

Alessandro Scarlatti (1660-1725)
GLI EQUIVOCI NEL SEMBIANTE (1679)
(Amazing Resemblance, Amazing Confusion)

Act 1

Scene One – Track 2

Eurillo

O my hopes, do not leave me,
and you, doubts, go away from me
so that my soul may find peace.
And as I reach those beloved walls,
You, o sweet images
Of amorous pleasures,
come down into my heart,
So that, in my desire, I may rejoice.
An inimical host pushes a brave soul
Into death's embrace.
A more fortunate lover
Runs into Life's embrace.
Mars accompanied by terror
fiercely takes down an invincible fortress,
but a beautiful mouth has such power
that it can conquer a heart with her smile.
If, in the horror of the previous night,
Though a lover beloved
by my adored idol,
I tried to quench with tears
The fires of my passion,
Now that I see the roses of the day beginning to
bloom,
O how very happy
I come to behold
the wonderful light of my beautiful Chloris,
more resplendent than the rising Sun.
Come, my beautiful one, for without your love,
This heart can no longer live.
and, if it still lives, it's the wonder of Love
that nourishes him with Hope.
O come, my beloved, for my waiting soul
Is standing before your eyes,
and, if it beholds your loved semblance
and dies not of love, it's a pitiful sight.
But what do I see? Yes, here they are
those adorable eyes!
To unexpected delights, by Heaven's favour,
I see myself transported,
And I remain so fixed in amorous ecstasy
That I dare not speak.

Scene Two – Track 7

Cloris

With me I hold a heart
That only knows how to sigh,
and because it longs to love so much
it lives in prey of harsh sorrow.

Eurillo

O my divine source of sighs,
rightly at dawn
you leave your comfortable bed,
for the goddess of beauty
always rises before the Sun.

Cloris

Hush, Eurillo, hush!

Eurillo

Why, my joy, should I not express
your beauty and my pain?

Cloris

Now it's not the time. Farewell!

Eurillo

Where, my Chloris, are you turning
Your fleeting steps?

Cloris

Can't you see my fears?

Eurillo

I do not.

Cloris

Alas, let me go, go away yourself, hush.

Eurillo

What's this novelty, this sudden fear that comes to
upset my joy?

Cloris

It's my aging mother
That is sick in bed. She has awakened
and wishes me at her side.
I must not tarry any longer.

Eurillo

But listen

Cloris

Come back another time.

Eurillo

So you wish me to go away

Cloris

Go, for I too must go.

Eurillo

I cannot.

Cloris

Who's stopping you?

Eurillo

Your beauty that's the goal of my desires.

Cloris

Oh, I 'm going. Farewell.

Eurillo

O do not leave all alone

Cloris

(What pain!)

Eurillo

(What sorrow!)

Cloris

Will you come back to me?

Eurillo

When, my love?

Cloris

About Noon.

Eurillo

You are cruel as you run away from me

Cloris

I leave my heart with you.

What more do you want?

Eurillo

What terrible pain!

Both

Haw hard to depart from you

Cloris

Eurillo!

Eurillo

My life!

Cloris

Don't ever forget

my faithful love.

Eurillo

You leave me, o cruel one

Cloris

I leave you my heart.

What more do you wish?

Scene Three – Track 10

Eurillo

Like a Tantalus in love,

As soon as I gaze upon that wondrous visage,

It disappears in an instant,

and it's a terrible fear that takes it away from me.

Like a novel Icarus my desire

Takes me into the air for a most daring flight,

but dire suffering plunges it into a grave

into a sea of eternal pain.

But just as, in my love's burning fires,

a cold suspicion grabs suddenly my soul,

is that how the poison of jealousy

so quickly invades a heart?

Barely do I come to relish

the rays emanating from that beautiful visage

that, enveloped in fear,

I cannot speak,

my words become confused,

and, at the happiest moment

the sun is eclipsed for me.

This feeling creeps cruelly into my soul

Like a poison

and contaminates that pleasure

that Love distils into my heart.

My Jealous tongue, be still now

and do not insult with your shameful lying

one who, no less than you,

burns with passionate love.

Alas, always must a lover live in fear

given that the mother of love is a wandering star.

Scene Four – Track 14

Eurillo and Lisetta

Lisetta

It's a wrong notion to think

that a very young maiden

is not subjected to Love,

for I, too, like a handsome young man.

Eurillo

Lisetta, you here?

Lisetta

I am at your disposal

Eurillo

It happens I need you.

Lisetta

I'll hasten to serve you.

(I'd like to call him my love, but I'm too shy.)

Eurillo

I know you are a little bit naughty,

so you must know who is the handsome one

Your sister loves and pines for.

Lisetta

Oh, I wish I didn't.

Eurillo

If you will tell me,

I will give you

whatever will please you

whatever you wish.

Lisetta

You jest, isn't that so?

Oh, I know quite well

how you are.

Eurillo

Alas, I 'm not the one I was.

Lisetta

(If only you were mine)

Eurillo

Another, more handsome shepherd

holds her affection.

Lisetta

I would tell you, if you were not the one.

Eurillo

Tell me, what would you say?

Lisetta

I would say that in my heart...

Eurillo

Say it.

Lisetta

I don't know how

Eurillo

I want to hear it.

Lisetta

...that in my heart

Eurillo

What?

Lisetta

You must help me...

Eurillo

(She's so cool)

Lisetta

(It's so difficult)

Eurillo

(She holds out 'cause she's afraid)

Lisetta

(I'd like to tell him I love him, but then I dare not.)

Eurillo

Will you tell me then?

Lisetta

All right, I'll tell you.

(I got to find a way out)

I would say that in my heart...

I suspect that you are the ungrateful
and she the unhappy one.

Eurillo

You are deceived; I'm the one betrayed.

Lisetta

Then, do something.

Eurillo

What?

Lisetta

If she's happening to look for another bridegroom,
go ahead and find another bride.

Eurillo

I can't do that.

Lisetta

You don't want to.

Eurillo

Cloris is my soul

Lisetta

And who's Lisetta?

Eurillo

She's Cloris' sister

Lisetta

Oh, you are so...

Eurillo (*addressing the absent Cloris*)

Oh, yes, I must, I want to love you.

Lisetta

If only he were saying this to me.

Eurillo

Sighing is indeed pleasing to me.

Lisetta

For whom?

Eurillo

For Cloris

Lisetta

Alas, and for Lisetta?

Eurillo

Oh, you don't cause me sorrow.

Lisetta

Which is the same as saying: die, unfortunate one!

Eurillo (*addressing the absent Cloris*)

Indeed, you are my true love!

Lisetta

(If only he were saying that to me)

Eurillo

My heart is rent.

Lisetta

By whom?

Eurillo

By her.

Lisetta

What about Lisetta?

Eurillo

'tis not yet the time for you. (*Exit Eurillo*)

Lisetta

It's like saying: This is the way you must die.

How obstinate he is.

He could console me

with just few words,

but he won't, the ungrateful.

How much better it would be

if we loved each other.

Am I not beautiful, too?

Some say I am even more than my sister.

I can't understand

What is the reason.

Love will not fire up a heart, a soul

for several people.

If this notion can apply to men,

I'll submit to it,

But should this flaw

affect us girls as well,

I want, in the course of time,

to love at least three hundred young men,

and change one every day, when I tire of the other.

Scene Five – Track 19

Cloris

Chilling fear, suspicion, rigorous constancy
are the tests of a constant soul.

Fun loving people do not know what is love.

One who's in torment you know he's in love.

Wretched lover that I am,

When I was able to contemplate

the loving features of my beloved,
foolishly I averted my eyes from his longing ones.

Who knows whether such scorn

got into his heart that he may never

come back to me.

May Heaven forfend, for my desperate heart
would put an end to my days.

For a faithful soul 'tis a better fate

to seek death rather than lose the one you love.

Despite misgivings

my faith will triumph,

and my heart in armor

will front the inevitable charge.

But, Cloris, why tarry?
 May be in your sorrow
 you'll find comfort
 through this clean sheet
 addressed to you beloved.
 The North Star will guide to its port.
 Seated on these shores
 I'll await Lisetta in order that,
 as a faithful messenger,
 she may take it quickly
 to my love.
 Already my spirits, tormented
 by wretched, sleepless nights
 incline my eyes to close in this darkness.
 In the general silence,
 If they cannot rest,
 Maybe they'll be thankful for a momentary slumber.
 Sleep, Cloris,
 and may the image
 of your beloved
 be a bright mirage
 of your dream of love.

Scene Six – Track 24

Lisetta and the sleeping Cloris

Lisetta

My sister is a nuisance:
 She wants me to do all kinds of things.
 I don't want to be bother by all these chores.
 I'll play some trick on her;
 I don't wish to be her servant, absolutely not.
 But wait, here she is.
 She's asleep. How lucky!
 Otherwise I must work like a dog.
 What's that paper?
 I'm quite curious
 to know what it is.
 It must be a letter.
 Didn't I say so? I was right.
 Let me read: *My love...*
 Such sweet words.
 Obviously, it's for Eurillo.
 A definite pain
 is chilling my body. I know not what it is.
 I tremble, I feel wobbly.
 Ah, poor Lisetta,
 you really got caught in the snare.
 But I'll get even with her.
 Just like a poet,
 I'll use the pen to accomplish my revenge.
 Far away I can see
 Eurillo coming this way.
 Uhm, If I'll do it right,
 I can compete with any good scribe
Cloris (*asleep*)

Sleep, Cloris,
 and may the image
 of your beloved
 be a bright mirage
 of your dream do love

Lisetta

I only added a couple of words,
 no more, just two words.
 I bet my head they'll have
 the right effect.
 I'll put the letter back in her hands
 and I'll hide here
 to watch the scene.

Scene Seven – Track 28

Eurillo and the sleeping Cloris

Eurillo

My feet can't help taking me
 here to look at the walls
 where my divine love dwells.
 Like an amorous butterfly
 inevitably attracted to the light,
 always my soul flutters around your shimmering
 light.
 But, Heavens, what do I see?
 Alone, here, rests the Sun of my life.
 Away, away from my heart all thoughts of jealousy!
 O my love, thou art so fair,
 Your forms so beautiful.
 The splendour of your visage
 outshines the stars, the Sun itself.
 But what is that paper?
 Oh, see how the ivory of her hands
 outdoes the whiteness of the paper.
 I would snatch it, but in so doing
 she might awaken.
Cloris (*in her sleep*)
 My beloved, this is addressed to you.
Eurillo
 Is it for me then? I'll take it, it's mine.
 There is no address,
 but if, even while asleep, she claims
 it is mine, it must be so.
 But, wretched Eurillo, what do I see?
 (he reads) Aminta, my love...
 Am I awake? Am I asleep? Am I delirious?
 Am I alive? Or, in my torment, am I dying?
 (He reads) Aminta, my love
 Let hope no longer defend,
 with its mendacious veil,
 my heart from the coldness of death.
 It's no longer a question of suspicion or fear;
 I can see it with my own eyes,
 this paper does not lie.
 All that is left is to behold,

distilled through the eyes,
the consummation of my doleful heart.
Since I cannot help loving, I wish to be left alone,
and I don't care if I suffer.
If I had companions in my joy,
that joy was like sorrow.
I don't wish to hear the echo of my sighs,
I only wish to weep alone,
for when I am truly alone,
even my suffering is dear to me.

Cloris

What do my eyes see?
Eurillo, my love.

Eurillo

Stop, you perfidious, wicked woman
without faith and pity

Cloris

Perfidious? Without faith or pity?
Wherefore, beloved Eurillo,
this unexpected wrath?

Eurillo

How dare you still,
You lying temptress?
There is not, under the sky,
a woman more mendacious and false than you.
Look at this paper,
You know what you wrote yourself.
With shameless pride you still think
you can deny your guilt.
The crime is manifest,
Your own writing convicts you.
All that is left is for me to go away
and for Aminta to come back to you.

Cloris

Stop. I don't understand,
Do not leave me, Listen!
He's gone and leaves me
in a wild confusion of thoughts.
What possibly have I done
that he calls me false and wicked?
And who's this Aminta he talks about?
What crime is thus manifest?
What's there in the letter that's so offensive?
What is there, in my writing that struck him so?
What fault did I commit?
Can my loving you so much
be possibly seen an error?
Writing you a love note
inviting you to requite it
is perhaps a shameless impudence
that I committed?
Ah, I understand. You are as ungrateful,
perjuring and inconstant,
as I am faithful to you.
Perhaps, having fallen in love with another,
you are abandoning me,

since a sure sign of betrayal
is an unjust anger.
My heart so constant,
regain your freedom,
since faithfulness is not sufficient
to prevent infidelity.

Scene Eight – Track 34

Cloris and Lisetta

Lisetta

O wretched that I am,
I have really done wrong.
I regret it and feel so bad inside.
Cloris, what has happened to you
that you stand there in tears,
so languid and lifeless?

Cloris

Ah, Lisetta, I feel I'm dying.
I lost everything I had.

Lisetta

Tell me, tell me what happened.
Did perchance that brazen faced Eurillo
do something to you?

Cloris

Do not renew the sorrow
in my doleful soul

Lisetta

Come on, it will be all right,
it's something that goes away
and may turn for the best.
May I be of some help?

Cloris

You know what I long for?

Lisetta

Tell me.

Cloris

I want you to stop talking and go away,
for my sorrow overwhelms me.

Leave me to my tears

I don't want any pity

But, if you wish to give aid

to my betrayed soul,

go and mourn

my betrayed faith (*Repeat*)

Lisetta

Cloris, beloved sister,
do not despair,
(I'm so sorry for her)

Cloris

Seeing my devotion
so mistreated and without reason
terribly torments my soul.

Lisetta

Lisetta is here for you.

Cloris

But what could you possibly do?

Lisetta

I could pray, beg, and even weep
lots of tears,

until, with all my begging,

I might succeed in pacifying him.

Cloris

O simpleton that you are,

A traitor's ire thrives on tears.

Lisetta

I have hopes

Cloris

In vain

Lisetta

You'll see.

Cloris

What will I see?

Lisetta

You'll see that inhuman heart repent

Cloris

It can't

Lisetta

And calm down

Cloris

Never

Lisetta

Yes, you will

Cloris

No, I will not

Lisetta

I do hope so.

Cloris

You are deceived

Together

Those cruel eyes

L. merciful / **C.** scornful

will eventually turn for **L.** you / **C.** me

Lisetta

They will ask for forgiveness

Cloris

Surely not from me

Lisetta

Surely they will

Cloris

You hope in vain

Lisetta

Never again will he go away

so angry

Cloris

You are deluded

Lisetta

I have reason to hope

Cloris

'tis a false hope

Lisetta

Calm down, you'll be happy, you'll see.

Cloris

Oh, you lie!

End of the First Act.

Act 2

Scene One – Track 39

Cloris

Now with a dart, now with a song

I try to find relief from my mortal sorrow.

But, like a wounded doe, I carry with me

always, fixed in my heart, the sharp dart that pierces
it.

A fragrant mixture

of flowering buds

the fruitful earth provides.

Gather them, Cloris, in your breast

in order to spread, in your sadness, a cloud of flowers

over the urn of your love that's forever gone.

Beautiful roses

that, with your fragrance,

enhance this glorious day,

please, adorn my hair

with your thorns alone.

Scene Two – Track 41

Cloris and Armindo

Armindo

If I did not believe that one day

I'd fall in love,

I'd jump off a cliff.

But here comes a lady

of the kind that Armindo really likes.

I've seen so many of them,

But this one really pleases my loving heart.

Cloris

Proud lilies

that like warriors

raise your front against the sky,

do not decry your fate,

if I pluck you

from the soil.

Oh, here comes the cruel Eurillo,

who's such a wicked tyrant.

Armindo

She appears to be shy as she looks at me.

Cloris

He's smiling as he looks at me

all the better to hide his deceit.

Armindo

She is so fair.

Cloris

He's so false.

Armindo

She is spiteful and this wounds me.

Cloris

With his flattery, he attracts me.

Armindo

I give up

Cloris.

I will not give up, I want revenge.

Armindo

I can't resist your charm,
beautiful maiden.

Cloris

Me. Beautiful?

Both

My heart

C. is burning/

A. is on fire

Cloris

Anger fires it up

Armindo

Love sets it on fire.

O pretty little shepherdess

stop, change your attitude,

Leave on the ground

those lilies and roses,

For Heaven makes them bloom

more effulgent and beautiful

on your cheeks.

Cloris

(See how boldly

that traitor comes forward)

Armindo

Young maiden,

don't be so bashful,

change your attitude, stop.

Take flowers from my love,

Let my heart that's set afire be your rose,

Let my sworn fealty be your lily.

Cloris

What's the faith that you boast of,

you treacherous liar?

Hush, never dare come before me.

Armindo

Me, a liar? Me, treacherous?

Cloris

Yes, you who, with false, honeyed words

come again to perturb my peace.

Remember how scornful you were of me,

how unjustly you insulted

my love, my faithfulness.

What harsh reward you offered

to her who adored you, you cruel man.

Armindo

To whom are you talking? What are you saying?

Cloris

You dare ask me whom I am talking to?

Armindo

Yes, who do you think I am?

Cloris

Eurillo, the traitor

Armindo

And who are you?

Cloris

The betrayed Cloris

Armindo

O beautiful one, you are mistaken,
for never did I think of betraying you.

Actually, you are my life, my love.

Cloris

Why then were you so harsh

that you left so abruptly

in such a discourteous manner?

Armindo

(I need counsel, help or a ruse.

I am a stranger here. no one knows me, and I am in
love)

Well, Cloris, I just wanted

to test your faith, the extent of your love.

Cloris

If you'd like to see the extent of my faith,

I'll thrust a knife deep in my breast,

I'll throw myself into a fire, I'll drown in the waves

For you always will I gladly face

swords, fire and death.

I will face with scorn and courage

all the torments of a cruel fate.

Armindo

No, my dear, I 'm not asking

such terrible proofs from you.

I can clearly see

that you didn't turn elsewhere your affections,

but something still vexes me and causes me pain.

Cloris

And What is this that pains you?

Armindo

Living without you.

Cloris

What can I do?

Armindo

I long to take you far away with me, my love.

Cloris

A harsh request is this.

Armindo

You don't love me, if you say no.

Cloris

You command, you don't ask

Armindo

Be ready to go.

Cloris

O Eurillo

Armindo

O Cloris

Both

Ah, fate

Cloris

For you I scorn all perils

Armindo

And I death.

Will you the come with me?

Cloris

I will

Armindo

Promise

Cloris

Take my hand in pledge

Armindo

O pleasing hand!

Cloris

Come back, my life.

To satisfy your desire,

I wish to flee with you

before the sun will set.

Scene Three – Track 50

Armindo and Lisetta

Lisetta

Where. o where are you going?

Armindo

Are you talking to me, little shepherdess?

Lisetta

Oh, such seriousness!

My sister is quite right,

You are a tyrant.

Armindo

(Ah, I get it! I want to continue the ruse)

Tell me what you wish. my pretty one.

I don't intend to run away from you.

Lisetta

I don't fall for specious talk,
my dear Eurillo.

You see, there is no want of shepherds here.

They will, o so sweetly,

reward with their love both Lisetta and Cloris.

Birds do hatch so many egg

as there are many men

more handsome than you.

Shining eyes and red lips

can cause any day pining and torment.

Armindo

You are wrong to complain so,

charming Lisetta,

You don't look to me as being so annoyed.

Lisetta

No, Sir. A little while ago,

you were in quite a different mood.

I am sad, because I realize

That you are not speaking with sincerity.

Armindo

You tell what I could do

to prove my love for you.

Lisetta

Wait! I would like...

o but you won't do it.

Armindo

I promise I will.

Lisetta

I'd like you to give me...

Armindo

What?

Lisetta

I'll tell you.

Armindo

Speak up.

Lisetta

Just one thing.

It will suffice that you swear...

Armindo

On my faith I swear.

Lisetta

No, no. You are deceiving me.

You are not a man of faith.

Armindo

So, I am faithless?

Lisetta

So Cloris says

Armindo

It was a misunderstanding.

Now she loves me even more.

Lisetta

Have you made peace?

Armindo

Anger in love is always

a clear sign of love.

Lisetta

(Hmm, this is bad news.)

But how did she justify that

name Aminta inserted in the letter?

Did you realize that the handwriting

was not the same?

Armindo

(I'm in trouble here, but I have a ready answer
to get out of it.)

Suspicious in true love have no substance,

In the end the deceit always transpires.

The handwriting itself revealed the deceit

and the deceiver.

Lisetta

Then, at your feet,

I beg forgiveness.

Cloris is innocent,

I'm the guilty one.

Armindo

Get up, Lisetta, believe me

I'm not cross with you on this account.

Lisetta

I had the idea that, if you came to be angry with her,

you might be all mine.

Armindo

O I love you as well, are you happy?

Lisetta

Oh, I am consoled.

CD TWO

Armindo

I love you, Lisetta,
but Cloris is my idol.

Lisetta

Don't tell me that,
you hurt me.

Armindo

I'm happy that you love me,
but Cloris calls me to be with her.

Lisetta

Don't tell me that ever again.
This is too bitter an assault on my desires.

Armindo

Just be happy with that.

Lisetta

For now I will, but later I want it all.

Scene Four – Track 3

Lisetta

It went much better
than I thought,
since instead of a beating,
I get love.
But, with Cloris,
I don't know how it will end.
Women are always more wrathful,
but, if she hits me, it will be quite interesting,
I don't want to be on the receiving end,
I don't want to get a beating every time.
If it is from mother, I'll take it,
But from my sister?
Absolutely not.
I'll hit her back.
I would be mad
If I'd let her beat my side.
After all we are equals, we are sisters,
Though she is older than me.
Up to now I took too much from her,
from now on, I'm determined,
if she scalds me, I'll singe her.
I will not submit to her.

Scene Five – Track 5

Cloris

A lover who wishes not to be reduced to tears
must banish from his breast all consideration

for the fear that makes him a coward
is usually a mortal venom.

Here I wander all around

awaiting my love, and I'm ready

to turn my steps where

my blind desires take me.

But what precipice is this?

To keep my faith with my lover

I am not true to my mother.

In such dubious peril

what is, Love, thy counsel?

O what is it?

If don't follow Eurillo's steps trusting in his love

Love will scold me for breaking my promise.

Yes, my love, yes

I shall always be yours.

Fate cannot loosen the bond

that love set in my heart.

Scene Six – Track 8

Eurillo

O cruel stars, I know, I know what you have in mind
for me.

You keep me alive

only to keep me in cruel pains.

You deny death to me

in order that I live to suffer.

My heart, you are the victim of all this and to you
alone

pertains the vengeance for such cruelty.

I'm giving you your freedom.

Go to her who betrayed you.

Let her read in your wounds the extent of her cruelty.

Scold those eyes that wounded you so deeply with
their arrows.

May be the cruel one will blush at her meanness.

Scene Seven – Track 11

Eurillo e Cloris

Cloris

Here I come, my beloved,
ever obedient to you wishes and commends.

Eurillo

This deceitful siren, this cruel Aletto
still has such effrontery?

Cloris

(O miserable Cloris, what's this that I hear?)

What unstable passion makes him

as inconstant as the wind?)

Eurillo, O my Eutillo!

Eurillo

Go away, Eurillo no longer hears

your siren call.

you will not torment an innocent soul.

Cloris
 You are raving, my soul.

Eurillo
 Ungrateful, you betrayed me

Cloris
 Your love is so fickle.

Eurillo
 Thanks to the fact that Cloris is unfaithful

Cloris
 More than ever I love you.

Eurillo
 How I regret that I loved you so.

Cloris
 You're so cruel, and I am dying for you.

Eurillo
 I'll hate you as much I loved you

Cloris
 Listen

Eurillo
 There is no excuse

Cloris
 I am all yours

Eurillo
 I laugh at you

Cloris
 at least...

Yes, at least your deceit is obvious.

Cloris (*She wants to kill himself with a dagger*)
 See, I'll kill myself.

Eurillo
 Stop

Cloris
 I just want to die

Eurillo
 Drop it. (*He takes the knife away from her*)

Eurillo
 Live!

Cloris
 To what end? Living without you is a worse torment.

Eurillo
 (Within my heart love and scorn fight one another)
 Live, yes live, for the memory of one's sins
 cruelly torments the guilty

Cloris
 Do you still deem me guilty?
 Your suspicions make you deliriously mad.
 If you now wish to see
 what I really want,
 with that dagger pierce my heart.
 You'll find that one thing
 alone is engraved in it.
 You'll know if I betrayed you
 or if, constantly, I always venerated your very image.

Eurillo
 How mendacious

Cloris

How harsh

Both
 You are towards me.

Cloris
 More truthful than I am

Eurillo
 More unfaithful than you are

Both
 There's nothing in this world.

Eurillo
 Aminta is the one who knows.

Cloris
 And what sayeth Aminta?

Eurillo
 That he is happily in love

Cloris
 Certainly not with Cloris

Eurillo
 And you called him to your side.

Cloris
 Never, not even kin my thought.

Eurillo
 You called him your love

Cloris
 Never. It's false.

Eurillo
 The letter says so.

Cloris
 It's a false accusation

Eurillo
 The ink states it clearly

Cloris
 What's written declares my faith

Eurillo
 What a liar!

Cloris
 What a cruel man

Both
 You are toward me.

Eurillo
 Since you so persist
 in your denial,
 we'll see who is the liar
 Take, read, then answer me.
 Show me if you can
 that you are innocent, and I am
 blind. If you can prove me wrong, I'll forgive you.

Scene Eight – Track 14

Cloris, Eurillo, and Lisetta
 Are still harping on the same tune?
 Are you still arguing?

Eurillo
 What do you say now? Did you see?

Cloris

I am beside myself. I've been betrayed.

Lisetta

Oh, come on. Quiet down.

To Eurillo pulling him aside, while Cloris studies the letter.

What's the use of raising your voices?

I told you already that Lisetta wrote it;

I even told you not to tell her

That love made me do it.

Eurillo

What are talking about? I don't understand you.

Have you written on that paper?

Lisetta

As if you didn't know,

I told you so already.

Eurillo

I'm flummoxed.

Cloris

See here the deceit, Eurillo.

Another hand is guilty, mine is innocent.

Eurillo

I have no longer any reason to condemn you,
my true love.

Cloris

'tis evident.

Eurillo

Lisetta confirms it and Eurillo believes it.

Lisetta

Cloris, didn't I tell you

(speaking to Cloris as she pulls her aside while Eurillo examines the letter)

that I would endeavour to calm him down
before night?

Now that this lovers' quarrel has been set aside,
you should give some kind of reward.

Cloris

I thank you, Lisetta,

you are dear to me and you'll be properly rewarded.

Eurillo

Cloris, what I see goes against my feelings,
but, though I would not want to say it, this testifies to
your guilt.

Is this not your handwriting?

Cloris

Yes, I wrote this letter to you.

Eurillo

Say rather to Aminta. Now, how can Lisetta
claim that she wrote it.?

Lisetta

Yes, sir. That's the way it is.

Eurillo

Are you listening to her?

Cloris

What?

Lisetta

You wrote the letter, but I added that name.

Cloris

Ah, wicked sister

Eurillo

Ah, perfidious girl!

Lisetta

Ah, this is really great.

You do all this in order to withhold my reward.

Cloris

Your deed will not go unpunished.

Eurillo

Go away. I never want to see you again.

Lisetta

Oh, the two of you have turned against me.

You don't need to say more. I'll bear it patiently.

Cloris

you're still talking?

Eurillo

What effrontery!

Lisetta

They are both against me. I better go.

Cloris

Eurillo

Eurillo

My soul

Both

Let our hearts rejoice,

Jealousy's gone, all fears have vanished.

Eurillo

True joy is not a real joy

if it's not mixed with sorrow.

A heart that knows no tears,
knows not how truly to rejoice.

Cloris

Sorrow is not sorrow,

if joy is eventually its reward.

Faith will not come with a smile

If the heart does not weep in sorrow.

So what are we waiting for?

If that's your wish, let's go, go quickly away.

Eurillo

Away?

Cloris

You'll see then how total is my love.

Eurillo

Away!

Cloris

You are not moving.

Eurillo

Wherefore this idea of going away?

Cloris

My soul is determined to do as you wish.

Eurillo

You must be jesting.

Cloris

It's the truth.

Eurillo

When did I ever express such a wish?

Cloris

I understand. You must have said it
to put my love to the test.

Eurillo

You must have been dreaming

Cloris

Maybe you were delirious.

Eurillo

I don't love you so little
That I will place you in discomfort just for my
pleasure.
Either I didn't say it, or it was a game.
Go back home then.

Cloris

Your wish is my command. I'm going.

Eurillo

My heart follows your steps

Both

These are lover's dreams.
A heart always imagines what it desires.

Scene Nine – Track 19**Eurillo**

Cloris is constant in her love,
I am lucky,
and rightly I love her so.
The beauty that I adore
deserves that new sorrows
always be mixed with my joys.
And if I do not die on her account,
it's because my suffering is fraught with fear.
If my heart will live,
its life will be in dying of love.
Since love will never stop
increasing the ardour of my heart,
it is impossible to quench
the fire in my heart.
Since a god wants to pierce
my frail and unprotected heart,
'tis not possible to avoid
being hit by his many darts.
O stars, if faithful is my Cloris,
make my own faith eternal as well.
And if Love join us, join our hearts as well.
Fortune, do not forsake me.
Where you showed our grave, erect a cradle.
Hope flatters my heart
and promises favour
to a loving soul,
constant in her faith.
My past suspicions
have augmented my love
that says: O happy Eurillo,

Let your heart be forever at peace.

End of Act Two.

Act Three**Scene One – Track 23****Lisetta with a fishing rod**

I play at fishing for fun,
nor do I know what kind of fish I'll catch.
I have the hook, but Love wishes me to be the bait
at my own peril.
I'm fishing, but I am the catch.
What I catch goes to others,
I set the snare, but I'm the one who is caught
whenever a fair-haired youth wanders by.
Inconsolable Lisetta,
Eurillo 's burning for Cloris
Ah, had I been born four years earlier,
She would be the one left out.
Cloris looks quite pretty,
and around here many find her pleasing.
My looks are not bad either,
and I am more quick-witted and vivacious.
No doubt the wine of Florence is quite good,
but far better is the muscatel of Montalcino.

Scene Two – Track 25**Armindo**

Love, you are crazy
as you smile on me
because of an unwitting error.
This is the proper time
to flee away with my love.
Assist me, Fortune,
A lover will pursue all his desires.
But what am I doing? What misdeed,
What reckless daring is this that threatens
such obvious perils for my heart?
My thoughts are prey to the waves
in the wide sea of hopes,
and my foolish soul at the helm
is afraid even of calm seas.
A pleasant wind turns
for him into a storm
and he's fearful
that he'll wreck his ship
as he approaches the harbour.

Scene Three – Track 28**Armindo and Lisetta****Lisetta**

Good morning, good morning young man!
You are really true to your word!
But, what a shame that your mind

turns in all directions like a weathervane.

Armindo

And how did I wrong you,
my pretty Lisetta?

Lisetta

In front of my sister
you scolded me so,
but I bore it patiently,
because, as you know, I'm in love with you.
I'm a prisoner in a cage
just like a cricket.
it takes patience, Eurillo,
or I explode.

I am caught in the snare
Just like a bird and you know it,
my handsome Eurillo.

Armindo

I love you too a lot

Lisetta

You must be joking

Armindo

I am serious.

Lisetta

I feel I'm burning for you,
but being the third wheel of a cart
is no pleasure.

Armindo

I know, you'd like to be
the only one in my affections.

Lisetta

That's right.

Armindo

And so you'd want me
to betray Cloris' faithful love?

Lisetta

No trouble whatever for her to find another shepherd.

Armindo

You are still a little girl

Lisetta

You're wrong to think so,
because, in just one year,
I can boast that I'll grow so much
that you'll see how
I'll be able to make love to you,
and another ten of you.

Armindo

Ah, dear simplicity
that stings and yet delights,
and quickly fades
as one grows up.

Lisetta

I might as well go now.
I see Cloris that's coming.
Eurillo, you traitor, please love me.

Armindo

Alas, the sun of my life is approaching

in order to flee away with me.
I'm lost for words,
and conflicting desires tear my soul.

Scene Four – Track 33

Armindo e Clori

Clori

O jealousy, against me you always
armed yourself with all kinds of deceptions;
do not now come up with new problems,
for I have wings to flee away from you.

Armindo

A true love is readying for me
great happiness,
yet I have fear in my heart
that this will forebode
instead great misery.

Cloris

Why are you so fearful
of true happiness?

Armindo

Because the sweet fortune
I have of being your mate
may be only a dream or a mirage.

Cloris

The hope that animates us
is neither a dream, nor a mirage.
The moment of our happiness has arrived.
Tonight I'll be beside you
as your loving bride.

Armindo

(Who can resist love's onslaught
so sweetly spoken?)

Cloris

My beloved Eurillo, I'll tell you
that, kneeling before my mother,
sobbing and crying,
I revealed to her the love
I've pledged for you.

In the end, taking pity of me,
she condescended to bless our love.

We're about, in a few ours,
to fulfill our hearts' desires.

Armindo

(By heaven, how could I ever not take
advantage of such good fortune?)

Cloris

My soul, you say nothing.
What are you thinking? What do you fear?
Is it that your love is suddenly fading?
That the fire in your heart is quenched?

Armindo

Ah Cloris, my idol,
If you only knew
what fierce battle

is raging in my heart,
you'd rightly understand
the conflicting thoughts in my mind.
You offer me happiness, but I despair I will enjoy it.

Cloris

O miserable Cloris, what do I hear?
The very moment I Believe
In can make you happy by marrying you,
I see you hesitate.
Are you taking back the heart
that you made mine?
This is then your affection?
Is this the proof of your love?
Is this the way a lover renews his vows
Just when happiness beckons?

Armino

Listen, my beautiful one.

Cloris.

No more.

What can you say? I know it already.
Your love was never constant, nor your heart
devoted.

Armino

You are wrong.

Cloris.

Liar! You deceived me
and, fool that I am, it took me so long to figure it out.
But, finally, I come to discover what you really are.
You don't wish me to be your bride,
You are not worthy of it.
Heavens, you see all the time
my pains and all my suffering.
The stars that you light up in the sky
are the torches that accompany my bier.

Armino

(I can't take it anymore.

Forget reason.

Love spurs me to repel all other consideration.)

Cloris, you weep for no reason.

If a sudden overwhelming joy
even took at times another man's life,

Let it not seem strange to you

that a soul be so stunned,

not being used to such an extreme joy.

Your so rare beauty, my own worthlessness
make me doubtful and uncertain.

But if this be true happiness,
here, my beautiful one, here is all my heart for you.

Let's no longer delay, for hours seem like years
to one who lives in hope.

Cloris

So, my dear, are you truly mine?

Armino

I am yours, my life.

Cloris

You'll be happy.

Armino

We'll be happy.

Cloris

How sweet if the joy the follows tears.

Scene Five – Track 40

Eurillo

You'll be happy...We'll be happy...

How can you, Eurillo, hear such deadly sounds
and not die?

Ah, no! Make your death somewhat less miserable
by spilling the blood of this novel lover
slain at the feet of the impious Cloris.

The you may die, your constancy avenged.

But what obscure force causes

my hand to tremble and mollify my wrath?

Alas, I feel my heart has little inclination

for such repugnant emotions.

Ah, I feel faint. Ah, my betrayed love, my violated
faith!

He falls to ground fainting.

Scene Six – Track 41

Cloris and Eurillo, fainted

Cloris

Lovely streams that reflect the splendour of the sun
on your silvery waves,

If even love can light up in your waves,

may your murmuring echo my sweet lamentations.

Fresh breezes that give life and breath

to those meadows studded with flowers,

if you can feel the ardour of love

whisper along as I sigh.

But here lies Eurillo asleep.

How handsome you appear to my eyes,

though you are the cause of my pining.

How is that in beholding your beautiful image,

I feel great joy and find solace in my sorrow.

Yes, it is such solace that I would never exchange
another's happiness with my suffering.

O keep sleeping and dream

of your hopes and my faith.

Faith will be my pride

and my heart your reward.

Keep sleeping and may you dream

of your Cloris, forever faithful

for my soul cannot love

without being so faithful.

But, wake up, my Eurillo.

O my, how deep is your sleep.

He is not sleeping.

Still, his heavy heart

shows signs of life.

Eurillo! Eurillo! Help!

Help one who's dying...

I'll run to that book nearby...
Cruel fate, do not take away my life from me...
She leaves.

Eurillo

Who recalls to life a heart that's already dead
only to torment him? Love, who condemns
my soul to eternal torment?
Oh, Jealousy's such a tyrant...
He gets up in a state of madness
But where am I? What's this sound
of warlike instruments
that challenges my torn heart?
I see my torments all lined up for battle,
they are so many, in so many various formations.
Some look like Scylla, some scream like Hecuba,
some roars like a lion in Libya.

And, what's more, the swamp at Lerna vomits
Hydras.
But what kills me already and so cruelly
seems to have the skin of a tiger, the tail of a dragon,
the front of a snake, the claws of the sphynx,
but has the features of Cloris.

But, no, she is Circe! I can see my hair turning into
snakes,
my hands into claws, my teeth into fangs.
I thirst for blood. In my anger,
I want blood and tearing someone apart.
I tear apart, I kill anybody in my path.
Ah, let it be not Cloris!

Cloris

Eurillo, my dear soul, what's happening to you?

Eurillo

Oh, let's tear apart, let's kill
that faithless, heartless Megaera
who hopes to get ample rewards
for killing the faith that's nested in my heart.

Cloris

What 's this fury that torments
your mind and your heart?

Eurillo

I am Alecto descending
from the shore of Tartarus,
I am the king of all torments,
I am Death and I'm coming.

Cloris

Eurillo, how can you...

Eurillo

Your deceptions are more than death for me.
I know no fury more cruel than your deceit.
You set them up so cruelly and I feel them tearing my
heart.
Stars in the heavens, hurl all your bolts,
and let the skies let loose all your thunders
and turn that faithless one to tinders.

Cloris

Eurillo, how can you call me faithless?

I never offended you in any way.
Tear up my loving heart. In it you'll see
engraved all my love and your unfaithfulness.
The shining faith that you presume to be deceitful
the Gods in heaven know how true it is,
and how proud, in the realm of love,
is its beautiful light.

Eurillo

How long and hard
is the path that leads to Hell.
I'll just rest a moment
on the banks of Averno.

Cloris

O Eurillo, turn to the light
your doleful eyes.

Eurillo

This is the way that leads
to the reign of torments.

Cloris

Eurillo!

Eurillo

And who are you? I recognise you!
You are the shade of the rival I've slain.

Cloris

Neither am I shade, nor a ghostly breeze.
The dark winds of Averno do not blow here.

Eurillo

I can't yet hear Cerberus barking.
But Tisiphone and Megaera
Furies pale and wan torment
with fire and snakes
the hear that one day

I gave to Cloris. Poor heart!

Oh, stop, you heartless Furies.

Do not tear apart
that constant heart
that never strayed.

Torment instead
that wandering shade
that deceived it

Cloris

(I'll go along with his folly.)

Eurillo, my love,

Cerberus is tearing me apart,
and cruel Alecto is slaying me with her snakes.

Ah, I am wounded

Eurillo

Where is your wound, Cloris?

Oh, she's dying!

Cloris

The wound that's causing me to die
is here right in my heart.

Eurillo

Heavens, what can I do?

Cloris

O let me die, my dear Eurillo.

Eurillo

You must live, my love.
 Let death be my last comfort to my sorrow.
 I want to die, thou I'm dead already.

Cloris

I will live if you'll love me, Yes, I will.

Eurillo

Do you promise?

Cloris

Yes.

Eurillo

Rise, I'll be the one to die. *He faints and falls again senseless.*

Cloris

O come shepherds,
 Cloris' life,
 with Eurillo dying, is already over.
 Help, O help, shepherds!

Scene Seven – Track 51**Eurillo, Cloris, and Armindo****Armindo**

My heart, I'm here with you.
 Always ready to receive your commands
 Love always brings me on his wings.

Cloris

What do I see? Heavens!
 What sudden terror overtakes me
 and freezes my limbs?
 Alas, Eurillo's is dead already.
 This is his shade, o so handsome,
 and this is his soulless corpse.
 You are his soul, and that is his body.

Armindo

(Armindo, you've been found out.
 The fellow you see here
 has to be Eurillo for sure.)

Eurillo

Where am I? This is the ethereal sphere
 where the sun turns. *He comes to his senses.*
 That is the forest and this is the brook.
 Eurillo is not dead. How come I'm alive?

Cloris

Where is Eurillo? To whom shall I turn?
 My God, there are two of you or are you just one?
 Who of the two of you is the one that's mine?
 Have pity, do not double my grief!

Eurillo

What do my eyes see?
 It's Cloris with her new lover!
 You are both guilty!
 You both will die here in front of me.

Armindo

Stop, Eurillo, and listen
 to Clori's defense.

She's constant and faithful in her love for you.

Cloris

I am here at your feet.
 You can see in your mirror image right here
 whether I am innocent.
 But I still don't know who of the two of you is my
 love.

I love just one Eurillo, but there seem to be two of
 you.

Eurillo

So my features are so truly similar to the ones on his
 face?

Armindo

To anyone's eyes I am your mirror image.

Eurillo

So it was you, treacherous shepherd,
 who dared to engage in this awful deception.

Armindo

I'm guilty and deserve to be condemned,
 But as I see that all my hopes have vanished,
 This is more than sufficient punishment for my
 failings.

Scene Eight and Finale – Track 52**Lisetta and the other three****Lisetta**

(I want to know what's happening)
 But what do I see? Two Eurillo's?
 Indeed, there are two of them!
 Well, rejoice my heart
 One will be for Cloris, and the other for me.

Cloris

See how even Lisetta is surprised at such uncanny
 resemblance.

Eurillo

This mistake can only prove your constancy.

Lisetta

What kind of trick is this?
 Who's the real Eurillo, I have no idea.
 Let's make a deal.

Cloris, you choose the one you like,
 I'll be happy to take the other.

Armindo

Let's put an end to this exasperating confusion. I am
 Armindo,

I am a shepherd from another land, and I am not
 really wicked.

My face, so similar to yours,
 deceived your Cloris,
 but she was ever faithful to her love.

Lisetta, too, fell in love with me
 because of my face. She, too, took me for Eurillo.
 Such incredible luck

quite suited my natural inclination for them.
 I beg forgiveness for my fault.

No question Cloris is yours, and I'm quite fond of Lisetta.

Lisetta

Sir, I am quite happy this way.

Since you have Eurillo's identical features,
I don't really care that you have another name.

Eurillo

My Cloris, I adore you

Cloris

You are my idol and my hope.

Cloris

Joy overwhelms me completely.

Eurillo

And I am almost dying with love

Cloris

Let's banish all sorrows.

Eurillo

Here! I give you my heart.

Cloris

Here! I give you my soul!

Both

Is there anything else you wish?

Nothing more, my dear, nothing more

for, if my joy can possibly increase,

I can only die of such happiness.

Eurillo

You are Eurillo's life

Cloris

You are Cloris' love

Eurillo

Of my thoughts...

Cloris

Of my soul...

Eurillo

You're the life

Cloris

You're the hope

Eurillo

I am at peace.

Both

Nothing more, nothing more

for, if my joy can possibly increase,

I can only die of such happiness.

Lisetta

What are we waiting for?

Let Love now join our hands.

Armindo

My dear, take with your right hand
my heart as well.

and with it this golden ring

with a sapphire where my name

was engraved.

This way Armindo will be always with you.

Eurillo

What do I hear? Your name

is engraved on a gem?

Lisetta, let me see it.

Lisetta

See!

Eurillo

See, how identical it is

to this one that's mine.

Only the name is different.

This means you are my brother,

one that, still an infant, was taken away
from our country.

The total resemblance confirms it,
and this ring testifies to it.

Beloved brother, I take you into my arms,
while my eyes melt in tears of joy.

Cloris

O unexpected good fortune!

Lisetta

O sudden happiness!

Armindo

What a happy turn of events,

for I'm returned to you, when I least expected it.

Cloris, Lisetta together

O happy nuptials!

Eurillo, Armindo together

What a happy day! *End of the play.*

*English translation from the Italian by Professor
Gabriele Erasmì, 2019.*

