Komma-opgave

*If you are wondering, the commas in these lines, and in the following text, are all correct, and your task will be to try to explain why they are there. You may find that your group does not know the “right” explanation, but then you simply make up your own way to describe it, show it, etc.*

“That’s no more than a barbershop ditty! I happen to be a swan!”

**‘Little Brown Jug’?** Death cleared his throat. **Ha Ha Ha, Hee Hee Hee, Little—**

“That’s a song?” The swan hissed angrily and swayed from one crabbed foot to the other. “I don’t know who you are, sirrah, but where *I* come from we’ve got better taste in music.”

**Really? Would you care to show me an example?**

“Uh-uh!”

**Damn.**

“Thought you’d got me there, didn’t you,” said the swan. “Thought you’d tricked me, eh? Thought I might unthinkingly give you a couple of bars of the Pedlar’s Song from *Lohenshaak*, eh?”

**I don’t know that one.**

The swan took a deep, laboured breath.

“That’s the one that goes *Schneide meinem eigenen Hals-*”

**Thank *you***, said Death. The scythe moved.

“Bugger!”

Some distance away there was, placid under the autumn sky, a lake.

In the reeds, a swan was dying. Or was due to die.

There was, however, an unforeseen snag.

Death sat down on the bank.

**Now look**, he said, **I know how it is supposed to go. Swans sing just once, beautifully, before they die. That’s where the word ‘swansong’ originates. It is very moving. Now, let us try this again…**

He produced a tuning fork from the shadowy recesses of his robe and twanged it on the side of his scythe.

**There’s your note…**

“Uh-uh,” said the swan.

**Why make it difficult?**

“I like it here,” said the swan.

**That has nothing to do with it.**

“Did you know I can break a man’s arm with a blow of my wing?”

**How about if I get you started? Do you know ‘Moonlight Bay’?**

**placid** (blik)stille

**was due to** det var dens tid til at

**tuning fork** stemmegaffel

**recesses** folder, gemmer

**twanged** slog med en dirrende lyd

**scythe** le

**ditty** vise

**sirrah** ”min gode mand”

**hissed** hvæsede