

ACT I  
Scene 7

*Maria's Bedroom. The gabled ceiling suggests it is on the top floor of the villa.. The door from the hallway is in the upstage wall. At the left of this door is a wardrobe with double doors. The left wall slants away from this and in it is a window. To the right of the door to the hall is an alcove, curtained off with drapes of yellow and brown cretonne, matching the drapes of the window. Below the alcove, in a jog, is MARIA's double brass bed with a thick eider-down comforter. Guitar case on floor D.S. of window. There is a knocking on the door.*

FRAU SCHMIDT: *(Off)* Fraulein Maria! *(She enters U.C. carrying a bolt of cloth.)* Fraulein Maria, it's Frau Schmidt.

MARIA: *(Off)* I'm getting ready for bed.

FRAU SCHMIDT: The Captain is going to Vienna tomorrow. I have this material he ordered for a new dress for you.

MARIA: *(Off)* Oh, how nice of him. *(She enters from the alcove, wearing a nightgown under a dressing robe. FRAU SCHMIDT hands her the bolt of material.)* Even before it's made, this is the prettiest dress I've ever had. I hope the Captain will like it because I want to ask him for more material.

FRAU SCHMIDT: More?

MARIA: Oh, not for me—for the children. For play clothes. *(She takes the material into the alcove.)*

FRAU SCHMIDT: The Von Trapp children never play. *(Crosses to the window and closes the curtains.)* The Captain doesn't like them to get dirty.

MARIA: *(Re-entering)* But they're children. They have to climb trees, roll on the grass. Think of all the rocks and caves—

FRAU SCHMIDT: The Captain says the best exercise is marching. The children will continue to march. I hope you find your room comfortable.

MARIA: Yes, thank you.

FRAU SCHMIDT: (*Going to the bed and adjusting the eider-down comforter*) There will be new curtains for the window and the alcove. They will be hung tomorrow.

MARIA: (*At the window*) But these curtains are very good.

FRAU SCHMIDT: There will be new curtains.

MARIA: (*Measuring the drapes at arm's length from her nose*) Will the Captain be away long?

FRAU SCHMIDT: I don't know. Of course he has to come home every time he hires a new governess. I sometimes think the children get rid of their governesses just because they want to see their father.

MARIA: (*Picking up her guitar case*) He must want to see them, too.

FRAU SCHMIDT: Since his wife died, they remind him too much of her. (*Seeing the guitar.*) You can put that away. You won't be using it.

MARIA: Why not?

FRAU SCHMIDT: The Captain won't have music here.

MARIA: He won't have music???

FRAU SCHMIDT: And he used to love music. There were wonderful evenings here. His wife would sing and he would play the violin or guitar. But now he's shut all that out of his life.

MARIA: So that's why he's the way he is. But not to have music—that's wrong for him and wrong for the children, too. (*She puts the guitar in the alcove.*)

FRAU SCHMIDT: It will work out. The Captain may marry again before the summer is over.