

STRICTLY FOR SHOW

Come gather round, all ye good people!
Come hearken, both high born and low!
I'll tell you a tale of a rich man
Whose marriage was strictly for show,
For show,
Whose marriage was strictly for show.

Pietro, he was, from Perugia.
The time it was eons ago.
His wife was a furnace of burning desire.
Pietro could hardly extinguish her fire.
His druthers ran more toward the boys in the choir.
I'll hold off reporting the blow
By blow.
Their marriage was strictly for show.

Fiora began to take lovers.
She learned that men rarely say no.
She had the occasional boy in the choir.
Her aim, though, was usually quite a bit higher:
The landlord, the Mayor, the Duke, and the squire;
The bishop, the magistrate, and the town crier.
She said, "One must go with the flow,
The flow."
She called what she did *quid pro quo*.

One evening Pietro came home by surprise.
It seems he'd forgot the Chianti.
Fiora leapt up. To her lover she cried,
"I have never been caught *in flagrante*.
Here, put this goose pillow
On your--peccadillo,
Then go out and hide in the shed,
The shed,
Goddamn it, you peed on the bed!"

The shed where the cobbler took refuge
Had sheep, pigs, and Milo the mule.
His hay fever caused him to hock and to wheeze.
To make matters worse, on the fleece there were fleas.
He tried but he just could not stifle a sneeze.
Pietro was nobody's fool, no fool.
"That sound did not come from a mule.
How cool!
That looks like a useful new tool!"

The cobbler knew not what was coming
Or who as they splayed him in bed.
Pietro admired his wife's taste in men
And said, "Wow, I hope we can do this again."
Fiora said, "Don't wonder if, wonder when.
And by the way, bravissimo,
Simo."
As both of them basked in the glow.

To hobble a cobbler ain't easy.
The details are not apropos.
Let's just say the cobbler got plenty of dough
And came back with friends several nights in a row
They kept all this on the down low, ho-ho.
The children in town and the slow
Didn't know,
Their marriage was strictly for show,
For show,
But better than others I know.