

(MARIA, MOTHER ABBESS)

AND THEN I DON'T FEEL SO BAD!

MARIA

Mother, where did you learn that song?

MOTHER ABBESS

I was brought up on that mountain myself.

(motions MARIA to sit)

Tell me, what is the most important lesson you've learned here?

MARIA

To find out what is the will of God and to do it.

MOTHER ABBESS

(crosses to the desk)

Maria, it seems to be the will of God that you leave us.

MARIA

Leave?

(rises)

Oh, no! Mother, this is what I want. This is my life.

MOTHER ABBESS

But are you ready for it? Perhaps if you go out into the world again for a time you will return to us knowing what we expect of you and that we do expect it.

MARIA

I know what you expect...

MOTHER ABBESS

(firmly)

Maria.

MARIA

If it is God's will. Where am I to go?

MOTHER ABBESS

(crossing to the desk)

There's a family – a family of seven children. They need a governess until September.

MARIA

September!

MOTHER ABBESS

(picking up the slip of paper she wrote on earlier)

Captain von Trapp expects you this afternoon. He's a fine man – and a brave one. He was given a medal for heroism in the Adriatic.

MARIA

A Captain in the Navy! Oh, Mother, he'll be very strict.

MOTHER ABBESS

You're not being sent to his battleship.

The MOTHER ABBESS hands MARIA the address.

Abbey bells are heard.

TRACK 7: CHANGE INTO SCENE 3

MARIA kneels, the MOTHER ABBESS makes the sign of the cross on MARIA's forehead.

God bless you, Maria.

MARIA rises and slowly exits.

**SCENE 3: THE LIVING ROOM OF THE VON TRAPP VILLA
THAT AFTERNOON**

CAPTAIN GEORG VON TRAPP enters carrying a suitcase. He is followed by FRANZ, the butler, and FRAU SCHMIDT, the housekeeper.

CAPTAIN

Why did the last governess leave?

FRAU SCHMIDT

Who knows?

FRANZ

She just said, "I've had enough of this," and walked out.

CAPTAIN

Well, there's another one coming today – from Nonnberg Abbey – with orders to stay until September.

FRAU SCHMIDT

I hope you'll be at home for a time, sir.

CAPTAIN

I should be back from Vienna in a few weeks.

FRAU SCHMIDT

Oh, there was a call for you, sir – from Vienna. I have the number in...

CAPTAIN

(setting his suitcase near the chair)

I know the number.

FRAU SCHMIDT

Of course, sir.

The CAPTAIN exits.