

# Ach ich liebte, war so glücklich (Die Entführung aus dem Serail)

In rebuking the Pasha's wooing, Constanza speaks of her love for Belmonte.

Ach ich liebte, war so glücklich,  
Kannte nicht der Liebe Schmerz,  
Schwur ihm Treue, dem Geliebten,  
Gab dahin mein ganzes Herz.  
Doch wie schnell schwand meine Freude,  
Trennung war mein banges Los,  
Und nun schwimmt mein Aug' in Tränen,  
Kummer ruht in meinem Schoss.

Ah, I loved, was so happy,  
Knew not the pain of love,  
Swore him troth, to my beloved,  
Gave with it my whole heart.  
But how quickly vanished my joy,  
Parting was my tearful lot,  
And now my eyes are filled with tears,  
Sorrow dwells in my breast.

Libretto by C. F. Bretzner & Stephanie the Younger

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Literal translations by Waldo Lyman

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART  
(1756-1791)

## Adagio

Constanza

Ach ich lieb - te, war so glück - lich, kann - te nicht der Lie - be  
With my lov - er I was hap - py, grief and pain were then un -

*dolce* *p* *mf* *p*

Schmerz, war so glücklich, kann - te nicht der Lie - be Schmerz, schwur ihm  
known, I was hap - py, grief and pain were then un - known. We were

*mf* *p* *cresc.*

Treue, dem Ge - lieb - ten, schwur ihm Treue, dem Ge - lieb - ten, gab da -  
faith - ful and de - vo - ted, we were faith - ful and de - vo - ted, and his

*p* *cresc.* *p* *cresc.* *p*

hin mein ganzes Herz, gab da - hin mein gan - zes Herz.  
heart was mine a - lone, and his heart was mine a - lone.

*cresc.* *sf* *p*