

Scene 3**Place:** The Romany Camp**Time:** Later That Night

The Romany Camp is a mile or so outside town. The camp is more of a permanent settlement. A large group of people have been there for over a year, but are still able to re-locate quickly if need be. The set consists of a 2x4 rolling platform with a flat painted as the back end of a caravan wagon with fabric hangings, lanterns and a step positioned UFC against the stage bump out. There is one rolling tree on either side against the stage. A smaller rolling platform with a working firepit on it is Floor Center/Center. There are two stumps and a rock for sitting placed upstage around the firepit. The top of one stump can open to reveal a hiding place for small items.

LIGHTS UP - ONSTAGE

At lights up János (pronounced Yănōsh) Kristoforu and his son Dario are seated around the campfire as Mirella enters quietly DFR.

János is dressed in a loose, drop sleeve shirt, bolero vest, baggy pants tucked into his knee-high boots. His vest has several pockets for charms, herbs, potions, etc. He has a loose kerchief around his neck and a cap or hat. Dario is dressed similarly. Mirella wears a peasant or low-necked blouse with full sleeves, a waist cincher, an A line, multicolored paneled skirt, a cape, stockings, shoes. Bangles, earrings. She is very exotic looking. All are dressed in earth tones – greens, rusts, ochres, tans, browns.

János: There you are, Mirella. It's late. Where have you been?

Dario: I bet I know.

Mirella: Be quiet you!

János: You haven't been trailing around after that Potts boy again, have you?

Mirella: I don't know what you mean.

Dario: I do!

Mirella: I'm warning you, Dario!

János: Mirella! You have to stop. This obsession you have with this boy . . .

Mirella: His name is Leander.

János: This 'Leander' is going to bring nothing but trouble. His family is powerful. They hate us already. Why make it worse?

Mirella: I don't know, Poppa. I just can't seem to help myself. He's so . . . so . . .

Dario: Ugly? Boring? Stupid?

Mirella: (*furious, chasing Dario around the fire*) Take that back!

Dario: Make me!

Mirella: Just wait 'till I catch you!

Dario: Then what?

Mirella: I'll make you choke on those words!

Dario: Yeah, yeah, yeah! Never happen!

Mirella: Wait 'till I get my hands on you!

Jónos: (*shouting*) Stop it! Both of you!

They stop. Mirella still seething, Dario still teasing.

Both: Yes, Poppa.

Jónos: Mark my words, this infatuation for the Potts boy will only bring heartache and suffering upon us all. It must cease!

Mirella: (*pleading*) But Poppa . . . !

Jónos: (*stern*) Remember who you are, Mirella. Who *we* are! The Kristoforu family of Romania is well known and respected among our own people. But not so among outsiders. Not in the old country and seemingly not in the new. We have always been a strong people and we must remain so. You know as well as I do, it is the only way!

Music #8 The Transylvanian Tale - Jónos

Verse:

*Our folk from Transylvania are hardy peasant stock.
They toil from dawn to sunset as they watch over their flock.
They travel here and wander there and ev'rywhere they would go
The people of the town would always hunt them down
And drive them somewhere else they did not know.*

Verse:

*Our home in Gheorgheni became too cruel to stand.
We came across the waters and here we found new land.
This place that we now call our home has served us all very well.
The people of the town may greet us with a frown,
But all in all, a pleasant place to dwell.*