
SCENE 2: NONNBERG ABBEY
THE FOLLOWING MORNING

A desk and chair are downstage, a small stool sits to the right of the desk. Lights come up on MOTHER ABBESS, SISTER BERTHE, SISTER SOPHIA and SISTER MARGARETTA.

MOTHER ABBESS

I think we should be pleased with our efforts. Out of twenty-eight postulants, sixteen or seventeen are ready to enter the novitiate. Let's consider the doubtful ones again.

SISTER BERTHE

Well, after last night I don't think there can be any doubt about Maria.

MOTHER ABBESS

I gave her permission to leave the Abbey for the day.

SISTER MARGARETTA

I told you, Sister Berthe.

SISTER BERTHE

But she was late!

MOTHER ABBESS

Sister Sophia, they do not see eye to eye about Maria. How do you feel about her?

SISTER SOPHIA

I love her very dearly. But she always seems to be in trouble, doesn't she?'

SISTER BERTHE

Exactly what I say!

TRACK 4: MARIA

SHE CLIMBS A TREE AND SCRAPES HER KNEE,
HER DRESS HAS GOT A TEAR.

SISTER SOPHIA

SHE WALTZES ON HER WAY TO MASS
AND WHISTLES ON THE STAIR.

SISTER BERTHE

AND UNDERNEATH HER WIMPLE
SHE HAS CURLERS IN HER HAIR—

SISTER SOPHIA

I'VE EVEN HEARD HER SINGING IN THE ABBEY!

SISTER BERTHE moves to the MOTHER ABBESS.