

Along the paved road

Po u - li - tse ma - sta - voi
 shla dye - vi - tsa za va - doi,
 shla dye - vi - tsa za va - doi,
 za kha - lod - noi klu - tshe - voi.

Po ulitse mastavoi
 shla dyevitsa za vadoi,
 shla dyevitsa za vadoi,
 za khalodnoi klutshevoi.

Za nyey parin maladoi
 kritshit: "Dyevushka, pastoi!"
 kritshit: "Dyevushka, pastoi!"
 Pabisyeduika sa mnoi!"

Along the paved road
 there went a girl to fetch water,
 there went a girl to fetch water,
 to fetch the cold spring-water.

Behind her a young lad
 is shouting: "Lass, stand still!"
 is shouting: "Lass, stand still!"
 Let's have a little talk!"

Words and music: Russian folksong

Pronunciation:

a as in "bar", e as in "bed", i as in "bid", o as in "bore", u as in "blue"

y = as in "yellow" / y = dull i, as in "bill"

s = always voiceless, as in "son" / z = voiced, as in "zone"

sh = voiceless, as in "mesh" / zh = voiced, like the s in "measure"

kh = mostly rough, like the ch in Scotch "loch", but smooth when "e" or "i" follows

a, e, i, o, u, y = the underlined vowel signifies the stressed syllable of a word.

Musical notation, transcription and analogous translation: Kai Kracht

Comment:

It may sound funny but this little song has no end: If it is played in A Major, it should also end with the keynote A or at least with an A Major chord to dissolve the melody's tension – but there is no doubt that this song ends in E Major: The tension is still there and calls for the next verse to be appended immediately. This new verse begins in A Major which may loosen the tension for a moment, but at once the new verse develops a new tension which again remains undissolved at the end and asks for the next verse ...

So verse comes after verse, without a break, as long as you want. This kind of melody is typical for round dances, and the Don Cossacks Choir of Serge Yaroff accompanied their artistic cossack dance interludes also with this song – the melody flows on and on, until it is finished at last by a single powerful A Major chord.

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