

LA NAVARRAISE

Lyric Episode in 2 acts

Music by Jules Massenet

Libretto by Jules Claritie & Henri Cain

First Performance: Covent Garden, London, June 20, 1894

Act I. Anita, the Navarraise, who has lost parents and friends, falls in love with Araquil, a young sergeant of the Biscayan regiment, but his father Remigo does not consider her a proper match and sets a dowry far beyond her reach. She overhears the anti-Carlist general Garrido offering a large fortune to any soldier who will kill the Carlist general Zuccaraga. She decides to murder the general. Ramon, a Biscayan captain, sees her go to Zuccaraga's tent and informs Araquil. Believing her to be either the general's mistress or a spy, he follows her.

Act II. A camp revel is followed by an intermezzo, after which Araquil returns, mortally wounded. Anita brings the dowry which has been paid her by Garrido for her deed, but Araquil dies denouncing her and she loses reason.