

U KALE MI OMILI DIVOJKA
Vela Luka, Island of Korčula, Dalmatia, Croatia

***U Kale mi omili divojka**
//malo plava al je srcu draga.

***In Kale is my beloved girl,**
she is fair (light hair) but is dear to my heart.

***I mojem je srcu omilila**
//pitat ću je ako mi je dadu.

***And she is the favored of my heart,**
I will ask if they will give her to (marry) me.

Sokole moj ko ti nisam draga
//ne bišeš doć ja te nisam zvala.

My falcon, if I am not dear to you,
you should not have come, I did not invite you.

I ako ti nisam omilila
//nisam nikad na te promislila.

And if I am not your favorite,
I never even thought of you.

Sokole moj svo moje veselje
//jos sam mlada ne lomi mi perje.

My falcon, you are all of my joy,
I am still young, don't-break my "feathers."

Ne lomi mi grane po prsima
//ni mi jih mat tvoja odgojila.

Don't mash the "branches" on my breast,
your mother did not nurture them.

Nego jih je moja darovala
//a ja sama jih odgojila.

But my mother gifted them to me,
and I nurtured them myself.

*** Men sing these verses.**

Kale is a region at the foot of Vranatz Hill in the Vela Luka Bay. When one refers to Kale at this time, it was the dwelling of the Franulović women. This song was originally a courting song for a particular woman of that family by her suitor.

Sokol is a white falcon. It is referred to in love expressions. It can mean, "my love," or "my hero."

This song was sung frequently by the residents of the Franulović household, but was a favorite song of the island. It was translated by Marija Damjanović Franulović, transcribed by Binki Franulović Spahi, and learned by Maria Plančić, daughter of Alma Franulović Plančić. It was taught by the elders to the Franulović sisters, who in turn have instructed many folk enthusiasts this lovely melody. It was recorded by the Ružice folk choir.

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