CANCION (to Felice)
Oh, you baggage!
(Maurizio still is chasing Filipeuo, now
from one room to another, now
around the stage, where Filipeuo hides behind
one person or another.)

LUCIETA
Oh protect him! Filipeuo!

MAURIZIO
Oh, you villain, I will kill you.
I will kill you, you wretch!

FILIPETO
Sir, I beg you, do not kill me,
'Twasn't my fault, I knew nothing.

RICCARDO
I could never have believed that this
could lead to such a noise.

MAURIZIO
Oh, you villain, I will kill you.
(to Riccardo)
Let me go, sir! Who are you?
I will kill you, you wretch!

FILIPETO
Poor Lucieta, do protect her!
Where can I run?
What a dreadful situation!
What on earth can I do?

MARINA
What a positively dreadful situation!
What a fearful noise you all are making!
What a pity for Lucieta!

FELICE
The noise you all are making
Is enough to wake the dead.
So be off with you to Bedlam
Till you learn to cool your head.

RICCARDO
The devil take them!
I shall soon go mad myself.

(Maurizio catches Filipeuo and drags him
out by the ear. Lucieta faints into the
arms of Margaretta, who staggers and is
supported by Felice and Marina. All
four women leave the stage on the left.
Simon and Cancion drag Lunardo out
on the right.)

ACT THREE
A ROOM IN LUNARDO'S HOUSE
Lunardo, Simon and Cancion are sitting in
gloomy meditation, emitting from time
to time grunts of anger.

LUNARDO, SIMON E CANCIAN
Oh females, brood of Satan, say,
Oh, why did he make you?
How could you dare, you fiends of Hell,
To men such things to do?
To play a trick like that on us,
Your husbands to disgrace.
Who could invent a punishment
To fit a crime so base?
Oh, when I think of women—
I speak for all my sex—
Could I but have my own way,
I'd like to wring their necks!

(Si alzano e camminano in giro. Lunardo
fa un gesto di disperazione.)

LUNARDO
Carì amici parlome, còsegemose.
Co custie,
Vegnimo a dir el merito,
Cossa avemo da far?
Per la puta xe facile
E ò stabili.
Prima de tutto a monte el matrimonio.
SIMON e CANCIAN
A monte, a monte.

LUNARDO
La mandarò in 'un liogo
Lontana da sto mondo
E tuto xe finio.
Ma le muger, paroni,
Come avemio da far per castigarle?
(a CANCIAN)
Disè el vostro parrer.

CANCION
Mi, veramente, son intriga.

SIMON (dubitoso)
Podareissimo ficcarle
Anca elle in un ritiro;
Se se polcissi sbirgar.
(LUNARDO la un grugnito dubitativo.)

CANCION (più sicuro)
Si, un caennasso, quattro muri
Se se polcissi sbirgar.

SIMON e CANCION
E serarghe fin i scuri
Darghe poco da magnar;
E impedirghle, ferma, duri,
Che non le abia da parlar.

LUNARDO (ironico)
Che non le abia da parlar?
Veci cari... sto castigo
Mi ve digo,
In tre di le fa crepar.

SIMON
Che le crepa!

LUNARDO
Eh andemo, po,
Via, coparle... proprio no!

CANCION
Ma no certo, perché za...
Volta, cerca... xira... fa...
Senza done no se sta.

LUNARDO
E un bon legno qualche volta?
CANCION (secco)
E se po le se rivolta?

LUNARDO e SIMON (indignati)
Revoltarse?

CANCION
E ghe nè stae...

LUNARDO e SIMON
Quà l'amigo l'à ciapae,
So muger ghe l'à petae.

LUNARDO
No so quala far.

SIMON
Mandela ai parenti.

LUNARDO
Per farme smatar.

CANCION
Mandela in campagna.

LUNARDO
Fin l'erba la magna.

SIMON
Ben, feghe parlar.

LUNARDO
Xe come al deserto
Voler predicar.

SIMON e CANCION
Sereghe in abiti, sere le zogie,
Tegnita al suto, mortischela.

LUNARDO
Ho provà tuto!
Gente se fa.

SIMON and CANCION
Of course, of course.

LUNARDO
My daughter, I've decided,
Will go into a nunnery,
And that's the end of her.
But as to our wives, gentlemen,
What on earth can we do to chastise them?
(to CANCIAN)
What is your view of the case?

CANCION
Well, if you ask me, I'm at a loss.

SIMON (dubiously)
I suggest that we should send them—
Send them too into a nunnery,
And be rid of them for good.
(LUNARDO grunts dubiously.)

CANCION (more assured)
Yes, lock them up well in a nunnery,
And be rid of them for good.

SIMON and CANCION
Bread and water, prayer and fasting
For their diet every day!
Make them keep the rule of silence,
Not a single word to say.

LUNARDO (ironically)
Not a single word to say?
Let me tell you, let me tell you,
If you force them to be silent,
In three days they'll all be dead.

SIMON
All the better.

LUNARDO
Come, really now,
That is going rather far.

CANCION
Yes, indeed, sir, for you know—
What's to come of all our lives
If we go without our wives?

LUNARDO
Take a stick to them now and then?

CANCION (drily)
Sometimes two can play at that game.

LUNARDO and SIMON (indignantly)
Turn the tables?

CANCION
That can be done.

LUNARDO and SIMON
That's the worst of married life—
When you're beaten by your wife.

LUNARDO
What is one to do?

SIMON
Send her to her mother.

LUNARDO
That will make her much worse.

CANCION
Pack her off to the country.

LUNARDO
Eat her head off like a horse.

SIMON
Then read her a lecture.

LUNARDO
And she'll lecture you
Till you're black in the face.

SIMON and CANCION
Lock all her clothes up, and her jewels,
Or try starvation in the dark.

LUNARDO
I have tried everything.
No good at all.
SIMON (secco)
O capio, caro amico, ò cussi.

LUNARDO
Come?

SIMON
Godevela tal qual la xe.

LUNARDO
E capisco anca mi
Che rimedio purtroppo no ghe né!
Mo parcossa le done tute quante
No è impastade de zucaro e de miel?

SIMON e CANCIAN
De zucaro e de miel?

LUNARDO
Ah magari! Mo che deliazie sante
Che in tera ne faria provar el ciel.

LUNARDO, SIMON e CANCIAN
Ah! Che deliazie sante,
Che zogia, che piaser!

SIMON
Dir cho in cielo gh'è anzoli a miera
E che fursi de femene ghe nè,
E che a farne beati quì zo in tera
A nu ne bastaria che i fusse tre.

CANCION
Ah che godi, che gioia, che contento,
Che delizia, che gusto, che piacer!
Ah, el saria de natura el gran portento
E tuti la voria sta gran muger!

LUNARDO, SIMON e CANCIAN
Ma no, no me tegno, la voii castigar,
S'anca dovesse precipitar;
E zo co un bon legno,
Se anca credessi doverla copar,
Zo voi pestar!
Spaccarghe la testa e farghe la festa,
Schizzare quivi grugni a forza de pugni,
E a modo de mi strozzaria cussi.

(Entra Felice: gridi di meraviglia dagli uomini nel vederla.)

FELICE
Siori gentilissimi,
Grazie del bon amor.

LUNARDO, SIMON e CANCIAN
Oè digo! Che insolenza!
Che ardir! Che propretzia!

FELICE
Li go sentii lustrissimi,
Patroni colendissimi,
Lodarne de bon cuor,
E coi più profondissimi
Inchini d'umilia
Mi vegno da de là.

CANCION
(aggressivo, ma veramente impaurito, sor-rette da Simon e Lunardo.)
E sè vegnuda quà
A sídarne in sto modo?

FELICE (innocentemente)
Cossa è sta? Cossa ò fatto?

CANCION
No me fà parlar, dona mata!

LUNARDO e SIMON
Bravo Cancian!

FELICE
Parlè pur. Son qua a posta.

CANCION
Vegni a casa co mi.

FELICE
Sior no.

SIMON (driily)
Very well, my good friend, try another way.

LUNARDO
What way?

SIMON
Accept your wife for what she is.

LUNARDO
Yes, I'm bound to confess
That we shall have to accept them as they are.
Ah! Why did not our bountiful Creator
Make all women of sugar and spice?

SIMON and CANCIAN
Of sugar and spice?

LUNARDO
Then we might experience on earth
The joys that now for Heav'n suffice.

LUNARDO, SIMON and CANCIAN
The joys that now
For Heav'n suffice.

SIMON
It in Heaven the angels are unnumber'd,
Then, I reckon, some feminine must be.
But I'm thinking that Providence has
Slumber'd.
For here on earth 'twould be enough if
there were only three.

CANCION
Ah! We all want the one ideal woman,
One who'll never provoke domestic strife;
Heav'n may hold such, but she's none too
Common.
And every man may sigh in vain for such
A perfect wife.

LUNARDO, SIMON and CANCIAN (angrily)
Or else if you like you can clout her head,
You can break every bone of her, leave
Her for dead.
There are various ways our wives for to vex,
The best way, obedient to make 'em,
The right way to treat 'em,
Is to take 'em and break 'em,
To clout 'em and beat 'em;
The best way of all is to wring their necks.

(Enter Felice; shouts of surprise from the men at seeing her.)

FELICE
Oh! Good evening to you, gentlemen,
Thank you for your goodwill.

LUNARDO, SIMON and CANCIAN
Good Heavens! What impertinence!
So bold! How dare she come here?

FELICE
Most worthy and most worshipful
And most illustrious gentlemen,
I heard you say just now
How you yourself did praise,
And so with all humility
I venture to intrude.

CANCION
(aggressively, but really frightened, sup-ported by Simon and Lunardo)
You dare to enter here,
All alone, uninvited?

FELICE (innocently)
Well, why not? What have I done?

CANCION
Do not rouse my wrath, you mad woman!

LUNARDO and SIMON
Give it to her!

FELICE
Say what you will. I've come to hear you.

CANCION
You come home with me at once.

FELICE
I won't.
CANCION
Ma andemo, che cospeto de Diana...

FELICE
(prima piano, ma poco a poco diventando più e più veloce)
Oe, paron, anca mi
So cospetizar saveu?

Coss'é? Chi me credeu?
M'aveu trovà in 'n gatolo?
Sogio la vostra sguatara?
Ste maniere se dopara
Co una dona civile?
Coss'é sto manazza?
E sto cospetizar?
Coss'é sto alzar le man?
A mi cospeti? A mi manazze?
Co una mia pari
Ste manierezze?

(Lunardo e Simon si allontanano da Canzian che comincia a vacillare.)
Xe sti siori che ve incita?
Ste asenae, ste buluc
Impara le avé da loro?
V'à da volta el cervelo, sior Canzian?
(da un pizzicotto nel braccio a Canzian)

SIMON (piano a Lunardo)
Aveu sentiu che ra cola?

LUNARDO (piano a Simon)
Ghe tirarave el colo...
E el tase quel pandolo...

FELICE (amabilmente)
Via no le disne gnente, Patronni reveriti?
Parlo co tutti tre, placidamente.
Se avé da dir, parle.

LUNARDO e SIMON
La diga cara siora...

FELICE (interrompendoli)
Eh via tase là... satrapí,
Tase, píss di inferno,
Che co sto modo che trate le done
No le ve pol amar in sempiterno.

Vegnimo al fato, no,
Vegnimo a dir el merito,
Vegnimo al fato.
Sior Lunardo, so ha vol maridar.
Gnente i' da sauer, guai se la'l vede.
Piassa o nol piassa la lo ga da dor.
(caricaturando gli nomini)

Ma el puto xe bon,
Nol xe gnana bravo,
L'è san, dopo tuto
El ghe piasara.

(irrompendo)
E seu mo seguro che'l gh'abi da piasar?
E se nol ghe piase, sior testa de mulo?

Gave una fia sola, par Diana gavè,
E la sassinè?
Sior si xe sta ben che i se veda,
So mare no aveva coraggio,
Marina s' ha raccomanda,
Mi o avuo l'invenzione della mascara,
Mi el conte Riccardo o prega;
I' sà visto, i' sà piasso, i' è contenti,
I' è besti, i' se ga consolè.

(a Lunardo)
Vu la tera basar dovaraes,
Compatibile è vostra muger.

(a Simon)
Xe laudabile siora Marina,
Mi go agido per gran mio bon cuor.
Se se omeni persuade,
Se se tanghiri intestarede.
La puta è onesta,
Onesto è el puto,
Nuoltre semo done d'onor.
La fortuna v'à giuta
Che una dona avé trovà,
Una dona de proposito
Che no sà mai spaventè
E in sto caso scabrosissimo

CANCION
Come home, or else go to the Devil!

FELICE
(at first very quietly, then gradually becoming more vehement)
Oh, dear sir,
I know just as much bad language as you do.
What's this? Who and who am I?
Did you find me in the gutter?
Do you take me for your light-o'-love?
Is it thus you behave
To a woman of gentle birth?
I can't think how you dare
Like that to curse and swear.
You think to raise your hand?
And abuse me?
Think of my station!
Surely you owe me some consideration!

(Lunardo and Simon move away from Cancian, who begins to totter.)
Or perhaps you have taken lessons
In a style in which I'm not used?
From these two distinguished gentlemen?
Or have you lost your senses, Sior Cancian?
(She pinchè Cancian in the arm.)

SIMON (softly to Lunardo)
There's words for you, there's eloquence!

LUNARDO (softly to Simon)
I should like to wring her neck.
And that old fool there says nothing!

FELICE (amably)
Well? Have you got no answer,
My worshipful lords and masters?
I speak to you all three, calmly and sweetly.
Pray what have you to say?

LUNARDO and SIMON
Tell us then, worthy madam—

FELICE (interrupting)
No more, you tartars, you cannibals! No more, you infernal savages!
For if you treat your lawful wives like this, How can you then expect them ever to love you? Now to the point— For that's the long and short of it. Sior Lunardo has a daughter to marry off. She's to know nothing about it, Still less to see her intended. Take him, willy-nilly. That's the way it's done.
(caricaturando gli uomini)
He's a good sort of boy, And he's not half bad-looking, What's more, he's healthy; She'll like him well enough!
(bursting out)
And how can you tell if the young man will please her?
And supposing he doesn't, what then, you old blockhead? You've only one daughter, you'll make her a wife And ruin her life?
Of course it was right she should see him. As her stepmother had not the courage, Marina beheld her at a plan; And then I suggested the dominío, And brought Sior Riccardo with me. He came, he saw, he conquered. They're as happy as can be.
(to Lunardo)
As for you, you may kneel down and thank us. Margarita you ought to forgive.
(to Simon)
And you might say a word for Marina, And for me too as long as you live. Oh, why cannot you all be sensible? Your position is indefensible. Neither boy nor girl's reprehensible; As for me, my conscience is clear. Thank your stars that hither they sent A woman of wise and good intent, A woman on kindly action bent, A woman without reproach or fear, Who to the help of the young people went And gave their fathers a cheer in the ear. 
La gá tuo combiná.
E la gran bestialità
Che da mostri irragionevoli
E con mezzi riprovevoli
Stevi quasi combinando,
Anca i fulmini sfidando
Sul più belo l'ha sventà,
E cussi senza far scandali,
Proprio come fa i anziani,
Quattro rusteghi à salvá;
Da vergogna dano e biasemo,
Quattro rusteghi à salvá;
Che da resto se da tangari,
Se da essere bisbetici.
Co testarda ingratitudine
Tanto ben lo disprezzé:
Che ve vegna la tazza,
L'orbiolata, i calii, el fistolo,
Che de cuor ve lo disidero
E mi balzo se crepe.
Perché za mi fasso calcolo
Che né gnete no pericolà
Nè che el mondo no se sgangara
Se anca el colo ve rompe,
(prende fiato)
O fenio la mia renga,
El cielo sia lodato;
Tuto considerato
Applaudi el matrimonio e l'avvocato.

CANCION
Senti mo, sior Lunardo...
Siora Felice... gavará anca le so debolezze.
(sorridente soddisfatto e superbo)
Ma qualche volta, bia confesarlo...
La xe po... una gran dona de garbo.

FELICE
N'è vero, sior Cancian?

LUNARDO
Ma ve digo cussì...

FELICE
Eh Che l'è una vergogna, sior grubian!
Mi! Mi! Aspettemi ...
(sì volta per andare)

LUNARDO
Comandeu vu, patrona?

FELICE (dalla porta)
Sior si, comando mi.
(Felice esce.)

LUNARDO
Se le vien no me tegno.
Se le vien no me tegno.
No me tegno, no me tegno!

LUNARDO, SIMON e CANCEAN
Insomma za, voltilla, zirilla,
Done barone, no se ghe pol,
O cole brute o cole bone,
Lore fan tutto quel che le vol.
(Entrano Felice, Margarita, Marina e Lucia con un aria finita di penitenza.)

FELICE
Vele quà pentie, contrie,
Le domando perdòn.

MARINA, MARGARITA e LUCIETA
Grazia, grazia domandemo,
Suplichemio compassione,
Dala pena squasi morte
Se inchinemo quà a implorar.
(Lunardo à Lucia)
Cossa meritarressistu ti, frascona?

FELICE
No la ga colpa, parlè con me.
(Lunardo à Lucia e Margarita)
Omeni in casa, ah? Morosi sconti?

FELICE
Crie con mi, son causa mi.

All your prejudice, all your pride,
All your tyranny, your pig-headedness,
Our conception of happily-weddedness,
All you secret combinations,
All your open fulminations,
We poor women have now defied.
Our innocuous duplicity
Makes for two folks' felicity,
And for you prevents publicity
Of a scandal far and wide.
Still, if you prefer the attitude
Of a rank and base ingratitude—
For whichever way you look at it, you'd
Find yourselves the feeblest sex—
Then I'll wish ev'ry calamity,
Ev'ry malady, disease and infirmity,
Boils and blains and horrible pains
And ev'rything else of which man
complains,
That mind or body or soul can vex.
For I hold that your ferocity
Is an out-of-date monstrosity,
And it would be no great atrocity
If all three of you broke your necks!
(takes breath)
That's the end of my discourse,
And thank Heaven for that;
And when you have consider'd it,
Signify your approval in the usual way.

CANCEAN
Well, come now, Sior Lunardo,
Siora Felice may perhaps have the failings
of her sex,
(smiling with proud satisfaction)
But there are times when you must admit,
sir,
That she is a truly wonderful woman.

FELICE
Isn't so not, Sior Cancian?

LUNARDO
I'll be hang'd if I do!

FELICE
Oh, how can you deny it, you old wretch?
Oh, oh, you wait and see!
(turns to go)

LUNARDO
Will you give me orders, ma'am?

FELICE (at the door)
I will, I always do.
(Felice leaves.)

LUNARDO
If that woman comes here again
I shall go for her.
There'll be no holding me.

LUNARDO, SIMON and CANCEAN
Well, such is life, take it or leave it!
You know what women are, what can one
say?
Take it from me, you'll have to believe it,
By fair or foul means they'll have their way.
(Enter Felice, Margarita, Marina and Lucia,
with an affected air of penitence.)

FELICE
With contrite heart they come to kneel
before you,
And your pardon to ask.

MARINA, MARGARITA and LUCIETA
Humbly, humbly we are come before you,
And pardon humbly would implore you.
Here in trembling we await your sentence,
Hoping you'll take note of our repentance.
(Lunardo à Lucia)
Now tell me what you deserve, little
bussy?

FELICE
It was not her fault, but mine alone.
(Lunardo à Lucia and Margarita)
You bringing men in here, and hiding
lovers?

FELICE
Speak now to me, to me alone.
LUNARDO

Oh, devil take you, once and for all!
FELICE (laughing)

ME?

CANCIAN

Please to remember that’s my wife.

LUNARDO

Oh, my dear sir, I’ve had enough.
(These three men put on their hats and coats as if to go away.)

MARINA (to FELICE)

And so you’ve settled everything so smoothly?

SIMON (to MARINA)

And you’re another woman
Who deserves to be taught a lesson.

MARINA

I’m going to bed.

FELICE

Please wait a moment.
Our poor old Sior Lunardo,
His anger still he’s nursing.
And he must give some vent to it,
So never mind his cursing.
(While she sings she holds Lunardo back.
She gradually takes his coat off and gives it to Lucieta; then she takes his hat and gives it to Margarita.)

MARINA, MARGARITA and LUCIETA

Oh be gracious to your servants!

FELICE

Now he has soothing’d his pride.
You all shall be forgiven.
And when the young man comes along
The knot shall at once be tied.
(Enter Filipoeto, Maurizio and Riccardo, unseen by Lunardo.
Margarita takes off Simon’s hat and cloak; FELICE takes off Cancian’s.
The cloaks are all given to Lucieta and the hats to Margarita.)

It’s not so, Sior Lunardo?

It is so.
(Felice turns Lunardo around so that he can see the other men who have come in.
Lunardo rebelling suddenly) Siora, no!

FELICE, MARINA and MARGARITA

Oh!

Maurizio (to Filipoeto)

Come away.
(He tries to take Filipoeto away. Lucieta drops the cloaks and bursts into tears.)

LUNARDO

Oh, why all this howling and bawling?

FELICE, MARINA and MARGARITA

Come, are you a man or a child in your dallying?
You turn like a weathercock this way and that!
Come, what do you mean by this weak shilly-shallying?
And why will you now contradict yourself flat?
But I’ve got a word and I mean to be heard,
And I tell you your conduct is simply absurd.
If you have a heart, or sense in your head,
These two young people have got to be wed.

LUCIETA

Oh cruel misfortune! What is to be done?
Oh Heaven defend us, or help there is none.

Maurizio

This noise is appalling!

CANCIAN

With shrieking and bawling.

SIMON

And foul caterwauling
Would you shout us down?

RICCARDO

Why go to the Piazza?
Four bears and three cats are All fighting and that’s a Diversion I shan’t find in town!

LUNARDO

Eh, andeve a far squartar anca vu!
FELICE (ridendo)

Oè!

CANCIAN

Come parleu con mia muger?

LUNARDO

Eh, caro vu, non posso più.
(Gli uomini si mettono le giacche ed i cappelli come per andarsene.)

MARINA (a FELICE)

Cussi pulito la xe giustada?

SIMON (a MARINA)

Anca vu siora,
Meritaresi ‘na strapazzada.
MARINA

Mi vago in leto,
FELICE

Speté un pochetto.
El poaro sior Lunardo
Gaveva in corpo ancora
La colara in ritardo,
E el l’a mandada fora.
(Mentre parla sta tenendo Lunardo. Gli leva la giacca e la da a Lucieta; poi gli leva il cappello e lo da a Margarita.)

MARINA, MARGARITA e LUCIETA

Grazia, grazia, grazia grazia.

FELICE

Desso che ‘l s’è sfogà
El ne perdonà tutto,
E se vegnàra el puto
I se maridarà.
(Entrano Filipoeto, Maurizio e Riccardo, non visiti da Lunardo. Marina leva la giacca a Simon; FELICE a Cancian. Tutte le giacche vengono date a Lucieta, tutti i cappelli a Margarita.)
N’è vero, sior Lunardo?

LUNARDO

Siora si, siora si.
(Felice lo fa girare in modo che veda gli altri uomini che sono estratti. Lunardo ribellandosì improvvisamente) Siora no!

FELICE, MARINA e MARGARITA

Oh!

MAURIZIO (a Filipoeto)

Via de qui.
(Prova a portare via Filipoeto. Lucieta lascia cadere le giacche e si mette a piangere.)

LUNARDO

Coss’è sto sfar, desgravizzi?

FELICE, MARINA e MARGARITA

Oh, basta cospeto, sè un omo o un putelo?
Co fa le girandole voltè e rivoltè.
Coss’è sti smorfie?
Coss’è sti strambezzi?
E sti putelezzi? Dixè e disdixè!
Mo gh’intro anca mi
E digo: sior si,
Se in peto avè cuor,
Sior si, el l’a da tor.

LUCIETA

Oh cielo, che pene, ohi miei,ossa far?
Oh santi, salvene, salvene, che afar?

MAURIZIO

Ah strighe, demoni.

CANCIAN

Serpenti, dragoni.

SIMON

Perfina coi sighi
Vole sopraffar.

RICCARDO

Non serve che in piazza
Men vada a diletto,
Spettacol più gaio
Di questo non v’è.
LUNARDO (che non ne può più)
Oh, let him have her
And let him marry her,
And for a honeymoon take her to Hell!
I've had enough of this, I've had enough.
MARGARITA
Oh best of men!
(Francesco Lunardo with Margaret)
FELICE (playfully to Lunardo)
And when the young man comes along
The knot shall at once be tied!
Isn't it so, Sior Lunardo?
LUNARDO (to Lucieta, kindly)
Lucieta!

Lucieta
Sir?

LUNARDO
Come here.

Lucieta
I'm here, sir.

LUNARDO
Would you like to be married?
(Lucieta is too shy to answer.)

Come, child, answer me.

Lucieta (trembling)
I would, I would.

LUNARDO
You baggage!
So you've seen the boy already?

Lucieta
I have, sir.

LUNARDO
Sior Maurizio.
MAURIZIO (rudely)
What d'ye want?

LUNARDO
Come, worthy friend,
For here's the long and short of it,
You've no call to answer me like that.

MAURIZIO (to Filippetto)
You young jackanape! Come here.

FILIPPETTO (taking courage)
I'm here, sir.

MAURIZIO
Have you repented?

FILIPPETTO (beating his breast)
I have, sir.

MAURIZIO
Understand me, when you're married,
You'll still be dependent on me.

FILIPPETTO
I shall, sir, I know.

MAURIZIO (solemnly)
Siora Lucieta, I take you for my child,
And Heaven bless you both. Give her your hand.

FILIPPETTO
What do I do?

FELICE
Come on, give her your hand.
(Felice and Marina join the hands of Filippetto and Lucieta.)

MARINA e FELICE
Like that.

MARINA
Heaven bless him!
(Everybody is much overcome.)

MARGARITA
Sior Simon, Sior Cancian you are the witnesses.

SIMON
We are proud to be here.

CANCIAN
We are indeed. Heaven bless them both!

LUNARDO (very much overcome)
Now, children, let us be merry
And drink a glass of wine.
(With a comically suffocated voice)

Hurrah for all of us! Now we must go to dine.
(Lunardo with Margaret, Simon with Marina and Felice with Cancian and Riccardo go slowly toward the rear and leave. Lucieta remains alone with Filippetto, waiting for a kiss, but he does not understand and remains undecided. Lucieta runs away laughing, and Filippetto chases her and gives her a kiss.)

FINE

THE END