

# **VERGIL AND FLORA**

**Pocket Opera for Soprano or Mezzo-  
Soprano, Baritone and Piano**

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# Vergil and Flora

**Pocket Opera for Soprano or Mezzo-soprano, Baritone and  
Piano with optional String Bass**

## CAST

**Flora, Vergil's servant, soprano or mezzo-soprano  
Vergil, Roman poet, baritone**

## SYNOPSIS

It is an early morning in 24 B. C. at the country estate of the Roman poet Vergil in Mantua. Vergil is still asleep after a long night of trying to write. A couple of empty wine flasks lie around his bed. Vergil is awakened by voices that he hears speaking to him in his dreams. The voices seem to be reciting lines from the poem, *The Aeneid*. Vergil confesses to Flora that he has not been able to write more than seven line of his poem yet.

Flora offers the poet a potion that she claims will grant him access to his voices. Vergil takes the potion and falls under the influence of its powerful visions, but he awakes dejected. The visions alone will not help him write his poem. Finally Flora reveals to Vergil the true “elixir of art”: conscientious work. Vergil vows to devote himself to his art. Flora hands him his pen and the poet begins, at last, to write his epic poem.

Duration: 10 minutes