

THE *Lotte Senya* COMPETITION SONGBOOK

“The Second Time Around” from *Women on Love* *Music and lyrics by Katya Stanislavskaya*

BRIDE/GROOM:

THE SECOND TIME AROUND, THERE IS NO BENDED KNEE;
A CONVERSATION ON THE COUCH IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.
THERE IS NO GOLD OR SHINY STONE;
LET’S JUST PAY OFF MY LOAN,
OR GET A RENT-TO-OWN NEAR DECENT PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
THE SECOND TIME AROUND, WE’RE NO YOUNG FOOLS.

THE SECOND TIME AROUND, NO ONE IS WEARING WHITE
(WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE CHILDREN OF THE BRIDE, WHO MIGHT).
SO, AS YOU SEE,
WE CAN AGREE:
NO ONE’S A VIRGIN HERE,
AND THERE’S NO CLERGY NEAR
TO TELL US ONLY DEATH CAN DO US PART:
THE SECOND TIME AROUND, WE’RE MUCH TOO SMART.

WE’RE MUCH TOO WISE FOR VOWS THAT ARE POETIC AND CLICHÉD,
AND WE ARE NOT AFRAID TO SAY THAT WE ARE BOTH AFRAID,
‘CAUSE, AFTER ALL, WE BOTH HAVE SEEN IT ALL GO UP IN FLAMES,
AND SO, WE’LL KEEP OUR BANK ACCOUNTS
AND NOT-SO-MAIDEN NAMES.
WE’LL CHECK OUR EXPECTATIONS AT THE DOOR,
AND CAUTIOUSLY BEGIN
TO LET EACH OTHER IN.

I’M WALKING THROUGH THE DOOR AGAIN, A BIT UNHINGED.
I TURN A BRAND-NEW PAGE, ITS EDGES SLIGHTLY SINGED.
AND YET, WHEN I TAKE STOCK OF ALL I THOUGHT I KNEW,
THERE’S NOTHING TAME OR MEASURED IN MY LOVE FOR YOU.
WITH EVERYTHING I’VE LEARNED,
WITH EVERY LOSS OR WIN,
I’VE NEVER LEARNED TO LOOK AT YOU WITHOUT A FOOLISH GRIN.
THE GOOSEBUMPS WHEN YOU KISS ME STILL ASTOUND.
I’M THUNDERSTRUCK, I’M HUMBLED, I’M UNWOUND,
AND STUPIDLY IN LOVE, THIS TIME AROUND.