

Act II

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the tocsin	long, sound, ere	dong! Ding
sound, ere long, Ding	long.	dong! Ding
	Ding	
dong! Ding	dong!	dong! Ding
	Ding	
All	dong! Yet until the shadows fall,	
	Over one and over all,	
Yum-Yum	Sing a merry madrigal,	
All	Sing a merry madrigal,	
	Sing a merry madrigal,	

There follows the "fa la" singing from the original libretto. Towards the end of the first section (indicated in the score), Pitti-Sing introduces a variation of an earlier passage, compelling the others to continue singing. Then Peep-Bo joins in with an earlier theme, and finally Yum-Yum does likewise. Consternation, as the song grows ever longer, is interrupted as:

Ko-Ko enters

Yum-Yum Say your line.

Ko-Ko Go on — don't let me stop you.

Pitti-Sing Fa la la la la, Fa ...

Peep-Bo pulls Pitti-Sing off

Ko-Ko I've just ascertained that, by the marriage law, when a beheaded wife is buried alive, her husband marries the Mikado ... no ... when the Mikado is beheaded, his wife marries a man who's been buried alive.

Yum-Yum Get it right — this is important!

Ko-Ko OK — by the Mikado's law, a beheaded wife cannot bury her husband alive.

Nanki-Poo When a married man is beheaded, his wife is buried alive.

Ko-Ko That's not it.

Yum-Yum } (together) Yes, it is!

Nanki-Poo } (together) Yes, it is!

Yum-Yum (to Ko-Ko) Darling — I had no idea.

Nanki-Poo Nor I! It's the very first I've heard of it!

Yum-Yum You see my difficulty, don't you?

Nanki-Poo Yes, and I see my own. If I insist on your carrying out your promise, I doom you to a hideous death; if I release you, you marry Ko-Ko at once!