

## ERSHTER VALS      FIRST WALTZ

*The melody was composed by Herold Lavrentievich Kittler, a German born conductor of the 6th Tavrishesky Grenadier Regiment in 1914 in the Tsarist Russia. It is known in Russia as the Expectation Waltz, Вальс "Ожидание"ю Yiddish lyrics to the folk tune were written and performed by Chaim Tauber (1901-1972). Born in Mogilev-Podolsky (Ukraine), he performed in Romania, immigrated to Canada and then to the United States, working in the early twentieth century in Yiddish theatre and film.*

Mayn ershte groyse freyd,  
di krishtolene likht fun dem zal  
Dayn ershte lange kleyd  
ongeton hostu tsum ershtn bal  
Eyn sheynkeyt yene nakht,  
vel ikh shoyn nisht fargesn keyn mol  
Ikh gedenkt dos haynt,  
host aroysgeshaynt  
in dem zal shendelir fun krishtol.

Mayn ershtn tants bay dir  
hot farlangt yeder bokher in zal  
Nor du geshenkt host mir,  
ershtn tants, ershtn vals fun dem bal  
A shtoltser ful mit freyd,  
hob ikh dikh unter orem gefirt  
In dayn vayse kleyd  
hostu likht geshpreyt,  
vi a keynign bal host batsirt.

Din gevebt elegants,  
vi geshvebt in dem tants  
Tsu mayn harts hostu zikh gedrikt,  
mikh mit grester freyd baglikt.

Glik dergantst grandiez  
un du tantst gratsiez  
Vi farkisheft drey ikh zikh,  
s'iz mekane yeder mikh.

Mayn keynign fun bal  
du aleyb bist geven yene nakht  
Dayn blik vi zunenshtal  
s'ershte glik in mayn lebn gebrakht  
Oysleshn vet keyn mol  
fun dayn oyg shendelir fun krishtol  
Brengst mir zunenshayn,  
eybik vestu zayn  
shenste keynign fun ershte bal!

My first great joy  
The crystal-light of the room.  
Your first long dress  
You put on for the first ball.  
A beautiful night  
That I will never forget.  
I remember now  
How the chandelier  
Lit up the room.

My first dance with you,  
Every young man in the hall longed for  
But only to me did you give  
The first dance, first waltz in the ball.  
A proud man full of joy,  
I led you arm in arm  
In your white dress  
You radiated light  
Like a queen you were the adornment of the ball.

You are dressed elegantly  
As you float through the dance  
You have driven to my heart  
And brought me the greatest enjoyment

Complete happiness  
And you dance graciously  
Like enchanted I turn and turn  
and I am the envy of all.

You alone have been  
My queen of the ball that night.  
Your gaze like sunrays  
Has brought me my first joy.  
Never will extinguish from your eye  
The crystal chandelier.  
You bring me sunshine,  
You shall be eternal,  
Most beautiful queen of the first ball.

Ozhidanie (Expectation Waltz)

Russia

Em B7

Em Em

D7 G B7 Em B7 Em

Em Am B7

Em B7 Em D7 G

E7 Am D7 G D7 G d.C.

Detailed description: The musical score is written for a single melodic line in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The first staff begins with a repeat sign and a first ending bracket. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff features a second ending bracket. The fourth staff begins with a repeat sign. The fifth staff contains a double bar line with repeat dots on both sides. The sixth staff concludes with a double bar line and a fermata over the final note. Chords are indicated above the notes: Em, B7, D7, G, Am, and d.C. (double bar line).