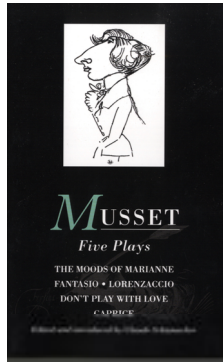


Caprice by Alfred de Musset



Caprice is Alfred de Musset's first stage success and is essentially a perfectly formed dramatic proverb. Mathilde has only been married one year to Monsieur de Chavigny, but it seems that Chavigny is already cheating on his new wife. As a surprise, she is knitting him a little red purse and is shocked when, about to hand it over, he produces a blue purse, evidently a present from a lady friend. Mathilde's friend Madame de Lery appears on the scene, and through a convoluted game of love which shows Chavigny up to be a fool, Lery points out to him the errors of his ways and his love for Mathilde is restored.

A Russian translation of *Caprice* was performed at the Alexandrevski Theatre of St Petersburg in 1837.

Genre:	Romantic drama	Fee:	£40 plus VAT, per performance
Cast:	m2 f2	Scripts:	ISBN 9780413692405 £14.99
Set:	Mathilde's bedroom	Length:	8 scenes
Contact:	Ua UYi flfj[\ lg4 Vcca gVi fmcom		

EXTRACT

Chavigny What a madcap that woman is! You know how to choose your friends.

you were frank about it, than conceal your feelings.

Mathilde It was you who wished her to come up.

Mathilde If I do not believe it, I cannot pretend to, in order to appear to be sincere.

Chavigny I am willing to wager you believe it was Madame de Blainville who made my purse.

Chavigny I tell you, you do believe it. It is written all over your face.

Mathilde No, I don't, as you deny it.

Mathilde If I must say so, to satisfy you: all right, then, I do believe it.

Chavigny I am sure you believe it.

Chavigny You do believe it? And suppose it were true, what harm would there be?

Mathilde And why are you so sure?

Mathilde None at all. And that's why I fail to see why you should deny it.

Chavigny Because I know what you're like. Madame de Lery is an oracle for you. Even if it is a nonsensical idea.

Chavigny I don't deny it. It was she who made it. . (Rising.) Goodbye for now. I may come back later to take tea with your friend.

Mathilde A fine compliment! Though I hardly deserve it.

Chavigny Oh, you do, you know! But I'd far rather

Mathilde Henri, don't leave me like this!

If you enjoyed this, you might like:

- *The Game of Love and Chance* by Marivaux (m4 f2)
 - *Lorenzaccio* by Musset (m29 f6)
 - *The Moods of Marianne* by Musset (m4 f4)
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