ELIXIR OF LOVE

Gaetano Donizetti

Desperate declarations of love for the fetching farm owner Adina do nothing for the poor farm laborer Nemorino. Rather, his hapless efforts drive her to accept a marriage proposal from the swaggering sergeant Belcore. As a last-ditch attempt to win Adina's heart, Nemorino takes a so-called "love potion" sold to him by the quack doctor Dulcamara, but Nemorino's odd behavior shocks the young woman into agreeing to marry the sergeant even sooner. At the prenuptial dinner, Nemorino takes another bottle of the elixir while news spreads of his rich uncle's death and Nemorino's sudden inheritance—at once, he becomes the most sought-after man in town.