

Zayt Mir Gezunt, Khavertes Ale

A woman, born in Chotin, Bessarabia, sings a bride's farewell to her friends. Sad songs or plaintive tunes on the violin, were often performed for the bride before the ceremony, to put her in a contemplative mood... (From "Jewish Life 'The Old Country'" – Ethnic Recordings Collected and Edited by RUTH RUBIN)

Zayt mir gezunt, oy khavertes ale,
Mayn letstn adye, zog ikh aykh.
Nit zayt mikh mekone, mit mayn nomen kale,
Vayl nit far ayeydn, shaynt dos glaykh.
Tsi der khipe vert men gefirt,
Men vert ibergegeybn tsu a tsveytn perzon,
In dermit vert me rezikirt,
Un dos leybn shteyt vi in kon.
Men muz zikh taye un ales fartsayen,
Un fun lebn nit nemen kayn adye, adye,
Un fun lebn nit nemen kayn adye.

Dos shpeyterdige lebn darf ersht bashtimen,
Tsi iz dos a glaykhn, tsi iz dos a por.
Durchtsufirn vos men hot intergenemen,
Far gantsn lebn gor:
Oy lebn un libn, vi es shteyt geshribn,
Dos iz dokh bloyz a mazl aza,
Oy leybn un libn, un zayn gelibt,
Dos iz a mazl aza, aza,
Dos iz a mazl aza.

Der Marshalik Zogt

"Shat, klezmurim, genig shoyngetroyert!
Lomir beser itst shpil a mazltov di mekhutunim!
Khevre! Shpilt mir tsi a melodi..."

Badkhones 1

"Oy a mazltov optsugeybn,
Darf men zikh itst bashhtreybn.
In azoy iz men mehane, khusn-kale vus hobn
keyn tate un keyn mama.
Glik un tsufridenhayt zol baye khershfn in un
onheyv bizn soyf...Keys Vestern Kapelye, shpilt
op dem ershtn a listikn mazltov!"

Badkhones 1A

"O...dus iz geven a mazl-tov far ale
mekhutunim, far ale fraynd, un far ale gantser
mishpukhe."

Farewell, All My Friends – The Bride's Farewell

A woman, born in Chotin, Bessarabia, sings a bride's farewell to her friends. Sad songs or plaintive tunes on the violin, were often performed for the bride before the ceremony, to put her in a contemplative mood... (From "Jewish Life 'The Old Country'" – Ethnic Recordings Collected and Edited by RUTH RUBIN)

Farewell, all my friends,
I bid you my last good-bye.
Do not envy me, that I am now a bride,
For no one's fate is the same for all.
One is led to the canopy,
And one is given to another person,
And thereby is the risk,
And one's life hangs in the balance.
But one must be content and forgive
everything,
And not bid adieu to life.

Life itself will later decide,
Whether these two are well mated,
Whether these two will be able to carry through
That which they have undertaken:
To live and love, as it is written,
That is all a matter of luck,
Oh to live and love and be loved,
That is all a matter of fate.

The Master of Ceremonies Speaks:

"Wait, musicians, that's enough mourning now.
Let's rather play a congratulations to the
parents of the bride and groom! Boys, play a
tune for me..."

Recitations of the Wedding Jester 1

„O, one must strive to render a mazl-tov.
And that is how one entertains a bride and
groom who have no father, no mother. Joy and
happiness should reign among you from
beginning to end. Case Western Ensemble, play
the first and lively mazl-tov!"

Recitations of the Wedding Jester 1A

"O...this was a mazl-tov for all the in-laws, for
all the friends, and for the entire family."

Badkhones 2

"Yamoyd! Yamoyd! Mir veln af rifn Moyshe mit der kale tantsn! Er geyt, er geyt, in a giter un a mazldike shu! Klezmer! Muzik!

Der Marshalik Zogt:

"Klezmorim! Lomir shpilt a sheyner dobriden!"

S'iz Geven a Khasene

S'iz geven a khasene, an emese idische khasene,
Mit a kapele un a fidl foroys,
Klezmorim hobn geskripet dort,
Vayber hobn gekhlipet dort,
Un kinder hobn geklapt afn poyk.
A kosher tentsl zaynen mir gegangen ale,
Der zeyde mit der bobbe,
Un di khosn-kale,
Day day day day day day day
Day day day day day day day.

Klezmorimlakh Mayne Libinke, Mayne Zisinke

Klezmorimlakh mayne libinke,
Klezmorimlakh mayne zisinke,
Shpilt mir a bisinke koydem hamiso!
Oy az ikh volt afn soyf getrakht
Volt ikh mayn velt azoy narish nit farbrakht.
Oy az ikh volt afn soyf getrakht
Volt ikh mayn vel azoy narish nit farbrakht.

Shpilt-zhe mir klezmorimlakh,
Shpilt-zhe mir a freylekhl,
a freylekhl far ale gute fraynt,
Oy, oy!
Mazl-tov git mir op,
Git mir op mazl-tov,
A groyse simkhe iz bo mir haynt.
Mazl-tov git mir op,
Git mir op mazl-tov,
A groyse simkhe iz bo mir haynt.

Der Marshalik Zogt:

"Oy, mayn tayere mentshn! Lomir shpatsirn tsu der badeken di kale. Klezmorim! Shpilt-zhe mir a gas-nign!"

Badkhones 3

"Vayber, makht gikh, khusn-kale fastn dukh.
Hakol lomir geyn basetsn un bazingen di kale.
Klezmurim, helft mir tsi!"

Recitations by the Wedding Jester 2

„Attention! Attention! We're going to call up Moyshe to dance with the bride! He's coming now in this happy hour! Musician! Music!"

The Master of Ceremonies Speaks:

"Musicians! Let's play a beautiful dobriden!"

There Was a Wedding

There was a wedding, a true Yiddish wedding,
With a band and a fiddle beforehand,
Musicians scratched a tune there,
Wives sobbed there,
And children beat the drum.
Together we went to a kosher dance,
The grandfather with the grandmother,
And the groom and bride.
Day day day day day day day
Day day day day day day day.

Musicians My Dear Ones, My Sweet Ones

Musicians my dear ones, my sweet ones,
Play me a little bit before her death!
Oy, when i would think of the end I would foolishly pass the time again in my world.
Oy, when I would think of the end
I would foolishly pass the time again in my world.

Play for me musicians,
Play for me a little dance,
A little dance for all the good friends,
Oh, oh!
Congratulations get me up,
Get me up congratulations,
A big joyous occasiion is coming for me tonight.
Congratulations get me up,
Get me up congratulations,
A big joyous occasiion is coming for me tonight.

The Master of Ceremonies Speaks:

"O, my dear folks! Let's stroll to the seating of the bride, Musicians! Play me a street tune!"

Recitations of the Wedding Jester 3

"Women, make haste. The bride and groom are fasting. Now, let us seat and sing to the bride.
Musicians, help me out!"

Bazetsn di Kale

Azoy zogt a Badkhn, oy, koydem a khupe:

“Oy, kale-lebn, vos is dos far a minig,
Vos der Badkhn redt mit mesholim?
Zog ikh ir az hayoym haze niftekhu
hasforim, Oy, shrayt un veynt a kale mit trenn
khamorim
Ikh darf zogn ma noymar lefonekho ma nidaber
yoyshv morim...”

“Oy kale-lebn itst veynen iz far dir zeyer keday
Oy, vayl veynen mustu itst say vi say:
Reyshis, verstu fun dayne avevres fray,
Un dos tsveyte, darfstu gedenken az dayn tate
iz nishto derbay...”

“Un vider kale-lebn zol ikh dir a dmus haynt
zorgn, vayl, dayn tate ‘z in dem tog geshtorb
Der malakh tut itst bam riboyne-shel-oylem
onklapn, un er tut im fregn farvos bistu geblibn
on a tatn...”

“Az der man vet fardinen mit arbet fun zayne
hent, zolt ir zikh banugenen mit dem vos ir kent.
Itst endikt zikh mayn muser do,
Un gey mit dem khosn tsu der khupe in a
mazldiker sho!”

“Mazltov, mazltov, mazltov!
Klezmer, klezmer, a vivat, a vivat, dem khosn a
vivat, dem khosn a vivat, dem khosn a vivat!
Mazltov, mazltov, mazltov!”

Der Marshalik Zogt:

“Oyrey! Der khusn geyt badekn di kale!”
“Mazl-tov! Lomir geyn tsum khusn!”

Der Marshalik Zogt:

“Hakol interfires, tit dem khusn
un dem kitl un m’vet geyn tsi der khipe.
Klezmer, shpilt dem khipe marsh!”

Khasene Khupe Brokhes

(Der Khazn davent): Barikh habo!
(Der Khosn zogt): Harey at mekudeyshet li,
v’taba’at zi k’dat
Moyshv v’Yisruel.

(Der Khazn davent):
“Koyl sasoyv v’koyl simkho,
Koyl khusn v’koyl kalo.

The Seating of the Bride

This is how a Badkhn speaks before a wedding ceremony:

“Oy, dear bride, what kind of a custom is this,
That the Badkhn speaks in parables?”
I tell her, “Today, when the heavenly ledgers
are opened, a bride lifts up her voice and cries a
great many tears, and all I can say is, ‘What shall
we say before you, how shall we speak to Him
who dwells on high?’

“Oy, dear bride, you might as well cry now,
Because you have to cry now anyway:
First, because you are being freed of your sins,
And second, because you must remember that
your father is not here...”

“And further, dear bride, let me paint you a
picture, since this is the anniversary of your
father’s death, the Angel is now knocking at
God’s door, and asking Him why you have been
left without a father...”

“When your husband is labouring to earn a
living, be content to live within your means.
That’s the end of my moral advice,
Go to the canopy with your groom in an
auspicious hour!”

“Congratulations! Congratulations!
Congratulations! Musicians, musicians, a
wedding dance tune, cheers to the groom!
Congratulations!”

The Master of Ceremonies Speaks:

“Attention! The groom is going to veil the
bride!” Congratulations! Let’s go to the groom!”

The Master of Ceremonies Speaks:

“Now escorts! Put a white ceremonial robe on
the groom, and we will go to the wedding
canopy. Musician, play the march to the
wedding canopy!”

Wedding Blessings at the Wedding Canopy

(The Cantor prays): Welcome!
(The Groom says): Behold you are consecrated
unto me by this ring, according to the law of
Moses and Israel.

(The Cantor prays):
“The voice of joy and gladness, the voice of the
groom and bride from their wedding canopy

Koyl mits-ha'aloy's khasanim m'khipusom
Vineyruim mimishtey n'ginasom. Barikh ato
adoyshem, m'sameyakh khason, im hakalo.
Mazl-tov, mazl-tov! Shpilt a lebedike shtikele!"

.....INTERMISSION.....

Der Marshalik Zogt:

"Interfires firt unter di khusn-kale. A gute nakht,
mazl-tov! Zol zayn mit mazl,
mit mazl!"

Sholem Tants

"Lomir tantsn a shemene..."

A Gite Nakht

"A gite nakht, a gite nakht, hots a gite nakht.
Day day day day....
Hots a gite nakht, hots a gite nakht."

and of young people from their feasting.
Blessed are Thou, O L-rd, who makes the groom
rejoice with the bride.
Congratulations! Play a lively tune!"

.....INTERMISSION.....

The Master of Ceremony Speaks:

"Escorts! Escort the bride and groom. Good
night, may there be congratulations with good
luck!"

Dance of Peace and Reconciliation

"Let's dance a dance of peace..."

A Good Night

"A good night, a good night.
Day day day day....
Everyone have a good night."