

# Zelyonyi Shum ("Green Rustle")

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Idyot-gudyot zelyonyi shum,  
Zelyonyi shum, vesenniy shum!

Igrayuchi raskhoditsya  
Vdrug veter verkhovoy:  
Kachnyot kusty ol' khovyey,  
Podnimet pyl' tsvetochnyuyu,  
Kak oblako; vsyo zeleno —  
I vozdukh i voda.

Idyot-gudyot zelyonyi shum,  
Zelyonyi shum, vesenniy shum!

Green rushing tides, the tides of Spring,  
Green tides that trill and chant and sing!

Down, down the wind leaps suddenly  
From off the trees, and lo! —  
The bushes touching playfully,  
Great clouds of flower-dust heavenward  
It sends: in gauzy coverings  
The whole wide world is swathed!

Green rushing tides, the tides of Spring,  
Green tides that trill and chant and sing!

## Baritone (with chorus)

Skromna moya khozyayushka,  
Natal' ya Patrikeyevna,  
Vody ne zamutit!  
Da s ney beda sluchilasya,  
Kak leto zhil ya v garody ...  
Sama skazala, glupaya,  
Tipun ey na yazyk!

V izbe sam drug s obmanshitsey

Zima nas zaperla;  
V moi glaza surovyye  
Glyadit-molchit zhena.  
Molchu ... a duma lyutaya  
Pokoya ne dayot:  
Ubit' ... tak zhal' serdechnuyu!  
Sterpet' — tak sily nyet!  
A tut zima kosmataya  
Revyot i den' i noch':  
"Ubey, ubey izmennitsu!  
Zlodeya izvedi!  
Ne to ves' vyek promaesh' sya,  
Ni dnyom, ni dolgoy noch' koy  
Pokoya ne naydyosh' ..."  
Pod pesnyu-vyugu zimnyuyu  
Okrepla duma lyutaya —  
Pripas ya ostryi nozh ...  
Da vdrug vesna podkralasya ...

Natalya Patrikeyevna,  
My wife, is all sweet modesty,  
A paragon, no less!  
But while I was in the town,  
This summer past, at the end of it,  
She tripped, and — O, such innocence! —  
Admitted it, the fool.

Came frost and snow — 'twas winter time —

And we were forced indoors:  
There did we sit, the two of us,  
My faithless spouse and I.  
My thoughts were very agony:  
To kill her seemed too harsh;  
To spare the jade, impossible —  
How bear betrayal's hurt!  
Day in, day out, unceasingly  
The winds of winter roared,  
Repeating: "Kill the faithless one  
And cut the villain's throat!  
Don't waver, do not hesitate  
Or yield to magnanimity  
Else peace you'll never know."  
Old winter's chant was passionate  
And bred grim thought and harrowing —  
My fingers clasped a knife ...  
Then Spring crept up stealthily.

## Chorus

Idyot-gudyot zelyonyi shum,  
 Zelyonyi shum, vesenniy shum!  
 Kak molokom oblitye,  
 Stoyat sady vishnyovyie,  
 Tikhokhon' ko shumya.  
 Prigrety tyoplym solnyshkom,  
 Shumyat povesyelye sosnovyye lesa.

A ryadom novoy zelen' yu  
 Lepechut pesnyu novuyu  
 I lipa bledno-listaya,  
 I belaya beryozon' ka  
 S zelyonoyu kosoy.  
 Shumit trostinka malaya,  
 Shumit vysokiy klyon ...  
 Shumyat oni po novomu,  
 Po novomu, vesennemu ...

Idyot-gudyot zelyonyi shum,  
 , Zelyonyi shum, vesenniy shum!

Green rushing tides, the tides of Spring,  
 Green tides that trill and chant and sing!

All creamy froth and milkiness,  
 The cherry trees stand whispering  
 In sheer delight and joy,  
 And kissed by sunbeams radiant,  
 The pines stretch skyward, murmuring

Their secrets to the breeze;  
 The linden hums a melody,  
 And joining in exultantly,  
 The snowy birch its emerald  
 Plaits gently, so softly shakes;  
 A maple rustles merrily,  
 The grass stirs in reply —  
 They sing a song, a haunting one,  
 A song of life reborn.

Green rushing tides, the tides of Spring  
 Green tides that trill and chant and sing!

#### Baritone

Slabeyet duma lyutaya,  
 Nozh valitsya iz ruk,  
 I vsyo mnye pesnya slyshitsya  
 Odná — v lesu, v lugu:  
 "Lyubi, pokuda lyubitsya,  
 Terpi, pokuda terpitsya,  
 Proshchay, poka proshchaetsya,  
 I — Bog tebe sud' ya!"

My thoughts lose their intensity,  
 My knife falls from my hand ...  
 The woods, the fields, the meadowlands  
 Resound with eager song:  
 "While love endures, love tenderly,  
 While patience lasts, live patiently,  
 While mercy calls, be merciful,  
 And — may God be your judge!"