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The Bartered Bride
Based on Smetana
Directed by Max Ophuels
Thank you.

You're welcome.

Everything's as right as rain, Herr Burgermeister.

But you mustn't lose any more time Herr
Burgermeister. Think of your daughter. Think of her
happiness. I searched for a long time. Wenzel is the
right one for Marie. Wenzel is a good man, Wenzel
is the right one. Wenzel also has assets: horses,
cows, fields and woods. But it is high time we go,
Burgermeister. Everything's prepared at the Golden
Goose: parents-in-law, son-in-law, a good feast and a
good contract.

Goodbye.

Oh, aren't you staying for the fair?

I can't, I'm on duty.

I see. But you haven't got a buttonhole.

I would very much like to stay.

Everything's as right as rain. Guard!

Postmaster, the wheel's ready, the wheel's ready, the
wheel - you, I say listen

very long marriage song pointless to translate.

No.

Youthful spirit, Herr Burgermeister. I know that; it'll
pass.

I don't understand what you see in the fair. Mr.
Postmaster, if the gentlemen want to stay here, I will
leave at once.

At once. Yes, but now it is too late. Mr. Treasurer,
we might be overtaken by nightfall. In the night?

Yes in the night.
No under no circumstances. We'll depart tomorrow
morning. Pick me up at the Golden Goose. Ladies,
on account of your new found lust for pleasure I
cannot keep Rothschild waiting in Vienna. So enjoy
yourselves, ladies. Good afternoon.

Goodbye, my good man.
Don't look for me, you won't find me, I am with
Aunt Lenchen in Prague.

Do it for me
To Pilsen, but not until tomorrow morning. It wasn't
easy to persuade the treasurer to stay for the night.

You did for me.
Song: This is true love...want to hear it a forth time...

Engagement cake.
Do you want to hear a forth time.

No thank you.
They already know it by heart.
Gentlemen, this will be a beautiful memory for you:
your image on paper. The pastime of the truly noble
society of Paris, Vienna and Berlin. This isn't a
painting, it's a photograph. Photography is not
witchcraft, photography is not magic: it is progress, it
is science.

Hold still. Smile. 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30.
I thank you ladies and gentlemen? I hope that it
proves to be a wonderful memory.

You can count on that.

Art is great.
But it is hard work.

Yes.
Excuse me, where is the circus director Brummer?

What is this regarding?
This is regarding police regulations.
Hey, come down. Someone is here.
What is the problem now?
Again? There's been nothing going on today. It has
something to do with police regulations.
Police regulations? We've had our fill.
No, it has to do with the police's permission.
We have permission.
Do come down.
Are you Heinrich Brummer?
Yes, that's me. We already got permission.
I know, but I have to clarify a few points. How many
people do you employ?
Seven people, nearly eight.
What do you mean, "nearly eight"? Either it's seven
or it's eight.
It's definitely not eight.
Then it's seven?
Five, five people.
So, five people. Male or female?
Not "or", male and female.
How many?
Our employees are always willing to be counted.
How many does your circus seat?
Well, when business is bad, very few.
And when business is good?
Also very few.
Yes, but then it's a bit better.
Roughly 300, 290, 299. It's somewhere in between, I
don't really know exactly.
Let's say about 300.

No, 300 is more than capacity. Just write 298.
298. And now I have one more important question.
You still owe the Town Treasury 300 guilders from
your last appearance. Remember?

I haven't forgotten.

But you haven't paid yet.

That I forgot.

Are you going to pay the remaining 300 guilders?

Yes, if I don't forget.

I'll remind him not to forget.

The director loves art.

What does he love?

Art.

Art. So you can buy tickets right now for tonight's
show.

Give him two tickets.

Two tickets for 2.50 each, makes 5 guilders. Together.
5 please.

Thank you. Don't worry, just stay there, you're not
bothering anyone.

Not in the least.

Seems to be a fine gentleman.

Pity he's not an artist.

Why?

If someone's got money and isn't an artist, he's no
better than anyone else. If someone is an artist and
has no money, or ...

The best would be if someone were an artist and had
plenty of money.

Yes, that's just what I mean.

Forgive me, Sergeant, have you seen the
Burgermeister's daughter?

Not that I know of.

Given the taxes I pay, I deserve a bit more respect. At that moment, the die of fate were rolled, while in the distance on yonder hill, the great Corsican, surrounded by his staff of capable generals, directs the battle. Darkness falls over the battlefield. Soon, many of the surrounding villages were aflame, as you can see from the model. Ladies and gentlemen, with remarkable clarity you see a scene of world history in front of you. I hope that you enjoyed the lecture, and

I would be grateful if you left a token of your appreciation at the door. I sincerely hope that you haven't found my presentation tiresome.

Orders executed. The parties are present.

Thank you.

My child left me, my child has gone. This marriage can not take place. My child must decide for herself.

My child shall have her free will.

Do you know what your child wants? Free will is a postmaster, it has been taking her to the booths at the fair.

They even had their picture taken together. Quiet. My child is too precious to leave to the hands of your free-wheeling child.

Too precious. Do you know where your child is? What do you mean?

He is at the circus with a dancer, a dancer with bare legs.

Your son.

For the welfare of your families, you and your children - if you Herr Burgermeister do not want a postmaster for your son-in-law, and you no dancer

for your daughter-in-law, then leave everything to me. There is only one thing: A good, decent marriage.

What is it?

The itinerant circus director Heinrich Brummer is appealing under act 31B712 for a further delay in the matter of paying 300 guilders of back taxes for public performances.

Mr. Burgermeister, think of the children.

Denied.

Song: Flow water, flow...

Permission denied, by order of the Burgermeister.

What's wrong?

We've got to leave, they won't let us perform. Pity. Look, listen. I'll get you the 300 guilders by tonight so that you can perform.

Ah, Herr Postmaster, would you care for a quick drink?

No thank you, Mr. Treasurer.

Excuse me, Mr. Postmaster, have you seen my two children?

Madam, leave them be. It is the fair, the time for merriment.

You don't need to worry, I'll see to it that you can perform here.

In the meantime, wait for me in the pub. You are my friend.

Good evening, Papa and Mama. Would you let me have 300 guilders for a very worthy cause?

300 guilders! Go to your room.

Children should be obedient. Stay in your room.

Good night, good night.

Kiss?

Good night father, good night mother.
If he at least had been able to do a handstand.

Well, he's still young.

My new friend is paying for everything.

I must see the goldsmith most urgently.

Father is second trumpet tonight.

I wanted to buy something.

Come in then.

Song

Just a little while Marie, and you'll see. Think about
it, Wenzel has the biggest estate in the region. And
Hans? Hans is the one you love. But tomorrow you
might not love him anymore, and tomorrow Wenzel
will still have the biggest estate in the region. Your
mother is dead- perhaps she could have spoken with
you better than I.

One ought to wait a little longer, try to see if the
children couldn't get on.

Just wait a little while more, Mr. Postmaster. I need
to speak with you, regarding the thing tonight.

We can leave any minute now.

Be reasonable, you couldn't possibly do that.

Daughter of the Burgermeister.

Man to man, nothing will come of this. You are
worth nothing. It will only bring misery.

What is wrong? Can we depart?

Right away. He told you, sir, we can leave any
minute now.

I'm in a hurry. I need to be in Vienna in 3 days.
I have an offer, young man. If you don't show your
face in the town any more, and you don't interfere

with Marie's engagement anymore, then I'll give you
100 guilders on the spot, and all will be right as rain.

Ready.

140, 150, 160, 170, 180.

Everything will be right as rain. 200.

Please take me

I can't. It is against regulations.

I must get to Pilsen. It is very important to me. I
must get to Pilsen, my future depends on it. If you
don't take me along, everything will be lost.

Alright then, come along.

This could cost me my job.

I'm sure it won't. I must see the people at the
townhall in Pilsen. The circus is not allowed to
perform, because I love Esmarelda. If the circus has
to move on, I'll never see her again.

The Burgermeister's daughter?

Yes, the Burgermeister's daughter but I don't want
her, I love Esmarelda.

You love Esmarelda?

Yes.

I'll get you the 300 guilders but you have to drive my
coach for me.

Trust me.

I'll accept your offer for 300 guilders.

200 guilders.

I need 300.

Let's make a deal.

No, not more and not less than 300 guilders.
You will never again try to prevent the marriage of
Wenzel and Marie.

Not for 300 guilders.

Your word?
Your money?

Song

I knew it. You wanted to marry the man who sold
you. You wanted to love and marry him. And now
the whole world is talking about it. We can't show
our face anymore.

He sold his bride.

He sold his bride.

A shame.

He sold his bride.

Traveling circus director Heinrich Brummer and wife
wish to have a word with you.

Please. And bring the documents in right away.

This way please.

Take your hat off. So, so... Mr. Burgermeister, I am
honored to make your acquaintance.

To what do I owe the honor of this visit?

The back taxes.

In the dizzying sum of 300 guilders.

I am sorry, but I can't do anything about this
anymore.

But, Mr. Burgermeister, do you believe we would
have left without paying? That is ridiculous. Never.

There are still sponsors who won't let true art die.

May I take this opportunity to invite Mr.

Burgermeister to our opening ceremony
tonight...six..we will reserve seats for six persons,
wife, child, people, we would be very happy Mr.
Burgermeister if tonight you and your entire family -
all your bits and pieces - it would be an honor if you -
it would be a great honor for us if...

In short Herr Burgermeister, if you would deign to visit us tonight on the occasion of the engagement of our daughter to...

Impossible, I can't..

We're so sorry, Mr. Burgermeister. We know everything Do you think we feel any better??

Exactly the same

Do you think that we would want a good-for-nothing son-in-law who can't even do a handstand.

Out of the question. Can't be done..

Do believe me, Herr Burgermeister, true art is something fine - please come tonight, Herr Burgermeister and believe me you will see through true art your family affairs will be set right.

Official permission given?

Yes.

Walk up, walk up, ladies and gentlemen, the show is beginning... In the first part the king of the strong, a muscular phenomenon...with his teeth he will grind huge rocks into shreds.

In the second part, Esmeralda.

See to your left. The cage with the beast.

At the end of each performance she puts her head into the fangs of the brown monster.

And also the appearance of Leopold Wohoo, The red Indian chieftain from the negro tribe of the Aka Aka. With infinite trouble we have managed in the course of time to habituate this savage to vegetables. His favorite food is and remains however fresh human flesh.

At this moment the Burgermeister and his entire family have entered the box of honor. Do not miss

this. The show is about to begin, the artists are
entering the arena...

At the end of my production..

Our..

Yes, Yes. At the end of our production, Frau Director
will lay an egg..

Don't jabber, just cluck.

Song

Getting drunk here! And call yourself an artist.

Entering the arena drunk.

You ought to get the sack.

I'll help you, don't cry, come, don't cry, I'll do it, I'll
do it all.

Thank you.

Song

I did that well, didn't I, because I love you very
much.

No need to get excited, I can explain it all.

Did you or did you not get money? Yes or no... No I
don't believe it.

Be reasonable.

No.

Do be reasonable, Wenzel, for God's sake,
listen...I'm only thinking of your own good. Think of
all that money. Marie's money. And my money.

Wenzel, dear Wenzel.

The bear's got loose, the bear's got loose.

For God's sake hold her, hold her, I beg of you, hold
her.

I'm holding her.

Hold her tight...

I'm holding her, you can bet your life.

He's holding her: did I not always say it: a splendid
lad.

Everything is right as rain. I thank you.
Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, I hope this will be
a beautiful memory for you.
In memory of year 1850.