

Le Nozze di Figaro

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart





Figaro
a servant to the Count



Susanna
a servant to the Countess



Dr. Bartolo
a lawyer



Count Almaviva
Lord of the Manor



Marcellina
Dr. Bartolo's housekeeper



Countess Almaviva
Wife of the Count



Cherubino
a page to the Count



Barbarina
a servant to the Count

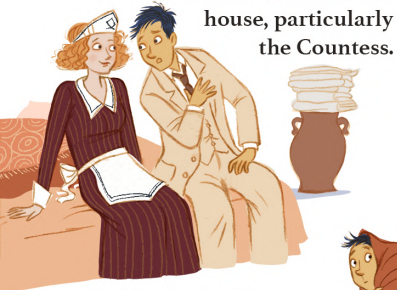
In the storeroom where they live, Figaro and Susanna, servants to the Count and Countess, are preparing for their wedding. Figaro is furious when Susanna tells him that the Count tried to flirt with her. He plots his revenge.



Dr. Bartolo appears with Marcellina. She wants to marry Figaro herself. She has a contract: Figaro must marry her or repay the money he borrowed from her.



Cherubino finds his friend Susanna and confesses he has a crush on all the women in the house, particularly the Countess.



Suddenly, the Count appears to flirt with Susanna, so Cherubino hides.



Then Basilio, the music teacher, enters, and the Count also hides.

The Count is outraged by what he overhears. He reveals himself and becomes even more enraged upon discovering Cherubino. He chases the page into the great hall, where he finds the whole household, including Figaro! Put on the spot, the Count is forced to bless the marriage of Figaro and Susanna. To spite them and to silence Cherubino, he orders the boy to join the army.



The Countess is feeling very lonely. Figaro and Susanna encourage her to trick the Count by sending Cherubino, disguised as Susanna, to meet him that evening.



The two women lock the door and dress the boy in women's clothes. When Susanna steps away, the Count knocks. He is annoyed to find the door locked. Cherubino quickly hides in a closet.

The Count enters, and the Countess tells him that Susanna is in the closet. But he doesn't believe her and leaves to get tools to open the door.



Susanna comes back and helps Cherubino escape out the window. When the Count and Countess return, both are astonished when Susanna emerges from the closet.

The gardener Antonio then bursts in and announces that someone has jumped from the window. Figaro feigns a limp and pretends that it was him.



Bartolo, Marcellina and Basilio appear with the contract that forces Figaro to marry Marcellina. The Count declares that Figaro must marry Marcellina and that his wedding to Susanna will be cancelled.



Suzanna flirts with the Count, promising a rendezvous that night. But when he overhears her conspiring with Figaro, he declares that he will have revenge.



Marcellina, now with her lawyer, Don Curzio, demands that Figaro pay his debt or marry her at once. Figaro replies that he can't marry anyone without the consent of his parents for whom he's been searching for years, having been abducted as a baby.



When he reveals the birthmark on his arm, Marcellina realizes that he is her long-lost son, fathered by Bartolo.



Arriving to see Figaro and Marcellina embracing, Susanna thinks her fiancé has betrayed her, but soon learns the truth.



Cherubino, now dressed as a girl, appears with his sweetheart, Barbarina, the daughter of Antonio.



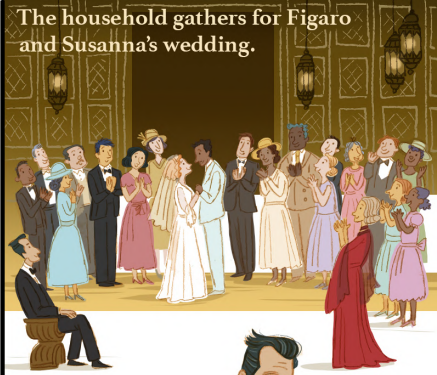
Antonio arrives and reveals the young man's identity. The Count is furious to discover that Cherubino has disobeyed him and is still in the house.



Barbarina explains that when the Count attempted to flirt with her, he promised her anything she wanted. Now, she wants to marry Cherubino! The Count reluctantly agrees.



The household gathers for Figaro and Susanna's wedding.



While dancing with the Count, Susanna hands him a note, sealed with a pin, confirming their rendezvous that evening.

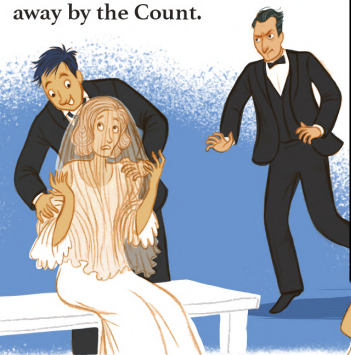


At night in the garden, Barbarina despairs that she has lost the pin the Count has asked her to return to Susanna as a sign that he's received her letter.



Thinking that his bride is unfaithful, Figaro curses all women. He hides when the Countess and Susanna arrive, dressed in each other's clothes.

Cherubino tries to flirt with the disguised Countess but is chased away by the Count.



Figaro joins in the joke and declares his passion for Susanna in her Countess disguise.



The Count discovers Figaro with his wife — or so he thinks — when the real Countess steps forward and reveals her identity.

Ashamed, the Count asks her pardon. The Countess forgives him, and they all celebrate in the garden.

