

Ustishka

Russian folk

Our Ustishka one went out to bathe in a big river, to don her best outfit, her white dress. Suddenly, Ignashka the thief appeared and stole her long white shirt-dress with white sleeves with German seams.

The image shows a musical score for the song 'Ustishka'. It is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The score consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line (Soprano) and a piano accompaniment line (Bass). The lyrics are: 'Da kak pa-shla na - sha U-sti - shka, da kak pa-shla na - sha Us-ti - shka' on the vocal line, and 'kak pa - shla na - sha Us-ti - shka' on the piano line. The second system is marked with a '6' above the vocal line, indicating a repeat. It has two vocal parts: Soprano (S) and Bass (B). The lyrics for the Soprano part are: 'to - va jo - va mi - ka - jo - va, ta - da - ta - da mi - ka - ta - da, da U - sti - shka da U - sti - shka.' The lyrics for the Bass part are: 'to - va jo - va mi - ka - jo - va, ta - da - ta - da mi - ka - ta - da, da U - sti - shka , da U - sti - shka.'

1. Да как пошла наша Устишка /x2
Това-това-микаёва, тада-тада-микатада,
Да Устишка, да Устишка.

1 Da kak pashla nasha Ustishka /x2
Tova-tova-mikajova, tada-tada-mikatada,
Da Ustishka, da Ustishka.

2. Да на большу реку купаться...
3. Да в бело платье одеваться...
4. Да где не взялся вор Игнашка...
5. Да украл белую рубашку...
6. Да с тонким' белым' рукавами...
7. Да со немецкими прошвами.

2. Da na bal'shu reku kupat'sa...
3. Da v b'elo plat'je odevat'sa...
4. Da gde ni vz'alsa vor Ignashka...
5. Da ukral b'eluju rubashku...
6. Da s tonkim b'elym rukavami...
7. Da sa nemetskimi prashvami.

This dance song comes from the border region between Russia and Estonia. The lyrics contains motifs or the ritual cleansing that was customary at the time of the summer solstice. The 'magical' saying from the refrain 'tova-tova-mikajova...' is nothing more than a joky imitation of the Estonian language.

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