

ESMER ("Brunette")

Record: HALAY 304, Side 1, Band 1

Formation

& Style: Arms down, bodies touching-close, hands clenched with neighbors, firm but not overpowering. Same size people should dance next to each other. A horizontal tension should be exerted at the hands, to keep the whole line firm. Arms and hands are hidden entirely from front view.

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Measure

No Introduction. Begin with first note of music

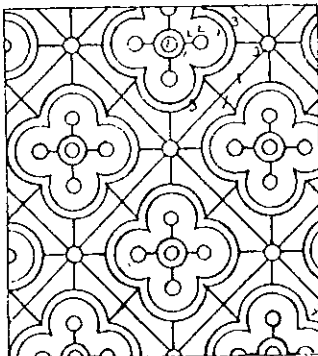
Fig. I: Basic Step

- 1 Stamp R fwd (ct 1); step R in place (ct 2)
- 2 Step L,R in place
- 3 Stamp L fwd, bend body a bit bkwd (ct 1); step L in place, bow body fwd (in place) (ct 2)
- 4-15 Repeat meas 1-3 four more times (5 in all), in place
- 16 Dip-bend knees again in place, bend body a bit back (ct 1); bend fwd slightly, straightening the knees (ct 2)

Fig. II: Travel Step

- 1 Stamp R fwd (ct 1); step R in place (ct 2)
- 2 Step L across R (ct 1); step R in LOD (ct 2)
- 3 Repeat meas 2
- 4 Stamp L twd ctr (ct 1); step L and bend body fwd (ct 2)
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4

Sequence: 5 X Basic Step (5 repetitions of a 6 ct step = 15 measures)
 2 X Travel Step (2 repetitions of an 8 ct step = 8 measures)
 Back to Basic Step, and continue on with the dance



Presented by Bora Özkök
 at Maine Folk Dance Camp 1986

ESMER

Verse 1

Esmerim bicim bicim
 [I have got all kinds of
 brunettes]
Ölürem esmer için
 [I'll die any day for my
 brunettes]
Alem bana düşmandır
 [The whole world simply
 hates my guts]
Esmer sevdiğim için, ay, ay
 [Because I succeed with all
 my plots, ay, ay]

Chorus

Hele loy, loy, loy, kibar
yarım esmerim loy//
 [C'mon loy, loy, loy, my
 pretty brunettes, loy]

Verse 2

Bir taş attım habaya
 [I threw a rock and made
 it sail]
Düştü mahpushanaya
 [But it fell into the
 city jail]
Onbeş kızı kandırdım
 [I fooled fifteen girls to
 their doom]
Bir şişe lavantaya, ay, ay
 [With only one bottle of
 perfume, ay, ay]

ChorusVerse 3

Esmer bugün ağlamış
 [My brunette had cried today]
Ciğerimi dağlamış
 [That hurt me in the worst way]
Kara kasın üstüne
 [Over her pretty black eye-brows]
Siyah pıuşu bağlamış, ay, ay
 [She had put a black scarf now, wow!]

ChorusVerse 4

Esmerin adı gerek
 [Just you name me the
 brunette]
Alnında takı gerek
 [I will rise up to
 decorate]
Yarı esmer olanın
 [Him who is partial to a
 brunette]
Zincirden bağı gerek, ay, ay
 [Needs strong chains, instead of
 a belt, ay, ay]

ChorusVerse 5

Gidersen uğur ola
 [If brunette and I ever depart]
Taş bağla yolun ola
 [I will always be hers in heart]
Benden başka seversen
 [But if she loves somebody
 else]
İki gözün kör ola, ay, ay
 [For me, life will make no more
 sense, ay, ay]

Chorus

--Translation and verses by: yours
 truly, a brunette lover,

Bora Özkök

Note: There are "s, ş; o, ö; u, ü;
 c, ç; i, ı" in the Turkish alphabet

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