

Audition Sides - Mother Abbess, Maria

Begin

MOTHER ABBESS

(at the desk)
Now, my children, I think I should talk *to* Maria instead of *about* her. I am grateful to you all.

TRACK 5: SCENE 2 (UNDERScore)

The NUNS exit. MARIA enters and crosses to the desk. MARIA kneels before the MOTHER ABBESS who blesses MARIA.

Sit down, Maria.

MARIA

(sits on the stool)
Reverend Mother, I was on my knees most of the night because I was late.

MOTHER ABBESS

(sits at desk)
We could only think you had lost your way.

MARIA

I couldn't be lost on that mountain. I was brought up on it! It was that mountain that brought me to you.

MOTHER ABBESS

Oh?

MARIA

When I was a little girl I used to come down the mountain, climb a tree and look over into your garden. I'd see the Sisters at work, and I'd hear them sing on their way to vespers. Many times I went back up that mountain in the dark – singing all the way. And that brings up another transgression.

MOTHER ABBESS

Maria, it's only here in the Abbey that there is a rule about singing.

MARIA

That's the hardest rule of all for me.

MOTHER ABBESS

The day you were singing in the garden at the top of your voice – I wish you hadn't stopped. I used to sing that song when I was a child, and I can't quite remember...

TRACK 6: MY FAVORITE THINGS

Please...

END

The MOTHER ABBESS gestures to MARIA to sing.

MARIA

RAINDROPS ON ROSES AND WHISKERS ON KITTENS,
BRIGHT COPPER KETTLES AND WARM WOOLEN MITTENS,
