

Oi na hori stoit khata

(On the hill stands a house)
(Rusyn, extreme western Ukraine)

This dance was taught in Princeton in 2012 by Michael Protenic. According to Michael, it was originally a women's dance, but had changed by the turn of the 19th century into a mixed-gender dance. The original music (and name, as it was probably just "kruhovy tanec", or circle dance, in its village) is lost, so this song had been substituted amongst the pod-karpatske town dwellers; however, MP cannot say when this change occurred, or that the dance is done any longer, as the rural areas are depopulated since the wars and new styles of song and dance prevail. But it was "alive" as of the 1930's, and the current song, while of recent vintage, was a reminder and maybe a re-creation of it for a time.

Music: song of same name by Lvivski Muzyky (Львівські музики) (2008) – also on YouTube.

Meter: 2/4

Formation: Closed circle, facing center; front basket hold, left arm over.

FIG. 1: Swaying right and left

Meas. Action

- 1 Step R to R with a sway (ct 1) and hold (ct 2) – right shoulder rolls slightly to center.
- 2 Repeat to L with opposite ftwk – left shoulder rolls slightly to center.
- 3–4 Repeat Meas. 1–2.

FIG. 2: Side-close

Meas. Action

- 1 Step R to R (ct 1). Close L next to R (ct 2) – with a very slight bounce.
- 2–4 Repeat Meas. 1 (3 x).

FIG. 3: In and out & grapevine

Meas. Action

- 1 Step forward on R twd ctr (ct 1). Touch L next to R (ct 2).
- 2 Step back out on L (ct 1). Touch R next to L (ct 2).
- 3–4 Repeat Meas. 1–2.
- 5 Step R to R (ct 1), cross L behind R and step (ct 2).
- 6 Step R to R (ct 1), cross L in front of R and step (ct 2).
- 7 Repeat Meas. 5.
- 8 Step R to R (ct 1). Touch L next to R (ct 2).
- 9–12 Repeat Meas. 1–4 with opposite ftwk.
- 13–16 Repeat Meas. 5–8 to L with opposite ftwk.

Sequence:

There is no introduction.

Repeat Figs. 1–3, 7 x.

Last time: Repeat Figs. 1 and 2. End with a small step on R twd ctr.

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Ой на горі стоїть хата

Ой на горі стоїть хата
Бідна дівка сидить вґратах
Ref: Сидить сумно поглядає
Сидить сумно поглядає
На гоцулика чикає.

А той гуцул забарився
Десь на другу задивився
Ref: Задивився десь на другу
Задивився десь на другу
Тай забув про свою любу.

Дівка сльози утирає
Тай осіної питає
Ref: Скажи мені осінь мила
Скажи мені осінь мила
Дей чомуж я стидлива.

Десь то вітер віє
Бо дівчину гуцул мріє
Ref: А дівчина вже кохана
А дівчина вже кохана
Давно здругим спарована.

А він знає тай товчиться
Бо він на себе злится
Ref: Бо лишився зовсім самий
Бо лишився зовсім самий
І зніким не спарованим.

Треба знати що робити
Зовсім їх не любити
Ref: А дівчина варта того
А дівчина варта того
Щоби мати миленького.

On The Hill There Stands a House

On the hill there stands a house
A peasant girl sits at its gate
She sits sadly waiting, watching
Waiting for her Hutsul boyfriend.

But that boy gets sidetracked
On his way he sees another
And that girl receives his attention
And he forgets about his own beloved.

The peasant girl wipes away her tears
And asks the autumn goddess
Please tell me kind autumn goddess
Will I ever find another true love.

Somewhere the winds are blowing
And the boy sadly dreams about his first love
But the peasant girl now loves another
Long now they've been together.

The boy realizes his loss and is saddened
And is angry about his indiscretion
For now he's left all alone
Without any love of his own.

A man must be wise when in love
Or else never fall in love
For a woman deserves only someone
Who will always cherish her.

(Translated by Walter and Luba Kasian)