she is gazing with emotion on her mother's portrait, Malek is suddenly seized with an ardent passion for her. He declares himself as her devoted lover, and begs her to fly with him. Azara spurns him and tants him with ingratitude to Gontran, who had spared his life and set him free. For a moment he is torn with contlicting elvotions, but, though honor calls, he runs and ialls at her feet in a fever of passion. Azara bids him begone, but he seizes her. After a struggle she breaks away from him and roms back, and stands at bay, drawing a dagger and aiming it at her breast, and threatening to kill herself if he advances. Malek hesitates, then turns aromed with a startled look; he hears approaehing footsteps and prudently withdraws. Gontran enters from the forest alone. Azara totters forwarl to meet him and falls at his feet in a swoon. He lifts her up; she revives. They give expression to their overwheming joy and love. Soon they are surprisel by Rainulf and his attendants, on their way to the neighboring shrine. Rainulf declares that his hasty words shall be recalled. be forgiven, if Gontran will resign Izara to his care. Gontran scorns his offer and draws his sword. Rainul tells the guards to seize them both; but while they hesitate, Gontran, with anguish of mind, aceuses his fathes hidden crimes, - the murder of his queen, and his despoilment of the Holy sepulche, when once he went to the Wrimt. Gontran hereupon draws a parchment. given to him by a priest from Rome, whom Gontra
 drops it, overcome with horror; for the Papal edict cuts him off from church, and liege, and land. W bemoans his doom, the saracens, set on by Malek, appear on all sides. In the sudden attack Rainulf womded, and $\backslash$ zara is seized and carried off by the enemy. During the mêlée Gontran hears her cry in the but is mable to rescue her: meanwhile the saracens disappear. Ramulf asks forgiveness of his son and dies. knights, ladies, etc., enter from the forest, and stand silent for a moment before the dead king. They cry, " 7 the Moor ? vengeance," but it is too late. The Noorish galley is seen to clear the shore. As it slowly passest by, Malek, holding the unconscous Azara, and his men sing their war-song, while Gontran and his vassals call for vengeance.
A.t III. By the mont of Gontran's castle. Gontran is now king. After a year's fruitless search for his lost brade he bewails his sad lot. His trosty friend and vassal, Aymar, comforts him with the assurance that Azara is the Caliph's daughter, and therefore wonld be safe from any evil designs of Malek. Gontran's hopes rise, and he declares he will now share the joys of the festal May-day. He bids the warders give the signal from the walls; the courtiers assemble from the cantle and salute the king with loyal acclamations, Burghers, maidens, and Moorish dancing-girls enter from the neighboring burg. They dance before the court. Deanwhile Malek appears, disguised as a minstrel, and when the crowd recedes he gives expression, aside, to his despair in having lost Azara, who has escaped from the harem walls in spain to win her way back to Gontran. sudtenly he notices the aprearance of a young spanish tronbadomr, and peers at hin with a furtive, infuiring look. He discovers with amazement and joy that this is Azara in disguise. Jzara notices his strange glances and shrinks from him. She expresses, aside, the mingled fechings of joy and fear, as she appears before the king to play her part, and wonders with increasing alarm who the minstrel is, glaring on the king with wild looks. Presently Malek disappears in the throng. Azara turns fowards Gontran, and the courticrs abont him. 'They notice her, and Gontran tells Aymar to bid the troubadour to sing. Azara approadhes nearer with a deen obeisance, and preludes on her lute. In her song she tells the story of her love, faptivity, and escape; how the desperate Moor had doged her Hying footstops, while undying hope sustained her soul that she wonld rest in loving ams at last. Herempon she throws off her mantle, and discloses herself to Gontran; at which Malek, who has been watching her with increasing agitation and desperation, darts forward and tries to stab her, but (iontran seizes him by the arm and wrests the dagger from him. The guards advance to seize Malek. Gontran orders them to leave him umbomd. Malek staggers forward with gestures of despair, and falls at the feet of Azara, in sudden remorse and sorrow. He rises to his feet and draws a concealed dagger and stabs himself, then falls heavily and dies, Guards bear his body from sight. Gontran draws A zara to his amon, amid acclamations of joy and loyalty.

## Azara

## Opera By

## JOHN KNOWLES PAINE

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Scenes from this work will be sung in } \\
& \text { concert form } \\
& \text { with pianoforte accompaniment } \\
& \text { Chit } \\
& \text { Thursday Evening, May } 7 \text { th, at Eight P. M. } \\
& \text { Huntington Avenue } \\
& \text { igo3 } \\
& \text { under the direction of } \\
& \text { E. CUTTER, Jr. }
\end{aligned}
$$

## SOLO SINGERS

Miss Grace Lowell Bradbury, Soprano<br>Miss Rebecca W. Cutter, Soprano<br>Mrs. Vincent A. Lyman, Mezzo Soprano<br>Mrs. Albert Thorndike, Contralto<br>Mr. Ernest R. Leeman, Tenor<br>Mr. David A. Tobey, Baritone<br>Mr. Ralph E. Brown, Bass<br>Mr. Geo. A. Tyler, Bass<br>AND A CHORUS OF 30 VOICES



## AZARA

## OPERA IN THREE ACTS.

Libretto and Music

BY

## JOHN KNOWLES PAINE

## CHARACTERS



## Scene of Action - Provence

Act I. Rainulf's Castle - Interior court near the Donjon
Act II. An open woodland glade by the seaside
Act III. By the moat of Gontran's Castle


## SCENE II

Odo $\quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad$ Mrs. Lyman
$* \quad * \quad * \quad * \quad * \quad * \quad * \quad * \quad *$
SCENE IV
Azara Miss Bradbury
Malek . . . . . . . . . Mr, Tobey
Gontran . . . . . . . . Mr. Leeman
Mrs. Thorndike
Aymar . . . . . . . . . Mr. Tyler

## ACT I

## SCENE I

RAINULF'S CASTLE. INTERIOR COURT NEAR THE DONJON

On one side a massive castle building, terminating at the back with a partial view of the Donjon tower. Arched entrance at back of stage. On the other side, lower rampart walls, pierced with loopholes, with a glimpse of the sky above. In the foreground, on one side, Rainulf is seated on a dais. Pages, guards, and attendants are grouped about the court, while some are watching on the ramparts.

Saracens (behind the curtain).
Allah _illa - Allah! Death! death!
(Enter Obo quickly from the postern.)
RAINULF.
Ho, page! Why comest thou with joyous mien
And radiant face? What marvel hast thou seen
To bid me hope our arms have conquered fate?
odo (with deep obeisance).
O sire! glad tidings from the postern gate!
Near by the barbican the heralds call, The day is won by our brave sons of Gaul!

## RAINULE

How knowest thou this?
ODO.
I heard our clarions blow
And cries of victory ring out below Upon the plain.

## RAINULF.

Methought no mortal power
Could stem the tide that rose against this tower, And save the honor of your wounded king. What promise bright your glorious tidings bring! Our cause triumphant over Moslem hate! O blesséd day for Gaul! O happy fate!

ODO.
'T is said wild terror seized the flying horde When Gontran charged with fury on their lord, And struck him down and made the fallen chief His prisoner.

RAINULF.
This is beyond belief!
ODO.
His prowess all the world shall know, Whose arm hath wrought the Paynim woe.
(Enter Azara with attendants; she stands apart.)
Rainulf (musing ).
My wayward son a hero, do I rave ?
Have I misprized this heart of all so brave?
A prince in battle, though in peace a hind;
But not alone for war is he designed.
Ambition rules the mighty of the earth;
With Spain a marriage-bond shall prove his worth.
rainulf (he gazes on azara with admiration).
To know thee, maiden, is my heart's desire.
azara (bowing before the king).
I am Azara, Aymar's ward, O sire!
On yester-even, when his castle fell,
He brought me safe to yonder keep.

## rainulf.

' T is well.
My lovely child, draw near! (Aside.) Her face divine Will haunt me evermore. Let him resign
His charge to me. O prize beyond compare I
(He draws her to him and kisses her on the forehead; she turns a way dismayed.)
azara (aside).
I fear him! Save me, Gontran, from despair! Rainulf (aside).
A new-born passion sways my longing heart;
Her charms enthrall me with a wondrous spell;
For my delight the maid shall dwell apart.
Against my darling wish who dares rebel?
My vassal from his cherished ward must part.
Though grace and beauty now adorn my throne,
This sweeter rose of love I prize alone.

## SCENE II

(Trumpets in the distance. Enter Ladies with attendants).
LADIES, GUARDS, ETC.
Behold, they comel they comel
knights, MEN-AT-ARMS (behind the scenes).
Triumph I All hail!
(Trumpeters advance. Enter Knights, etc., marching forward.)
ALL.
Sing, joyous hearts, with loud acclaim,
And celebrate our well-earned battle-fame!
Let our wondering vassals know O'erthrown and vanquished lies the foe.
These hoary donjon walls shall ring
With songs of triumph for our king.

## RAINULF (rising).

Brave knights, defenders of my throne!
The glories of this day are known ;
Your swords have conquered peace for all
Throughout our realm in burg and hall.
Your valiant deeds for aye shall stand, No more shall Malek scourge the land. God's curse on Islam's race will fall.
(Knights, Men-at-arms, etc., salute the King. They strike their shields and wave their banners.)

ALL.
Hail, sovran lord ! our arms declare
True freedom reigns in Provence fair.
Sing, joyous hearts, our monarch's fame,
With beacon-fires the heights enflame.
Flash o'er the land from Alp to sea
The splendor of our victory !
(Enter Gontran, Aymar, and attendant Knights.)
Hail! hail! Our champion comes! Hail!
(Gontran comes forward and salutes the King. The Knights and Men-at-arms strike their shields and wave their banners.)

ALL.
Long live great Gontran, hero-knight !
God's day-star o'er the path of right, Whose splendor makes us strong.
With glory crowned, our arms declare
True freedom reigns in Provence fair,
Blest land of love and song.
Long live king Rainulf's son! Gontran, hail!
(The crowd recedes. Rainulf extends his arms to Gontran, who kneels before him.)
My son, bend not the knee as one who pleads;
Let my embrace reward thy glorious deeds.
Arise! my marvel and my pride art thou.

```
GONTRAN (rising).
```

Nay, father, first fulfill thy solemn vow.
Rainulf.
What vow?
GONTRAN.
Didst thou not swear with upraised hand,
When I against the Moor went out to stand, If victor I should prove by grace of Heaven, The guerdon that I prize would then be given?

RAINULF.
Ay! reason guide thy choice with princely pride.
GONTRAN.
The one I fondly love shall be my bride.
(He goes aside to Azara and leads her before Rainulf).
Behold my choice! to her I plight my troth.
Rainulf (surprised and irritated).
What madness ! Dare not hold me to mine oath.
May God forsake thy fond and faithful sire!
Shall I against thy welfare now conspire?
(In a calner mood.)
With honor crowned, O serve the ends of state ;
Let high ambition choose thy royal mate.
Our glorious throne with Aragon unite;
The solemn pact is signed. GONTRAN (indignantly).

God save the right!
(Gontran turns aside to Azara. Rainulf gazes at them with a questioning air.)
RAINULF (to azara).
Thou lovest him?

## AZARA.

O sire, with all my heart!
Give thy consent; O doom us not to part!

> Rainulf (aside with jealous feeling).

My son a rival! Do I hear aright ?
(To azara passionately.)
Nay, err not. Live to serve my loving will.
azara (aside, anxiously).
O God! his words of passion threaten ill.
Love's sun hath set; now falls the gloom of night.
gontran (to rainulf).
Canst thou deny thy word in Heaven's sight?
O father, is all kingly honor dead ?
RAINULF.
Blind passion sways thine erring heart and head.
Forget thy childish folly.
GONTRAN.
Love will prove
More faithful than thy word. RAINULF.

Prate not of love.
GONTRAN (deeply moved).
My love is ardent as the day
Whose sunshine warms the heart of spring. My love is pure as breath of May,
As songs divine the poets sing. My love stands firmer than the rock Whose base upholds yon hoary tower;
Unmoved it bears the battle-shock,
The arrow-shafts of ruthless power.

Forswear thine oath? My fondest hopes destroy ?
Nay, father, grant my heart's desire I
May wise consent thy words inspire,
And strike a deeper chord of joy
Than ever rang from seraph's lyre.
O hearken, King! Let not false pride
And craft of state thy hand misguide, Our plighted vows are heard in heaven;
Shall not thy benison be given ?
O father, heed the voice divine!
O grant the precious boon be mine !
Thou knowest well the holy heart,
That glows with love's undying flame, Exalts true pride and kingly fame.
(Turning toward Azara.)
Azara shall be my bride!
azara (turning towards Gontran).
'Fore heaven thy promised bride!
knights (coming forward).
Let him who loves an infidel beware!
Is she a worthy consort for our prince, the heir
Of this fair realm and Rainulf's crown and sword?

$$
\text { Aymar (advancing }) \text {. }
$$

Azara is no infidel, my lord!
This homeless princess of the Moslem race
Was bred a Christian by God's grace ;
In childhood was baptized and blessed,
When at the altar she confessed.
Long years ago in sunny Spain
We fought against the Moslem's reign.
Amid the storm of carnage wild.
There sleeping lay a tender child.

A wounded chieftain held her fast;
He gazed in anguish as I passed.
I bent beside him in the dust;
He dying said: "The princess be thy trust."
My days the gentle maid e'er blest
With innocence so sweet
That every golden year possessed
A gladness more complete.
O sunbeam of the battle morn!
God sent thy radiant light
To bless my home with joy new-born,
And beauty ever bright!
(Turning to the knights.)
Shall cruel scorn assail mine ears? forsooth!
Of royal blood is she! God knows the truth !
KNIGHTS, LADIES, ETC.
His ward of royal birth, how wondrous strange!
RAINULF (to aymar).
An idle tale; let not thy fancy range
Beyond thy bounden place. As vassal, dare
Not set thy mark so near our throne. Beware!
(To gontran).
Go, prince, and cast her image from thy heart ; This day for Aragon thou must depart.
gontran.
No! never to injustice will I bow.
Let regal pride be broken ere my vow. AZARA (kneeling before Rainulf).

Have mercy, sire! Here at thy feet I fall, O rob me not of love, of life, of all!

## Ralnulf (raising her tenderly).

Nay, foolish child, be calm, I pray!
My fondest hopes wilt thou betray ?
Whate'er thy sovran craves, deny him not.
All shall be thine; a happier lot
Than e'er befell a queen. O turn to me!
My joys shall be thy destiny.
It is ordained thou must forget my son.
AZARA.
My heart is torn! Forget my love! The one
More precious far than life and all
The world? Thy cruel words recall!
I pray thee, my sovran! by thy royal name,
O do not turn my heart to shame!
True love dreams not of worldly faine;
' $T$ is nobler far than pride of birth
That rules the kingdoms of the earth.
Fain would I shun the dazzling throne,
To live for Gontran's love alone.
(Turning to Gontran).
Beloved! though Fate's iron hand Divides our lives, our love shall stand Unchanged beyond the bourne of time.
Above the storm-clouds are the heights sublime Where love immortal dwells in paradise.
To part, - to die, no more with mortal eyes
Behold the sunshine of my lover's face, -
O gloomy day! the darkness falls apace.
Farewell, farewell! Though we must part,
Undying, faithful thoughts of thee,
Dear love! a heavenly balm shall be,
To soothe the anguish of my broken heart.

Gontran* (to azara, aside, seeking to calm her).
Darling! O rise above the dark despair
That clouds the morning of a life so fair.
Far from the storm, to love's fair haven fly With me. On my strong arm rely, The dangers of our flight to shun.
Thou shalt be mine, our lives are one.

> AZARA (to GONTRAN).*

I will be calm ; no more shall dark despair
O'ercloud the morning of a day so fair.
Whate'er betide, my hero, thou art nigh ;
My hopes on thy strong arm rely.
The warp and woof of fate is spun,
For I am thine, our lives are one.
ODO (aside).*

God's benison shall ever rest
On lovers tried by sorrow's test.
O precious boon without alloy,
Filling the soul with holy joy!

## RAinulf (aside).*

My heart's desire to him shall ne'er be known ;
Azara shall be mine, and mine alone.
When they are parted, time will prove
The potency of my fond love.
This burning passion sways my soul
Beyond all reason, all control.

GONTRAN, AZARA.*
What bliss to call thee mine
For evermore 1

* The lines on the pages marked with a * are concerted.

What joy to hear thy words
Of heavenly lore,
Pure as the source divine
All hearts adore!

GONTRAN, AZARA, ODO.*

O'er field and forest far,
When dies the night,
The glowing morning star
Shall speed our flight;
God's harbinger of days
Of pure delight.

> Rainulf (aside).*

Rest in my loving arms,
O houri bright!
Thy wondrous charms
Shall be my long delight.

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GONTRAN, AZARA, ODO.*
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Blest spirit, Love divine!
Forever may
Our hearts avow thy wise
And holy sway!
Thy beauty gilds the skies
Before our way,
Revealed to wistful eyes
With promise bright;
God's harbinger of days
Of pure delight.

* Concerted.


## RAINULF.*

Blest Eros, Love divine !
To thee I pray,
Whose beauty gilds the skies Of roseate day,
Rule o'er her heart with wise
And potent sway.
Lead captive to mine arms
This houri bright,
Whose wondrous charms
Shall be my long delight.

ACT II
An open woodland glade by the seaside. Cloudy moonlight. At the back of the stage the border of the sea (made practicable for passing galleys). On one side the edge of the forest, with a winding path, leading to a distant shrine, partly visible. On the other side a cliff, partly hidden in the foreground by wild vines, forming a natural arbor over a mossy bank, on which Azara lies asleep. Aymar is watching over her at a short distance.

## ORCHESTRAL SCENE <br> (Played by the Composer.)

Clouds roll away; clear moonlight. Soft lapping of the waves on the shore; mysterious forest sounds; wood-nymphs appear and fit about in the moonbeams, and hover around the sleeping Azara; they vanish. Clouds; darkness before dawn. A faint glimmer of morning light; it grows lighter; glowing light over sea and sky. Sunrise. Full daylight. Far-of echo of horns.

* Concerted.
garsie, Colas and huntsman (bchind the scenes anszering each other).
Hola! hola! hey, hey! hola, hola!
(They enter gaily, Garsie discovers Azara asleep, and points her out to his companions.)


## SCENE II

garsie (pointing to azara).
Look there! behold yon sleeping damosel! colas.

Who may this be ?
GARSIE.
Ah! who can tell!
HUNTSMAN.
Perchance a wood-nymph or a sprite, Who haunts this sylvan glade by night.

GARSIE.
Whoe'er the stranger be, her face
Is like an angel's, full of grace
Divine.
(Azara starts in her sleep.)
COLAS.
But soft! she moves apace.
azara (starting up, troubled and bewildered).
Ah me! O world of misery and grief!
Where shall the homeless wanderer find relief?
Alas! on earth there is no rest, no peace;
Through heaven's shining gate I seek release.
O death! beyond thy gloomy vale of night

My soul shall rise to see God's glorious light,
That turns to gold the clouds of black despair.
Where am I? Who are ye who watch me there ?
(She draws back on seeing the shepherds. They remove their hats; Garsie approaches her.)

GARSIE.
We follow flocks o'er field and fell;
Let honest shepherds wish thee well.
My gentle lady, may the morrow
Bring light to banish all thy sorrow!
huntsman (coming forward).
A gallant huntsman's prayer shall be, God's blessing ever rest on thee.

SHEPHERDS AND HUNTSMAN.
My gentle lady, may the morrow
Bring light to banish all thy sorrow !

> azara (reassured).

Your looks so honest, words so kind, Can leave no lurking doubts behind.
My secret guard, nor give it breath,-
I am Azara, doomed to death;
The victim of our cruel lord.
O know ye not his name abhorred?
Who dares befriend the fugitive ?
SHEPHERDS AND HUNTSMAN.
I swear my lips shall ne'er betray thee, E'en though the tyrant's hand should slay me.

## AZARA.

Vain are all words. Why should I live
With Gontran dead? O fearful thought !
All hope has vanished, all is naught.

Lost I Lost I by ruthless power slain, Ne'er shall I see his face again.
O holy Virgin, hearken to my cry,
And let me broken-hearted die!
(She sinks down on the bank. Aymar rises and comes forward.)
SHEPHERDS AND HUNTSMAN.
Fair lady! Gontran is not dead;
Now, by my faith, it cannot be!
This very hour he spake to me.

> (Azara rises.)
> aymar.

What do ye mean? The dead speak not.
Whence come these men? Is this a plot?
Weigh well your words, I'll prove them false or fair.
SHEPHERDS AND HUNTSMAN.
My lord, we saw the prince this morn I swear !
AYMAR.
Some woodland sprite misled your eyes 't is plain.
Our prince by Rainulf's men was slain
Near by the castle yesternight;
Struck down before my very sight,
When he came forth with flashing sword
To save the honor of my ward.

## GARSIE.

O noble sirl be not misled
By grief. 'T is true what we have said, That Gontran lives ;

He was but stunned, I trow.

HUNTSMAN.
If on one's pate each curséd blow IVere mortal, surely I had died A hundred deaths ere now. If I have lied To you, such be my fate.

GARSIE AND COLAS.
And this be mine!
AYMAR AND AZARA.
He lives! He lives! O word divine! You saw him? Swear 't is true!

SHEPHERDS AND HUNTSMAN.
By yonder shrine!
AZARA.
What rapturous joy your blest assurance gives!
How leaps my throbbing heart to know he lives!
On Hope's undaunted wings upborne O fly to my true knight forlorn, Who wanders blindly in the forest dim, And mourns the loved one torn from him. Yet thro' the clouds Love's flaming star Shall light the darkling way afar.

AYMAR, SHEPHERDS, AND HUNTSMAN.
What rapturous joy this blest assurance gives!
Take heart, my lady! Gontran surely lives.
On Hope's undaunted wings upborne, O fly to her true knight forlorn,
Who wanders blindly in the forest dim, And mourns the loved one torn from him. Yet thro' the clouds Love's flaming star Shall light the darkling wood afar.

## SHEPHERDS AND HUNTSMAN.

Lead on, brave lord!
AYMAR.
My lady, here abide!
Erelong I 'll bring thy lover to thy side.
AZARA, AYMAR, SHEPHERDS, AND HUNTSMAN.
Grant us, O heavenly power,
Thy help this fateful hour,
To serve love's holy cause whate'er betide!
AZARA.
Away, and search the dark wood far and wide!
(Concert ending.)
(Exeunt quickly Aymar, shepherds and huntsman. Azara stands and listens. Horns in the distance. Aymar, shepherds and huntsman behind the scenes. Hola! hola! hola!)

SCENE III
(Azara seats herself on the bank and listens to the murmur of the forest and sea.)
(Azara goes slowly and pensively into the forest. Before she disappears Maleck enters. He stands and gazes at her. Exit Azara.)

## SCENE IV

MALEK.
O vision wondrous fair !
Why art thou dreaming there, Embowered like a hidden rose Amid the waving green?

Who art thou, lovely queen ?
This mystery I would fain disclose.
Where have I seen thy face,
Born of the Moslem race ?
The truth now flashes on my mind!
(He takes a portrait from his breast, and gazes at it and then at Azara beyond the scenes.)
A marvel I behold!
Within this shrine of gold
Her very counterpart I find.
The mother's beauteous face and hair
Are mirrored in her daughter there.
Long have I sought her child,
Lost mid the storm of battle wild.
Behold! she is yon wondrous maid.
O princess, loveliness divine!
To rule thy fate be my design,
With this true portrait's potent aid.
(Malek retires as Azara enters, lost in pensive thought. As she advances he suddenly appears before her).

AZARA (starting back.)
O heaven save me, I am lost!
(She turns away; Malek seeks to reassure her.)
malek.
Fear not
Thy friend who comes to share thy lot.
AZARA.
Unknown, unsought?
malek.
Thee well I know.
(She turns away.)
Azara, hear me! do not go,

For I bring comfort and relief.
Behold the Caliph's trusty chief! For I am Malek.

> AZARA (shrinking from him). Malek ?

MALEK.
Aye, 't is he
From Murcia sent in search of thee, To guide thee homeward ere thy father dies.

AZARA.
What proof he lives? thy tale my heart denies
MALEK.
He lives with bitter trials crossed;
His consort dead, his daughter lost.
(with sudden decision.)
Thou art the Caliph's child I swear !
Behold this face, the proof is there!
(He hands Azara the portrait; she gazes at it with emotion.)
AZARA.
My mother's soul dwells in these eyes, that beam With tender love. As in a dream I see my childhood's home again :
The harem walls - the snowy peaks of Spain -
The fountain's flash - the flowers wild -
A mother's arms around her happy child.
Alas! she died?
MALEK.
Of grief, when from her side
She lost thee in the bloody tide
That swept with fury thro' the hall, When our Alcazar yielded to the Gaul.
(Azara bends over the portrait pensively.) MALEK (passionately).

O dearest princess, come with me!
To find thy home beyond the sea.
Here all thy tender ties are broken;
Thou art an outcast, all forsaken;
Thy choice must now be taken;
Rainulf's stern voice has spoken;
To linger here is death.
O leave this hateful land!
O dearest princess, come with me,
Where all thy kindred yearn for thee!
To Murcia's throne bring joy again,
Proud heiress of our land!
My bark is near at hand,
Come back with me to happy Spain;
O dearest princess, come!
To linger here is death.

## azara.

Go, leave me to my fate!
With calmness I will wait
For him, whose saving hand shall prove
My prayer is heard in heaven.
All ties of blood are riven,
My only home is Gontran's love.

## malek.

Thy lovelorn Nazarene
Shall nevermore be seen.
He cometh not; wait not for him.
If Gontran thou wouldst wed,
And share his nuptial bed, Go, join him in his dungeon grim!

AZARA.
O heartless Moor! By yonder path
He soon will come. Beware his wrath!
malek.
Ere now the guards have found the clue And seized him.

$$
\text { AZARA }(\text { anxiously })
$$

O Christ, should this be true!
malek (passionately).
Hear me! forget the past, and come with me!
Thine ardent lover I will be.
To call thee mine my heart is yearning ;
With passion's fever I am burning.
Thy foolish vows forswear,
This Christian's love will bring despair.
AZARA.
Caitiff! Is this thy heart's reward ?
Who gave thee back thy sword
And set thee free? Thy friend betray?
Ungrateful and unkind,
Dire madness clouds thy mind.
Traitor, begone! away!
(Malek goes aside, lost in thonght. Azara looks around for help.)

MALEK.
I am torn with doubt and rue;
He spared my life, 't is true.
Shall love or honor rule the day?
(With sudden resolution.)
Though honor calls, love I obey !
(Me gazes fondly at Azara, and then runs and falls at her feet.)

Mine idol, at thy feet I fall!
Thou art my joy, my life, my all!
Destruction I will brave
To be thy fond, adoring slave.
(He rises).
I will abjure my king,
My faith; all, everything,
For burning love of thee.
Azara, fly with me
To some far distant shore, And dwell in bliss forevermore !

AZARA.
I spurn thy passion, infamous and base!
Begone, betrayer of thy hapless race!
(Malek seizes her by the arm, and drags her along, struggling desperately. She breaks away from him and runs quickly to the back of the stage. She draws a dagger from her dress and aims it at her breast.)

Madman, stand back! one step and I
Will end my misery, and die!
(Malek,'hesitates, then turns around with a startled look towards the forest.)

MALEK.
Hark! some one comes, I must away!
O spite! My love brooks not delay.
(Exit Malek, quickly. Enter Gontran from the forest.)

SCENE V.
GONTRAN (standing with outstretched arms).
Azara, I come!
AZARA (turning with astonishment and dropping her dagger).
Beloved!
(Azara, with a bewildered air, grees forward to meet him ; she totters and falls at his feet in aswom. He lifts her up; she revives.)
O joy, she breathes again I the danger's past I
AZARA (agitated).
O Gontran, help! The Moor, the Moor ! beware !
Gontran.
No one is here.
(He draws his sword and goes quickly and peers around.)
AZARA.
'T was Malek
GONTRAN (peering around again).
Malek! where?
AZARA (relieved.)
Thank God! the monster's fled.
GONTRAN.
Traitor I beware !
(Drawing her to him.)
O darling ! forget the bitter past, For heavenly peace is thine at last.
As thro' the wild I strayed, An angel came to guide
My steps, and shield my exiled maid
From harm, whate'er betide.
AZARA.
With ecstasy my heart will break;
Now let me happy die.
GONTRAN.
Nay, live for thine adorer's sake ;
My darling hopes wilt thou deny?
azara (musing, as in a dream).
Here in the golden gleam, By the waters' flashing stream, I gaze on thee with ravished sight. Am I deceived? am I awake ? O do not vanish like a dream Of heaven, lest erring eyes mistake Love's shadow for the living light.

GONTRAN.
Dream evermore, 't is not in vain; I hold thee in my arms again, Behold thy face, divinely fair, No longer clouded o'er with care. Beyond these fringéd lids I gaze Into thy soul, whose glowing rays Are beaming from thy tender eyes A look of love that never dies.

вотн.
Blest spirit, Love divine!
To thee we pray, Whose beauty gilds the skies

Of roseate day.
Rule o'er our lives with wise
And gentle sway.
O holy flame! be thou
Our steadfast light,
Lest happiness so rare
Should take its flight,
And doom us to despair
In darkest night.
(AZARA shows agitation ; he seeks to calm her.)

GONTRAN.
Fear naught, while heaven guards, With watchful eye,
O'er glade and hallowed bower Where dreamers lie.

AZARA.
Black clouds of hate may lower, O let us fly!

GONTRAN.
The tyrant's angry frown Shall harm thee not.

AZARA.
I tremble for thy life, Beware his plot!

GONTRAN.
Beyond the deadly strife
A happier lot
Be ours far o'er the sea.
BOTH.
The murmuring deep
Shall lull thy soul to rest.
Sad memories sleep
On Ocean's breathing breast. My heart shall leap
To leave this friendless land, Where naught but wrong
And hate abide.
GONTRAN (looking toweards the sea, and pointing excitedly).
Lo 1 See yon distant sail!
O'er pathway wicle,

Borne on the gentle gale
And favoring tide
It comes within our call. O joy!
(A sail appears in the distance and passes by.)
вотн.
Blow, kindly blow, thou soft, fair wind,
And waft yon white wings here to find
True lovers waiting, sad and lorn.
Brave bark! she nears the bay!
O bear our hopeful hearts to-day
Far o'er the ocean's trackless way,
To joy and life new born!

ACT III.

> (A Year Later.)

By the moat of Gontran's castle. One side of the stage, the castle-walls. Part of the back of the stage, arched towerentrance and drawbridge, (practicable) with the banks of the moat; beyond, the country and distant line of the sea, as vieued from a height, with a glimpse of the distant walls and towers of the burg. On the other side of the stage a knoll with trees. Gontran is seated; Aymar is standing by his side.
gontran.
O Hope divine!
Shine on my path, thou rising star !
Swift be my flight to him afar,
Whose harem walls my love enshrine!
AYMAR.
Shine on his path, thou rising star!
Guide him to find love's holy shrine !

BOTH.
No longer shall my heart repine, Nor doubt the blessings time may bring; For I will share this day all.
Let joyance reign in burg and hall!
Blow, trumpets, blow !

## SCENE II

Trumpeters appear on the ramparts and blow a signal. Enter Odo, lords, ladies, pages, etc., from the castle, by the drawbridge. They salute Gontran, who seats himself while they group themselves around him.

ALL.
Long live the king ! Hail, sovran lord!
Pride of our land, by all adored!
Thy glory crowns the joys of May.
God grant our hopes this festal day
Forerun the blessings time shall bring.
Hail, sovran lord! Long live the king !
Enter burghers in holiday dress, and maidens adorned with flowers; then Moorish dancing-girls.
(Ballet - Three Moorish Dances.)
The Moorish dancinggirls with the burghers and maidens exeunt, while the lords and ladies retire and converse in groups among themselves.

## SCENE IV

(Enter Malek disguised as a minstrel.) malek (aside).
Alas! my quest is all in vain.
When shall I find again
The loved one I have lost?
The ever rising tide

Of passion long denied Is surging in my breast. My soul is tempest tost. O God! there is no peace, no rest.
(Enter Azara, disguised as a Spanish troubadour, and carrying a lute. Malek observes her with a furtive, inquiring look. He starts back with surprise.)

A troubadour! that face I know.
O joy! Azara! It is thou!
(He gazes at her with glowing looks.)
O wondrous bard! thy presence bright
Enthralls my soul with rapt delight.
E'en as a miser, my fond eyes
Gloat o'er thy charms, Love's golden prize,-
Charms so precious in my ravished sight!
O priceless jewel of my heart!
What happy stroke of art
That in dark magic lies,
Can subtle craft devise
To snatch thee from my rival's hand
And fly to Moorish land ?
May Allah turn Azara's face
To her adorer and her race.
My burning heart canst thou withstand?
Darling! O yield to love's control!
Azara, come! my longing arms shall be thy goal.
(Malek goes aside meditatively.)
azara (aside.)
With mingled joy and fear,
How shall I dare appear
Before the king, and play my part,-
Now face to face and heart to heart?
I thrill with wild emotion!

O fateful trial of devotion !
God strengthen me to prove
The faithfulness of love.
(She turns and observes MaLek looking at her; she shrinks from
him.)
Who is yon strange trouvère
Who eyes me with a restless air ?
Dark treachery I trace
Upon his cruel face.
Why does he turn aside
And clutch the dagger at his side?
Why does he glare upon the king
With tigerish eyes as if to spring ?
I tremble with alarm,
The Moor will do him harm.
To save him I will die!
O heaven, hear my cry! malek (aside, glancing at GONTRAN).

My blade is sharp with hate
For him who rules my fate.
'T were better she should die
Than in his arms to lie.
Detested king! beware!
For by my faith, I swear
Revenge! Allah - illa - Allah!
O Allah, hear my cry!
(Azara turns towards the throng of knights and ladies, while Malek disappears in the crowd.)

KNIGHTS, LADIES, ETC. (noticing AZARA).
Behold yon troubadour! Who is this Don?
His garb is Spanish; aye, of Aragon.

> GONTRAN (to AYMAR).

How comely is this bard. Bid him to sing.
aymar (approaches azara).
Be welcome to our court this festal day, Thy homage be the poet's ardent lay.
O noble master of the gai saber 1
With melody enchant the listening air, And win the laurel from these ladies fair!
(Azara approaches Gontran with obeisance. The courtiers group themselves around her at a distance. She preludes on the lute.

## AZARA.

Exalted by thy presence, Sire,
And charmed by beauty's magic spell, What soulful bard would not aspire
His true romance of love to tell?
There lived in Gaul a mighty lord
Who false and recreant proved; for toward
His son's betrothed his burning heart
Was drawn by passion's wily art.
To shun the jealous father's hand
The lovers sought to flee the land.
At morn beside the sea they met, But by the Paynim were beset, And while her lover stood at bay, They stole the fainting girl away. Quickly the bark was rowed from shore ; Alas, she saw his face no more!

> MALEK (with agitation).

The fatal truth my rival soon will know !
Ill-starred one! trembling on the brink of woe!

## AZARA.

As on to Spain the galley sped, The amorous chief his captive sought.
"I am thy loving slave," he said.
"To spurn thy love, false hearted Moor, E'en bitter death will I endure!" Then he dissembled till he brought Her to the king, her sire, and thought To gain her hand as his reward, Who served the Caliph with his sword.
"Betrayer 1 dare not violate My plighted troth," she cried, "lest hate
And loathing curse thy nuptial day."
(She pauses, overcome with emotion).
malek (aside).
False bard, beware! these words shall be thy last !
Despair has steeled my heart; the die is cast I
azara.
God's light upon her pathway shone, When she escaped to Aragon.
Disguised in garb of troubadour,
The outcast shunned the desperate Moor.
Yet though he dogged her footsteps still, Thro' every danger, every ill, Undying hope sustained her soul, That she would reach her sacred goal And rest in loving arms at last, No more to weep in bitter dole.
O Gontran! the agony is past!
(She throws off her mantle und disguise.)
MALEK.
Betrayed by thee, then die!
(He darts forward and tries to stab Azara, but Gontran seizes him by the arm; they struggle desperately.)

GONTRAN.
Hold, wretch! hell-hound!
Gontran zurenches his arm so that the dagger falls to the grouud, and hurls him backwards.)

AZARA.
Merciful God, the Moor !
(Guards advance to seize Malek.)
GONTRAN.
Leave him unbound!
(MALEK, with gestures of despair and agony, staggers forward.)
MALEK.
Death! I am lost ! O cruel destiny !
What have I done? How could I strike at thee, Mine idol?
(He turns with cleep sorrow towards Azara and falls at her feet.)
Though abhorred, accurst am I,
Thy slave - the love-crazed Moor - knows how to die!
(Ife rises and draws a concealed dageger and stabs himself. HIe falls heavily to the ground and dies. Guards bear the body out of sight.)

GONTRAN (drazoing AZARA to his arms.)
Azara! forever mine!
AZARA.
O Gontran! forever thine!
вотн.
O joy ineffable, divine !
My life, my destiny thou art ;
O holy union - heart to heart !

# AYMAR, ODO. <br> O joy divine ! <br> All hail, O love-crowned king! <br> Loud praises sing! <br> Forever thine! <br> Heart to heart - O joy divine! 

ALL.
All hail! rejoice! O love-crowned king !
O radiant bride! Loud praises sing!
God save our royal pair!
Long may ye reign o'er Provence fair, Blest land of love and song!
(Curtain.)

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Odo (with deepobeisance.)



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(He draws her to him and kisses her on the fore head




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The knight and men-at-arms strike their shields and wave their banners.)

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(Gurtain ruses.)


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An open woodland glade by the seaside. Cloudy moonlit. AT the back e of the Itage the border of the sea ( wade practicable for frosting galleys). On me ride the eide of the forest, with a winding path, lacing te a ilistant thine, partly visible. On the other side a cliff, partly hidden in the foreground by wild Fines, forming a natural arbor over a noisy bank, on which t $z^{a+a}$ lisoascep. cymar is watching over her at a distance.


## (Inver dramoifisile.)

Offene Wäldichtīng am Meeresstrande. Bewäthle Mondnachts. In Hintërgamode She See, so gestelt कass worbentwe gaeperen anf Sow wenen rich ratiricich bevegen thöncuen. Ant der einen Seitè der Bütine der Waldes rand mit einem aifsteigenden pfad, welcher zu einem ferven Heiligen bild (nichtöar) prïht. Anf der anderen Seite ein. Felsen efveas werfultit mier wilden Winnawhen eine natïr fiche Laulie filidend
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Die Wolken zertineilen zich. Keare houdmacht. Sanflès Plätschern der Wecten an Wefer. Gcheinnisswolle Woedestante. X Waldmymphen erscheinien; tewegen sich tentzend in Mondschein und un die schedfende tzaradamn verschwinden sie. Fie Wolken werden wiederdichter es nieder dmukel - dam Morgengranen - ein Jchwacher Schimmer nber dem Horizent - es wird helfer - erglizhendes figitt inber Meer und Hinmuee: valeres Tageseicht intfenate Hownnfe mit Echo.
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Orchestral Te ene.
Clouds roll sway g; clos moonlight. Toft lapping of the waves on the shore; mysterious forest wive; word nymphs api and fit about in the montranis, and forever around The gaping A $\frac{a r a}{}$; they ravish; blonds; darky before dawn it faint ghinner of morning light; it garow lighter; glowing lightorer sea and sty. Full daylight. I an off echo of horns.

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Before she disappears Label enters.
He oteniss and gazes at her.

























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SCene VIII














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