

Das Tighele

Jewish/Yiddish, Romanian

The dance comes from the area of Bucharest, Romania. The words to the song are a mixture of Yiddish (a dialect of German that includes Hebrew words), Romanian, and Russian. This dance was presented by Nicolaas Hilferink in 1996 in southern California at various workshops, and at the 1998 Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

TRANSLATION: Song of the little goat

PRONUNCIATION: dahs TSEE-geh-leh

MUSIC: Romanian dances, Stockton '98, side A/7

FORMATION: Closed circle with hands in W-pos.

STYLE: Walking steps in a very relaxed manner.

METER: 2/4 (slow)

PATTERN

Meas.

INTRODUCTION: 12 meas, beg with vocal

FIG. I: WALK IN LOD (Vocal)

- 1 Facing R of ctr and walking in LOD - step R-L (cts 1-2).
- 2 Step R fwd (ct 1); bend R knee slightly (ct &); silent stamp L beside R straightening knee, no wt (ct 2); bend R knee slightly as L lifts beside R leg (ct &).
- 3 Silent stamp L beside R straightening knees, no wt (ct 1); step L bkwd (ct 2); close R beside L (ct &).
- 4 Step L fwd (ct 1); bend L knee as R lifts beside L leg (ct &); silent stamp R beside L straightening knee, no wt (ct 2).

FIG. II: FACE CTR MOVE SDWD (Vocal)

- 1 Facing ctr - step R to R (ct 1); step L across R (toe points twd ctr) (ct 2).
- 2 Repeat meas 1.
Cue, meas 1-2: 4 slow steps sdwd R
- 3 Step R to R (ct 1); step L across R (toe twd ctr) (ct &); step R to R (ct 2); step L across R (toe twd ctr) (ct &).
Cue: 4 quick steps sdwd R.

4 Step R to R with bent knee (ct 1); turning to face L of ctr and leaning bkwd very slightly - silent stamp L fwd twice.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 to L with opp ftwk. End facing R of ctr.

BRIDGE: 1/2 turn R; 1/2 turn L; 1 turn R; 1 turn L (Instrumental)

Hands release and remain in W-pos during entire fig.

1 1/2 turn R: Facing R of ctr and moving in LOD - step R fwd in LOD - pivoting 1/2 R to face out (ct 1); touch L slightly L or beside R (ct 2).

2 1/2 turn L: Moving in LOD - step L fwd in LOD - pivoting 1/2 L to face in (ct 1); touch R slightly to R or beside L (ct 2).

3-4 1 turn R: Moving in LOD - do a 3 steps turn to R (R,L,R) - end facing ctr (cts 1-2-1); touch L slightly to L or beside R (ct 2).

5-6 Repeat meas 3-4 with opp ftwk, turning L in RLOD. Rejoin hands to begin next fig.

SEQUENCE:

Fig. I - 4x

II - 1x

I - 4x

II - 1x

Bridge

Fig. I - 4x

II - 1x

I - 4x

II - 1x

Bridge

Fig. I - 6x

II, meas 1-4

LYRICS

(Taken from the tape and translated from Yiddish to Sarah Goodstein at Tessler's Camp, Memorial Day Weekend, 1995, and by Osi Sladek and Elliot Gertel. Thanks to Lorraine Rothman for background information.

1, Der tate hut gekoift a tzigale
Mit yuren lang tzurick.
In hadgadyu es farshpart, gebinden oif a
shtrick
Troirig s'voint die tzigale fun die zun is zayt.
Zimmer zayt es nisht kayn gruz,
in vinter nisht kayn shnay.

Chorus: Hadgadyu, hadgadyu,

2. Zegt mine bruder, "Itzik, heir, vie azoi der
lost es Got?
Iz dus nisht die tzigale dus veissinke a
shut?"

The father bought a little goat
Many years ago.
Imprisoned it, tied with a rope.

Sadly it lives there, sees no sun.
In summer it doesn't see the grass,
in winter not the snow.

One only kid ...one only kid ...

My brother says, "Isaac, listen, how does Goc
allow this?
Is this little goat to not know of its destiny?"

Zeg ich, "Lutik, bist gerecht un nisht lang
gebrucht
Iz geven die velten ven a shayne vet men
noch."

I say, "Lutik, you are right, and not long ago

It was a beautiful world."

Chorus:

3. Der tate-er shluft, dee mame shluft, shluft
dus ganze huoiz.
Firen mir fun dem hadgadyu die tzigale
aruois.
Mir firen by dee hermalach. Dee velt, dee
veiss un dee grois.
Un mir luzen es aloyn; dus zugen mir nisht
ois.

Father is sleeping, mother sleeps, the whole
house is sleeping.

We lead out of the prison the little goat.

We lead it by its horns. The world, the whole
and the grey (or big).

And we leave it alone ... then we say nothing.

Chorus:

4. Pesach, dee ershte Seder nacht, dee
tzigale is nisht du.
Zegt der tate, "Itzik, dee?" Zeg ich,
"Abara Vu?"
Zegt der tate, "Nu debei!" Zegt er
cuperdee gevenn.
Zind far a yuren-pesach tzeit-dee tzigale
nisht gezen.

Passover, the first Seder night, the little goat is
missing.

Father says, "Isaac, well?" I answer, "What are
you saying?"

Father says, "On to the truth!" We say that we
have been all over.

For a year since last Pesach the little goat has not
been seen.

Chorus:

5. Der tate-maynt, dee mame vaynt, an kayner
vays nisht vu
Vee fun hadgadyu iz dus shayn nisht du. 2x
Dee baviza is dus tzigale si shpringt arum
in feld.
Un hut a naches fun der zun un fun der
Velt. 2x

Father thinks, mother weeps, and no one knows

How the prisoner has escaped. 2x

Where now the little goat is jumping around in
the field.

And has the pleasure from the sun and the whole
world. 2x

Chorus:

Original notes by Machi & Nicolaas Hilferink

R&S'd from observation video & UOP errata by dd and Gurda Ben-Zeev, 11-98