# The Sound of Music Script

# Scene two at the house

# Maria runs up to the house and knocks. The butler answers and looks her up and down.

**Maria:** Hello. Here I am. I'm from the convent. I'm the new governess, captain.

**Butler:** And I'm the old butler, fräulein.

**Maria:** Well, how do you do?

(She puts out her hand for him to shake but he ignores it and he gestures her inside)

**Butler:** You'll wait here, please.

(The Butler walks off and brings back the captain who looks stern)

**Captain Von Trapp:** (turning his finger) Turn around.

**Maria:** What?

**Captain Von Trapp:** Turn. (She turns, he looks at her) Hat off. (Looks again) Put on another dress before meeting the children.

**Maria:** But I don't have another. When we enter the abbey, our worldly clothes go to the poor.

(he circles her as she speaks)

**Captain Von Trapp:** What about this one?

**Maria:** The poor didn't want it. But I can make my own clothes.

**Captain Von Trapp:** I’ll see that you get some material. Now, fräulein. You are the twelfth governess to look after my children since their mother died. They could not maintain discipline, without which the house cannot be run.

(Captains blows whistle for the children to come in. They march on stage)

**Captain Von Trapp:** This is your new governess, Fräulein Maria. Give your name at your signal. Fräulein, listen carefully. Learn their signals so you can call them. (as each name is called the children step forward and back)

Liesl. Friedrich. Louisa. Kurt. Brigitta. Marta. Gretl.

Now, let's see how well you listened. (he passes her the whistle)

**Maria:** I won't need to whistle for them, Captain. I mean, I'll use their names. Such lovely names.

**Captain Von Trapp:** Fräulein, this is a large house. The grounds are extensive. And I will not have anyone shouting. Fräulein, were you this much trouble at the abbey?

**Maria:** Oh, much more, sir. I don't know your signal. **Captain Von Trapp:** You may call me "captain. " (Captain Von Trapp leaves)

**Maria:** Now that there's just us would you please tell me all your names again and how old you are.

(Each child steps forwards and back as they speak)

**Liesl:** I'm Liesl. I'm 16 years old, and I don't need a governess.

**Friedrich:** I'm Friedrich. I'm 14. I'm impossible.

**Maria:** You didn't tell me how old you are, Louisa. (The girls are found out and smile at eachother)

**Louisa:** I'm Louisa I'm 13 and I think your dress is the ugliest one I ever saw.

**Kurt:** I'm Kurt. I'm 11. I'm incorrigible.

**Marta:** I'm Marta, and I'm going to be seven on Tuesday. (Gretl steps forward without saying anything)

**Maria:** Yes, you're Gretl. (Gretl holds up 5 fingers) And you're five years old? My, you're practically a lady. I have to tell you a secret. I've never been a governess.

**Louisa:** You don't know anything about being a governess?

**Maria:** Nothing. I'll need lots of advice. (The children begin to crowd her)

**Louisa:** The best way to start is to tell Father to mind his own business.

**Friedrich:** Never come to dinner on time.

**Louisa:** Never eat your soup quietly. (slurps) (Louisa slips a grog into Maria’s pocket)

**Kurt:** During dessert, always blow your nose.

**Gretl:** Don't you believe a word they say, Fräulein Maria.

**HouseManager:** Children, outside for your walk. Father's orders. Hurry up. Quick, quick, quick. Fräulein Maria, I'm Frau Schmidt, the housekeeper. (The children begin to leave)

**Maria:** (to housekeeper) How do you do.

**Housemanager:** I'll show you to your room. Follow me.

(The children watch. The frog jumps out of her pocket. Maria jumps and the children smile.)

**HouseManager:** You're very lucky. With Fräulein Helga it was a snake. (Maria looks shocked. All off stage.)

LIGHTS DIMMED. TABLE AND CHAIRS BROUGHT ON. CAPTAIN AND CHILDREN SAT ROUND. LIGHTS ON.

# Scene 3: At the dinner table

(Maria rushes in)

**Maria:** Good evening, children, Captain.

**Children:** Good evening.

(Sits on a pine cone and jumps up with a scream)

**Captain Von Trapp:** Enchanting little ritual. Something you learned at the abbey?

**Maria:** No. Rheumatism. (pause) I'd like to thank you all. . .for the precious gift you left in my pocket today. It was so kind to make me feel so welcome.

**Captain Von Trapp:** What gift?

**Maria:** It's a secret between the children and me.

**Captain Von Trapp:** (angry) Then I suggest you keep it, and let us eat. (Children start crying from guilt)

**Captain Von Trapp:** What is the matter, Marta?

**Marta:** (sobbing) Nothing.

**Captain Von Trapp:** Fräulein. What is going on?

**Maria:** They're all right, captain. They're just happy.

(The children sob more. At the side of the stage Rolf enters and knocks on the door. The butler opens it.)

**Butler:** Rolf, good evening.

**Rolf:** Good evening, Franz. Is the captain home?

**Butler:** He's at dinner with the family.

**Rolf:** Give him this telegram at once. (Rolf passes her a telegram)

**Butler:** Certainly.

(The Butler closes the door and returns to the dining room. Rolf sneaks to the front of the stage and sits down. The butler passes the Captain the message)

**Butler:** A telegram for you, sir.

**Leisl:** (looking at the telegram) Franz? Who delivered it?

**Butler:** That young lad Rolf, of course.

**Leisl:** (Pauses) Father, may I be excused?

(The captain waves her out. Leisl leaves through door)

**Captain Von Trapp:** Children, in the morning I shall be going to Vienna.

**Children:** Not again, Father!

**Marta:** To visit Baroness Schraeder again?

**Louisa:** Why can't we ever see the baroness?

**Captain Von Trapp:** You are going to see the baroness. I'm bringing her back with me to visit. And Uncle Max.

**All children:** Uncle Max!! LIGHTS DIM. CLEAR STAGE

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# Scene 4: Maria’s bedroom

**Bedroom scene set up. Maria is getting ready for bed.**

(Housekeeper knocks)

**Maria:** Come in.

**HouseManager:** (Hands Maria material) For your new dresses.

**Maria:** These will make the prettiest clothes I've ever had. Do you think he would get me more material if I asked?

**HouseManager:** How many dresses do you need?

**Maria:** Not for me, for the children. I want to make them some play clothes.

**HouseManager:** The von Trapp children don't play. They march.

Ever since the captain lost his poor wife he runs this house as if on one of his ships. No more music, no more laughing. Nothing that reminds him of her. Even the children.

How do you like your room? There'll be new drapes at the windows.

**Maria:** (touching the curtains) But these are fine.

**HouseManager:** New ones have been ordered. The captain leaves tomorrow for Vienna. I shouldn’t tell you this but I think the captain plans on marrying the Baroness before the summer is over. Well, good night.

**Maria:** Good night.

(Housekeeper leaves. Maria crouches down to pray at her bed)

**Maria:** Dear Father, now I know why you sent me here. To help these children prepare for a new mother. And I pray this will become a happy family.

(Liesl enters through the window and sneaks along. Maria sees her)

**Maria:** Dear God, about Liesl. Help her know that I'm her friend. . . and help her tell me what she's been up to.

**Liesl:** I was out walking and somebody locked the doors early.

I didn't want to wake everybody, so when I saw your window open. . . You're not going to tell Father, are you?

**Maria:** (hands her a dressing gown) If we wash that dress tonight, nobody would notice it tomorrow. You could put this on. Take your dress and put it to soak in the bathtub. Come back here and sit on the bed, and we'll have a talk.

**Liesl:** I told you today I didn't need a governess. Well, maybe I do.

(Liesl walks offstage. There is a crash of thunder and Gretl enters looking scared)

**Maria:** Gretl, are you scared? (puts arm around her) You just stay right here with me. Where are the others?

**Gretl:** They're asleep. They're not scared.

**Maria:** (The other girls enter) Oh, no? Look. All right, up here on the bed. Now we'll wait for the boys.

**Louisa:** (crossing over to the bed) You won't see them. Boys are brave. (Thunder and the boys enter)

**Maria:** You weren't scared, were you?

**Friedrich:** Oh, no. We just wanted to be sure that you weren't.

**Marta:** Why does it do that?

**Maria:** The lightning talks to the thunder, and the thunder answers back.

**Gretl:** But lightning must be nasty.

**Maria:** Not really.

**Marta:** Why does the thunder get so angry? It makes me want to cry. **Maria:** Whenever I'm feeling unhappy, I just try to think of nice things. **Louisa:** What kind of things?

**Maria:** Well, let me see. Nice things. . . .

ALL STAND

# SONG

**MY FAVOURITE THINGS**

ALL SIT Clear stage.

# Scene 5: On the hills.

(Bring on blanket and picnic basket. Children lay out. Boys pass ball)

**Louisa:** Fräulein Maria? Can we do this every day?

**Maria:** Don't you think you'd get tired of it?

**Louisa:** I suppose so.

**Leisl:** Every other day?

**Kurt:** I haven't had so much fun since we put glue on Fräulein Josephine's toothbrush.

**Maria:** I can't understand how children as nice as you can play such tricks.

**Louisa:**It's easy.

**Maria:** But why do it?

**Friedrich:** How else can we get Father's attention?

**Maria:** Oh, I see. All right, over here. (children gather round Maria)

**Marta:** What are we going to do? **Maria:** Think of a song for the baroness. **Gretl:** Father doesn't like us to sing.

**Maria:** Perhaps we can change his mind. Now, what songs do you know?

**Friedrich:** We don't know any songs.

**Maria:** Not any?

**Kurt:** We don't even know how to sing.

**Maria:** Let's not lose time. You must learn.

**Louisa:** But how? ALL STAND

ALL SIT

# SONG DO-RE-ME

**Scene 6: In the garden at the house** Captain, Max and Baroness come onstage.

**Baroness:** What a beautiful garden.

**Max:** While I am here I will need to look for a good choir to sign up for the festival.

**Baroness:** That’s a lovely idea.

**Captain Von Trapp:** So you get the money and they get the fame.

**Max:** It sounds fair to me Captain.

**Baroness:** I hope to see the children soon.

(Children and Maria enter up the aisle, messing around)

**Children:** Father! Father! (they run to him)

**Maria:** Oh, Captain, you're home!

**Captain Von Trapp:** (cross) Come here at once!

**Maria:** (putting her hand out to shake) Oh, you must be Baroness Schraeder.

**Captain Von Trapp:** (the children line up) Straight line! This is Baroness Schraeder. (to her) And these. . .are my children.

**Children:** How do you do?

**Captain Von Trapp:** Go inside, clean up, change your clothes and report back here! Fräulein, you will stay here, please!

(Children leave with Uncle Max and Maria goes to follow them)

**Baroness:** I think I'd better go see what Max is up to. (she leaves)

**Captain Von Trapp:** Now, fräulein. . . I want a truthful answer.

**Maria:** Yes, captain.

**Captain Von Trapp:** Have my children, by any chance, been climbing trees today?

**Maria:** Yes, captain.

**Captain Von Trapp:** I see. And where, may I ask, did they get these (holds

up scarf)

**Maria:** Play clothes. I made them from the drapes that used to hang in my bedroom.

**Captain Von Trapp:** (shouts) Drapes? Are you telling me that my children have been roaming about Salzburg dressed up in nothing but some old drapes?

**Maria:** And having a marvelous time!

**Captain Von Trapp:** Now, you will pack your things this minute and return to the abbey. (pause while singing begins) What's that?

**Maria:** It's singing.

**Captain Von Trapp:** Yes, I realize it's singing. But who is singing?

**Maria:** The children. I taught them something to sing for the baroness.

(Maria and the Captain walk off stage. Lights dim, the children come on stage in rows.)

# Scene 7: In the house

Lights on and children begin singing. Captain and Maria walk back in. ALL STAND

ALL SIT

# SONG

**THE SOUND OF MUSIC**

The children hug their father.

**Baroness:** You never told me how enchanting your children are. (Maria goes to leave and Captain follows)

**Captain Von Trapp:** Fräulein. I behaved badly. I apologize. You were right. I don't know my children.

**Maria:** There's still time, captain. They want so much to be close to you.

**Captain Von Trapp:** And you brought music back into the house. I want you to stay.

INTERVAL Set up stage

**Scene 8: Lonely Goatherd Maria:** Marta. Curtain!

ALL STAND

SECOND CAST

# SONG

**THE LONELY GOATHERD**

ALL SIT (Children come to the front and bow. Puppets sit)

**Max:** (Stands and claps) Bravo! Bravo!

**Captain Von Trapp:** Very good!

**Baroness:** Wonderful!

**Louisa** Can we keep the puppets, Uncle Max?

**Louisa:** Yes, can we?

**Max:** Of course you may, my darlings.

(They all smile and look happily at eachother)

**Max:** Attention, everyone! ( Children gather round) I have an announcement to make. Today, after a long and desperate search I have found a most exciting entry for the Salzburg Folk Festival.

**Captain Von Trapp:** Congratulations, Max. And who will you be exploiting this time?

**Children:** Tell us.

**Max:** A singing group all in one family. You'll never guess, Georg….Yours. They'll be the talk of the festival.

**Captain Von Trapp:** No, Max. My children do not sing in public.

**Max:** You can't blame me for trying.

**Maria:** Children, who shall we hear from next?

**Kurt:** (whispers to Max) Father!

**Max:** The vote is unanimous. You, captain.

**Captain Von Trapp:** Me? No, no, no, no.

**Max:** I'm told that you were quite good.

**Captain Von Trapp:** That was a very, very long time ago.

**Liesl:** I remember, Father.

**Kurt:** Play us something we know. Oh, please, Father.

**Baroness:** (to Max) Why didn't you tell me to bring along my harmonica.

ALL STAND

ALL SIT

# SONG EIDELWEISS

**Max:** Anytime you say the word, Georg, you can be part of my new act: The von Trapp Family Singers.

**Baroness:** I have a wonderful idea, Georg. Let's really fill this house with music. You must give a grand and glorious party for me.

**Children:** Yes please father!

**Captain Von Trapp:** We’ll see. Off to bed children. Goodnight. (The children begin to leave)

**Gretl:** (As she goes off stage) It’ll be my first party father. ALL OFF – PUPPETS CLEAR BENCHES

# Scene 9: The party

PLAY PARTY MUSIC

(Party guests enter. Captain and the Baroness are greeting guests)

**Herr Zeller :** Captain. (shakes his hand)

**Captain Von Trapp:** Herr Zeller. Meet Baroness Schraeder.

**Baroness:** Good evening, Herr Zeller. (to other guests) How do you do? Good evening.

(Side stage: Outside. Children enter and look at guests) **Louisa:** The women look so beautiful (looking at women). **Kurt:** I think they look ugly.

**Louisa:** You're just scared of them.

**Kurt:** Silly, only grown-up men fear women.

**Gretl:** I think the men look beautiful.

**Brigitta:** How would you know?

(Liesl dances behind them with imaginary man)

**Marta:** Liesl, who are you dancing with?

**Liesl:** Nobody.

**Brigitta:** Oh, yes, you are.

**Friedrich:** May I have this dance? (bows)

**Liesl:** I'd be delighted, young man. (They dance together)

(Maria enters)

**Maria:** Why didn't you tell me you could dance?

**Kurt:** We feared you'd make us all dance. The von Trapp Family Dancers. (twirls around)

**Gretl:** What are they playing? **Maria:** An Austrian folk dance. **Kurt:** Show me. Please?

**Maria:** All right. Come on over here. (he goes over to her) Now you bow and I curtsy. Now we go for a little walk. One, two, three. One, two, three. One, two, three, step together. Now, step hop, step hop. Now turn under. Not quite. This way. Hop step, hop. And under. Kurt, we'll have to practice.

(they dance)

(Captain enters and taps Kurt on the shoulder)

**Captain Von Trapp:** Do allow me, will you? (They dance together) (Baroness enters)

**Maria:** (they stop dancing) I don't remember anymore.

**Baroness:** Your face is all red.

**Maria:** Is it? I don't suppose I'm used to dancing.

**Captain Von Trapp:** It's time the children said good night.

**Maria:** We have something special prepared. (Children and Maria go to the stairs)

**Maria:** Ladies and gentlemen. The children of Captain von Trapp wish to say good night to you. (crowd gather to watch)

ALL STAND

# SONG

**SO LONG FAREWELL**

# -THE END-