

# 6

GOLDE, TEVYE

~~PERCHIK~~

~~Perhaps if you tell her something—that I am going to visit a rich  
uncle—something like that.~~

Start

TEVYE

↓ Please, Perchik. I can handle my own wife. (PERCHIK and HODEL exit.  
He calls aggressively.) Goldel Goldel (She enters from the house.  
He speaks timidly.) Hello, Golde. I've just been talking to Perchik  
and Hodel.

GOLDE

Well?

TEVYE

They seem to be very fond of each other—

GOLDE

Well?

TEVYE

Well, I have decided to give them my permission to become engaged.  
(Starts into the house.)

GOLDE

(Stopping him)

What? Just like this? Without even asking me?

TEVYE

(Roaring)

Who asks you? I'm the father.

GOLDE

And who is he? A pauper. He has nothing, absolutely nothing!

TEVYE

(Hesitating)

I wouldn't say that. I hear he has a rich uncle, a very rich uncle.  
(Changes the subject.) He is a good man, Golde. I like him. He is a  
little crazy, but I like him. And what's more important, Hodel likes  
him. Hodel loves him. So what can we do? It's a new world, a new  
world. Love. (Starts to go, then has a sudden thought.) Golde—  
(Sings.)

["Do You Love Me?"]

Do you love me?