Elerinka
(Pirin Mountains, Bulgaria)

Elerinka (eh-lehr-EEN-kah) is a women’s dance from the Pirin Mountains in Bulgaria. It was presented by Iliana Hristova Bozhanova at the Laguna Folkdancers Festival in 2009.

Music: 11/8 + 7/8 meter CD: IHB #12 Fire, Track 15

Formation: Open circle facing right of center (LOD). Hands joined down in V-position.

Steps and Styling: Steps are very soft with low movements and small bounces with the knees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meas</th>
<th>Pattern</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 meas</td>
<td><strong>INTRODUCTION</strong> No action during instrumental. Dancing begins with singing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 11/8</td>
<td>Facing and moving in LOD, lift on L, make a small vertical circle fwd with R (ct 1); step fwd on R (ct 2); while lifting on R, make a small vertical circle fwd with L (ct 3); keeping L fwd and low, lift on R (ct 4); step fwd on L (ct 5).</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/8</td>
<td>Step fwd on R (ct 1); lift on R (ct 2); step fwd on L (ct 3).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Repeat meas 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 11/8</td>
<td>While lifting on L, make a small vertical circle fwd with R (ct 1); step fwd on R (ct 2); while lifting on R and turning to face ctr, make a small vertical circle fwd with L (ct 3); lift on R (ct 4); step bkwd on L (ct 5).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/8</td>
<td>Raising arms to W-pos, step fwd on R (ct 1); lift on R, bringing L slightly up behind R calf (ct 2); step bkwd on L (ct 3).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 11/8</td>
<td>Continuing to face ctr, step on R bkwd next to L (ct 1); step on L across in front of R (ct 2); step on R in place (ct 3); lift on R (ct 4); step on L next to R (ct 5).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/8</td>
<td>Step on R in place with small plie (ct 1); step on L in place with small plie (ct 2); step on R in place with small plie (ct 3).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 11/8</td>
<td>Step on L bkwd while slightly bending the body fwd from the waist (ct 1); step on R in place, straightening body (ct 2); touch L toes fwd with straight L leg (ct 3); hold (ct 4-5).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/8</td>
<td>Lift and softly kick L fwd, drawing a low horizontal semi-circle from front to L side (ct 1); Lift on R as L continues to circle from L side to behind (ct 2); step on L behind R (ct 3).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6 11/8 Continuing to face ctr, step on R to R (ct 1); step on L behind R (ct 2); step on R in place while softly kicking L to L side with straightened knee (ct 3); hop on R while turning to face LOD and drawing a low horizontal semi-circle with the L from L to fwd and beginning to lower arms (ct 4); step on L fwd (in LOD) and complete lowering arms to V-pos (ct 5).

7/8 Continuing to face LOD, step fwd on R (ct 1); lift on R (ct 2); step fwd on L (ct 3).

Repeat the figure to the end of the melody, 8 times total, alternating singing and instrumental.

ELERINKA
11/8 + 7/8 б – Пирин

Elerinke, malai mome,
Елеринке мама,
много е била хубава
много е била хубава
мома Елеринка,
мома Елеринка,
al e имала, мори,
al e имала, мори,
много зла мащеха.
много зла мащеха.

Никдe си не пускала
ни на вода - със невести,
moma Елеринка,
moma Елеринка,
ни на oro - с моми,
ни на oro - с моми,
sal на висок чардак седи
sal на висок чардак седи
и на гергех везе.
и на гергех везе.

Отде я слънце съгледа
mama Елеринка,
гряло три дни и ноши,
отде я слънцето съгледа
гряло три дни и ноши,
greya - не заожда,
greya - не заожда,
koga се слънцето завърна,
koga се слънцето завърна,
на майка говори.
на майка говори.

Да знаеш, мамо, да знаеш
каква мома видях,
дека стоеше - светеше
Da znaesh, mamo, da znaesh
kakva moma vidyah,
deka stoeshi - sveteshi
moma Елеринка!
moma Елеринка!
Язе слънце съм на небо,
язе слънцето - на земя! 
tya слънцето - на земя!

ELERINKA - Translation

Elerinka was a young, very beautiful
girl, but she had an evil step-mother
who never let her go out of the house
- not even with the young married
women to get fresh water from the
spring, not even with her young
unmarried girlfriends to the dance.

Elerinka could only sit on the high
balcony of their house and work on
her embroidery-frame.

But when the sun caught sight of her,
he shone for three days and three
nights without setting.

When the sun went back home, he
told his mother about the beautiful
Elerinka, that wherever she was, she
lit everything up.

He said, “I am the sun in the sky, but
Elerinka is the sun on the Earth!”

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