

Sondheim 101 Class 4: Featured Lyrics from *Company*

Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Company (1970)

NOTE: The lyrics below are those published in Sondheim's book *Finishing the Hat* (2010). Most are the same as those performed on the 1970 original cast recording, though some lyrics were revised by Sondheim for the 1995 25th anniversary productions in New York (Roundabout Theatre) and London (Donmar Warehouse).

CHARACTERS:

Robert, a single man turning 35 today

Robert's friends include five couples:

- Sarah & Harry
- Susan & Peter
- Jenny & David
- Amy & Paul
- Joanne & Larry

and three women he's dating:

- Marta
- Kathy
- April

"Company"

ROBERT'S FRIENDS [variously]:

Bobby . . .
Bobby . . .
Bobby baby . . .
Bobby bubi . . .
Robby . . .
Robert darling . . .
Bobby, we've been trying to call you . . .

Bobby . . . Bobby . . . Bobby baby . . . Bobby
bubi . . .

Angel, I've got something to tell you.
Bob . . . Rob-o . . . Bobby, love . . . Bobby.
honey . . .

Bobby, we've been trying to reach you all
day . . .

Bobby . . . Bobby... Bobby baby . . .
Angel. . . Darling . . .

The kids were asking, Bobby . . .

Bobby . . . Robert . . . Robby. . . Bob-o . . .
Bobby, there was something we wanted to
say.

Bobby . . . Bobby bubi . . . Sweetheart . . .
Sugar . . .

Your line was busy . . .
What have you been up to, kiddo?

Bobby, Bobby, how have you been?
Fella . . . Sweetie . . . How have you been?
Bobby, Bobby, how have you been?
Stop by on your way home . . .
Seems like weeks since we talked to you . . .
Bobby, we've been thinking of you . . .
Bobby, we've been thinking of you . . .
Drop by anytime . . .

Bobby, there's a concert on Tuesday . . .
Hank and Mary get into town tomorrow . . .
How about some Scrabble on Sunday?
Why don't we all go to the beach—
Bob, we're having people in Saturday
night . . .
—next weekend?

Bobby . . . Bobby . . . Bobby, baby . . .
Whatcha doin' Thursday?
Bobby . . . Angel . . . Bobby bubi . . .
Time we got together, is Wednesday all
right?
Bobby . . . Rob-o . . . Bobby, honey . . .
Eight o'clock on Monday.
Robby darling . . . Bobby fella . . . Bobby
baby . . .

ALL EXCEPT ROBERT:

Bobby, come on over for dinner!
We'll be so glad to see you!
Bobby, come on over for dinner!
Just be the three of us,
Only the three of us!
We loooooove you!

ROBERT:

Phone rings,
Door chimes,
In comes company!
No strings,
Good times,
Room hums, company!
Late nights,
Quick bites,
Party games,
Deep talks,
Long walks,

Sondheim 101 Class 4: Featured Lyrics from *Company*
Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Telephone calls.
Thoughts shared,
Souls bared,
Private names,
All those
Photos
Up on the walls,
“With love . . . ”

With love filling the days,
With love seventy ways,
“To Bobby with love”
From all those
Good and crazy people, my friends,
These good and crazy people, my married
friends!
And that's what it's all about, isn't it?
That's what it's really about,
Really about!

[April, Kathy and Marta—enter.]

FRIENDS & GIRLFRIENDS [variously and
overlapping]:

Bobby . . .
Bobby . . .
Bobby baby . . .
Bobby bubi . . .
Robby . . .
Robert darling . . .

SARAH: Angel, will you do me a favor?
Bobby . . . Bobby . . .
ROBERT: Name it, Sarah . . .
Bobby baby . . . Bobby bubi . . .

PETER: Listen, pal, I'd like your opinion . . .
Bob . . . Rob-o . . .
ROBERT: Try me, Peter . . .
Bobby love . . . Bobby honey . . .

LARRY & AMY: Bobby, there's a problem, I
need your advice . . .

Bobby . . . Bobby . . . Bobby Baby . . .
Angel . . . Darling . . .

GIRLFRIENDS: Just half an hour . . .

ROBERT: Amy, can I call you back
tomorrow?

DAVID & JENNY: Honey, if you'd visit the
kids once or twice...
Bobby . . . Bobby . . . Bobby bubi . . .
Sweetheart . . . Sugar . . .

GIRLFRIENDS: What's happened to you?

ROBERT: Jenny, I could take them to the zoo
on Friday . . .

WIVES: Bobby . . . Bobby . . . Where have
you been?

HUSBANDS: Fella . . . kiddo . . . Where have
you been?

GIRLFRIENDS: Bobby . . . Bobby . . . How
have you been?

FRIENDS: Stop by on your way home . . .

ROBERT: Susan, love, I'll make it after seven
if I can . . .

WIVES: Bobby, dear, I don't mean to pry . . .

HUSBANDS/GIRLFRIENDS: Bobby, we've
been thinking of you!

FRIENDS: Drop by anytime . . .

ROBERT: Sorry, Paul, I made a date with
Larry and Joanne . . .

WIVES: Bobby, dear, it's none of my
business . . .

HUSBANDS: Lookit, pal, I have to work
Thursday evening . . .

WIVES: Darling, you've been looking peculiar
. . .

HUSBANDS: Bobby boy, you know how I
hate the opera . . .

WIVES: Funny thing, your name came up
only last night . . .

ROBERT: Harry . . . David . . . Kathy, I—

GIRLFRIENDS: I shouldn't say this, but . . .

ROBERT: April . . . Marta . . . Listen, people—

Sondheim 101 Class 4: Featured Lyrics from *Company*
Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

WIVES: Bobby, we've been worried, you sure
you're all right?

HUSBANDS: Bobby . . . Bobby . . . Bobby
baby . . .

GIRLFRIENDS: Did I do something wrong?

HUSBANDS: Bobby bubbi, Bobby fella,
Bobby, Bobby . . .

ALL EXCEPT ROBERT:
Bobby, come on over for dinner!
We'll be so glad to see you!
Bobby, come on over for dinner!
Just be the three of us,
Only the three of us!
We looooooooooooooooooove you!

ALL:
Phone rings,
Door chimes,
In comes company!
No strings,
Good times,
Just chums, company!
Late nights,
Quick bites,
Party games,
Deep talks,
Long walks,
Telephone calls,
Thoughts shared,
Souls bared,
Private names,
All those
Photos
Up on the walls,
"With love . . ."

With love filling the days,
With love seventy ways,
"To Bobby with love"
From all those (these)
Good and crazy people, my (your) friends,
Those (These) good and crazy people, my
(your) married friends!

And that's what it's all about, isn't it?
That's what it's really about.
That's what it's really about,
Really about!

ALL EXCEPT ROBERT:
Isn't it? Isn't it? Isn't it? Isn't it?

ROBERT [simultaneously]:
You I love and you I love and you and you I
love
And you I love and you I love and you and
you I love, I love you!

ALL:
Company! Company!
Company! Lots of company!
Years of company!
Love is company!
Company!

"The Little Things You Do Together"

[Robert visits Harry & Sarah. Sarah demonstrates
her skills at karate by throwing Harry to the floor.]

JOANNE [commenting]:
It's the little things you do together,
Do together,
Do together,
That make perfect relationships.
The hobbies you pursue together,
Savings you accrue together,
Looks you misconstrue together,
That make marriage a joy,
Mm-hm . . .

It's the little things you share together,
Swear together,
Wear together,
That make perfect relationships.
The concerts you enjoy together,
Neighbors you annoy together,
Children you destroy together,
That keep marriage intact.

It's not so hard to be married
When two maneuver as one.
It's not so hard to be married,
And, Jesus Christ, is it fun.

It's sharing little winks together,
Drinks together,
Kinks together,
That make marriage a joy.
It's bargains that you shop together,
Cigarettes you stop together,

Sondheim 101 Class 4: Featured Lyrics from *Company* Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Clothing that you swap together
That make perfect relationships.
Uh-huh . . . Mm-hm

ALL:

It's not talk of God and the decade ahead that
Allows you to get through the worst
It's "I do" and "You don't" and "Nobody said
that"

And "Who brought the subject up first?"

It's the little things,
The little little little little little things . . .
The little ways you try together—
Cry together—
Lie together—
That make perfect relationships.
Becoming a cliché together—
Growing old and gray together—

JOANNE: Withering away together—

GROUP: That makes marriage a joy.

MEN & JOANNE: It's not so hard to be
married.

WOMEN: It's much the simplest of crimes.

MEN & JOANNE: It's not so hard to be
married

JOANNE: I've done it three or four times.

JENNY: It's people that you hate together,

PAUL & AMY: Bait together,

PETER & SUSAN: Date together,

GROUP: That make marriage a joy.

DAVID: It's things like using force together,

LARRY: Shouting till you're hoarse together,

JOANNE: Getting a divorce together,

GROUP: That make perfect relationships
Uh-huh . . . Kiss, kiss . . .

JOANNE: Mm-hm.

"Sorry-Grateful"

[In continuation of the previous "karate" scene,
Robert asks Harry if he's ever sorry he got
married. Two other husbands join in.]

HARRY:

You're always sorry,
You're always grateful,
You're always wondering what might have
been.

Then she walks in.

And still you're sorry,
And still you're grateful,
And still you wonder and still you doubt.
And she goes out.

Everything's different,
Nothing's changed,
Only maybe slightly
Rearranged.

You're sorry-grateful,
Regretful-happy.
Why look for answers when none occur?
You always are what you always were,
Which has nothing to do with,
All to do with her.

DAVID:

You're always sorry,
You're always grateful,
You hold her, thinking, "I'm not alone."
You're still alone.

You don't live for her,
You do live with her,
You're scared she's starting to drift away—
And scared she'll stay.

LARRY:

Good things get better,
Bad get worse.
Wait—I think I meant that in reverse.

HARRY, DAVID, LARRY:

You're sorry-grateful,
Regretful-happy,
Why look for answers where none occur?
You'll always be what you always were,
Which has nothing to do with,
All to do with her.

Sondheim 101 Class 4: Featured Lyrics from *Company* Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

HARRY, LARRY:
You'll always be what you always were,
Which has nothing to do with,
All to do with her.

HARRY:
Nothing to do with,
All to do with her.

“You Could Drive A Person Crazy”

[Robert smokes pot with David and Jenny. He tells them he has been dating three women. They enter and, without being dramatically a part of the scene, comment on the situation.]

KATHY, MARTA, & APRIL:
Doo-doo-doo-doo,
Doo-doo-doo-doo,
Doo-doo-doo-doo doo-doo!

You could drive a person crazy,
You could drive a person mad.
Doo-doo-doo-doo-doo.
First you make a person hazy
So a person could be had,
Doo-doo-doo-doo-doo.

Then you leave a person dangling sadly
Outside your door,
Which could only make a person gladly
Want you even more.

[1970 original lyrics]:
I could understand a person
If it's not a person's bag.
Doo-doo-doo-doo-doo.
I could understand a person
If a person was a fag.

[1995 revised lyrics]:
I could understand a person
If he said to go away.
Doo-doo-doo-doo-doo.
I could understand a person
If he happened to be gay.

Doo-doo-doo-doo doo.
Boo-boo-boo-boo.
But worse 'n that,
A person that
Titillates a person and then leaves her flat

Is crazy,
He's a troubled person,
He's a truly crazy person
Himself!

KATHY:
When a person's personality is personable,
He shouldn't oughta sit like a lump.
It's harder than a matador coercin' a bull
To try to get you off of your rump.
So single and attentive and attractive a man
Is everything a person could wish,
But turning off a person is the act of a man
Who likes to pull the hooks out of fish.

APRIL, KATHY, MARTA:
Knock, knock, Is anybody there?
Knock, knock, It really isn't fair.
Knock, knock! I'm workin' all my charms.
Knock, knock! A zombie's in my arms.

All that sweet affection!
What is wrong?
Where's the loose connection?
How long, oh Lord, how long?
Bobby baby, Bobby bubi, Bobby,

You could drive a person buggy,
You could blow a person's cool.
Like you make a person feel all huggy
While you make her feel a fool.
Doo-doo-doo-doo doo.

When a person says that you upset her,
That's when you're good:
You impersonate a person better
Than a zombie should.

I could understand a person
If he wasn't good in bed.
Doo-doo-doo-doo doo.
I could understand a person
If he actually was dead.
Doo-doo-doo-doo doo.

Exclusive you,
Elusive you,
Will any person ever get the juice of you?
You're crazy,
You're a lovely person,
You're a moving, deeply maladjusted,
Never to be trusted

Sondheim 101 Class 4: Featured Lyrics from *Company*
Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Crazy person
Yourself!

[spoken]
Bobby is my hobby and I'm givin' it up!

“Someone Is Waiting”

[Following a scene in which his friends suggest various women he should date, Robert reflects on the type of woman he's looking for.]

ROBERT:
Someone is waiting,
Cool as Sarah,
Easy and loving as Susan—
Jenny.
Someone is waiting,
Warm as Susan,
Frantic and touching as Amy—
Joanne.

Would I know her even if I met her?
Have I missed her? Did I let her go?
A Susan sort of Sarah,
A Jennyish Joanne—
Wait for me, I'm ready now,
I'll find you if I can!

Someone will hold me,
Soft as Jenny,
Skinny and blue-eyed as Amy—
Susan.
Someone will wake me,
Sweet as Amy,
Tender and foolish as Sarah,
Joanne.

Did I know her? Have I waited too long?
Maybe so, but maybe so has she,
My blue-eyed Sarah
Warm Joanne
Sweet Jenny
Loving Susan
Crazy Amy,
Wait for me,
I'll hurry.
Wait for me,
Hurry.
Wait for me . . .
Hurry . . .
Wait . . .

“Another Hundred People”

[Robert sits on a park bench with April. After she leaves, Marta comments on what she has observed.]

MARTA:
Another hundred people just got off of the
train
And came up through the ground
While another hundred people just got off of
the bus
And are looking around
At another hundred people who got off of the
plane
And are looking at us
Who got off of the train
And the plane and the bus
Maybe yesterday.

It's a city of strangers,
Some come to work, some to play.
A city of strangers;
Some come to stare, some to stay.
And every day
The ones who stay

Can find each other in the crowded streets
And the guarded parks,
By the rusty fountains and the dusty trees
With the battered barks.
And they walk together past the postered
walls
With the crude remarks,

And they meet at parties through the friends
of friends
Who they never know.
Will you pick me up or do I meet you there
Or shall we let it go?
Did you get my message, 'cause I looked in
vain?
Can we see each other Tuesday if it doesn't
rain?
Look, I'll call you in the morning
Or my service will explain . . .

And another hundred people just got off of
the train.

[April is replaced by Kathy, who tells Robert she's leaving New York to get married. Marta comments again.]

Sondheim 101 Class 4: Featured Lyrics from *Company* Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

MARTA:

It's a city of strangers—
Some come to work, some to play.
A city of strangers—
Some come to stare, some to stay.
And every day
Some go away . . .

Or they find each other in the crowded
streets
And the guarded parks,
By the rusty fountains and the dusty trees
With the battered barks.
And they walk together past the postered
walls
With the crude remarks,

And they meet at parties through the friends
of friends
Who they never know.
Will you pick me up or do I meet you there,
Or shall we let it go?
Did you get my message, 'cause I looked in
vain?
Can we see each other Tuesday if it doesn't
rain?
Look, I'll call you in the morning
Or my service will explain . . .

And another hundred people just got off of
the train.
And another hundred people just got off of
the train.
And another hundred people just got off of
the train.
And another hundred people just got off of
the train.
And another hundred people just got off of
the train.

“Getting Married Today”

[Robert is best man for the wedding of Amy and Paul. On the morning of the wedding, Robert is in Amy's kitchen. She is terrified.]

CHURCH LADY:
Bless this day, Pinnacle of life,
Husband joined to wife.
The heart leaps up to behold
This golden day.

PAUL [to Amy]:

Today is for Amy.
Amy, I give you the rest of my life,
To cherish and to keep you,
To honor you forever.
Today is for Amy,
My happily
Soon-to-be
Wife.

AMY [to the audience]:

Pardon me, is everybody there?
Because if everybody's there,
I want to thank you all for coming to the
wedding.
I'd appreciate your going even more,
I mean you must have lots of better things to
do,
And not a word of it to Paul,
Remember Paul? You know, the man I'm
gonna marry,
But I'm not, because I wouldn't ruin
Anyone as wonderful as he is--

Thank you all
For the gifts and the flowers.
Thank you all,
Now it's back to the showers.
Don't tell Paul,
But I'm not getting married today.

CHURCH LADY:

Bless this day, tragedy of life,
Husband yoked to wife.
The heart sinks down and feels dead
This dreadful day.

AMY:

Listen, everybody,
Look, I don't know what you're waiting for.
A wedding, what's a wedding? i
It's a prehistoric ritual
where everybody promises fidelity forever,
Which is maybe the most horrifying word I've
ever heard of,
And which is followed by a honeymoon
Where suddenly he'll realize
He's saddled with a nut
And wan to kill me, which he should.

So listen,
Thanks a bunch,

Sondheim 101 Class 4: Featured Lyrics from *Company* Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

But I'm not getting married.
Go have lunch,
'Cause I'm not getting married.
You've been grand,
But I'm not getting married.
Don't just stand
There, I'm not getting married!
And don't tell Paul,
But I'm not getting married today.

Go!
Can't you go?
Why is no-
body listening?
Goodbye!
Go and cry
At another person's wake.
If you're quick,
For a kick
You could pick
Up a christening,
But please,
On my knees,
There's a human life at stake!

Listen everybody, I'm afraid you didn't hear,
Or do you want to see a crazy lady
Fall apart in front of you?
It isn't only Paul who may be ruining his life,
you know,
We'll both of us be losing our identities—
I telephoned my analyst about it
And he said to see him Monday,
But by Monday I'll be floating
In the Hudson with the other garbage.

I'm not well,
So I'm not getting married.
You've been swell,
But I'm not getting married.
Clear the hall,
'Cause I'm not getting married.
Thank you all,
But I'm not getting married.
And don't tell Paul,
But I'm not getting married today!

CHURCH LADY:
Bless this bride, totally insane,
Slipping down the drain,
And bless this day in our hearts,
As it starts to rain.

PAUL:
Today is for Amy
Amy,
I give you
The rest of my life,
To cherish
And to keep
You,

To honor you
Forever,

Today is for Amy,

My happily
Soon-to-be

Wife,

My adorable

Wife!

AMY:
Go, can't you go?
Look, you know
I adore you all,
But why watch me die
Like Eliza on the ice?
Look, perhaps
I'll collapse
In the apse
Right before you all,
So take
Back the cake,
Burn the shoes and
boil the rice!
Look, I didn't want to
have to tell you,

But I may be coming
with hepatitis
And I think I'm gonna
faint,
So if you wanna see
me faint,
I'll do it happily,
But wouldn't it be
funnier
To go and watch a
funeral?
So thank you for the
Twenty-seven dinner
plates and
Thirty-seven butter
knives and
Forty-seven paper
weights and
Fifty-seven candle
holders—

PAUL: One more thing—

AMY: I am not getting married!

CHURCH LADY & GUESTS: Amen!

PAUL: —Softly said:

AMY: But I'm not getting married!

CHURCH LADY & GUESTS: Amen!

PAUL: With this ring—

**Sondheim 101 Class 4: Featured Lyrics from *Company*
Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim**

“Barcelona”

[April, a flight attendant, spends the night with Robert—at his place.]

ROBERT: Where you going?

APRIL: Barcelona.

ROBERT: Oh . . .

APRIL: Don't get up.

ROBERT: Do you have to?

APRIL: Yes, I have to.

ROBERT: Oh . . .

APRIL:
Don't get up.
Now you're angry.

ROBERT: No I'm not.

APRIL: Yes, you are.

ROBERT:
No I'm not.
Put your things down.

APRIL: See, you're angry.

ROBERT: No I'm not.

APRIL: Yes, you are.

ROBERT:
No I'm not.
Put your wings down
And stay.

APRIL: I'm leaving.

ROBERT: Why?

APRIL: To go to—

ROBERT: Stay.

APRIL: I have to—

BOTH: Fly—

ROBERT: I know—

BOTH: —To Barcelona.

ROBERT:
Look, you're a very special girl,
Not just overnight.
[Yawns]
No, you're a very special girl,
Not because you're bright—
[quickly]
Not just because you're bright.
You're just a very special girl, June!

APRIL: April . . .

ROBERT: April . . .

APRIL: Thank you.

ROBERT: Whatcha thinking?

APRIL: Barcelona.

ROBERT: Oh . . .

APRIL: Flight Eighteen.

ROBERT: Stay a minute.

APRIL: I would like to.

ROBERT: So—?

APRIL: Don't be mean.

ROBERT: Stay a minute.

APRIL: No, I can't.

ROBERT: Yes, you can.

APRIL: No, I can't.

ROBERT: Where you going?

APRIL: Barcelona.

ROBERT: So you said.

APRIL: And Madrid.

Sondheim 101 Class 4: Featured Lyrics from *Company* Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

ROBERT: *Bon voyage*.
APRIL: On a Boeing.
ROBERT: Good night.
APRIL: You're angry.
ROBERT: No.
APRIL: I've got to—
ROBERT: Right.
APRIL: —Report to—
ROBERT: Go.
APRIL:
That's not to
Say,
That if I had my way . .
Oh well, I guess—okay.
ROBERT: What?
APRIL: I'll stay.
ROBERT: But . . .
[to himself] Oh, God!

“The Ladies Who Lunch”
[Robert is in a night club with Joanne, who drunkenly assesses the other women in the room.]

JOANNE:
Here's to the ladies who lunch—
Everybody laugh—
Lounging in their caftans and planning a
brunch
On their own behalf.

Off to the gym,
Then to a fitting,
Claiming they're fat,
And looking grim,
'Cause they've been sitting,
Choosing a hat.

[spoken] Does anyone still wear a hat?
I'll drink to that.
Here's to the girls who stay smart—
Aren't they a gas?
Rushing to their classes in optical art,
Wishing it would pass.
Another long exhausting day,
Another thousand dollars,
A matinee, a Pinter play,
Perhaps a piece of Mahler's—
I'll drink to that.
And one for Mahler!
And here's to the girls who play wife—
Aren't they too much?
Keeping house, but clutching a copy of *Life*
Just to keep in touch.
The ones who follow the rules
And meet themselves at the schools,
Too busy to know that they're fools—
Aren't they a gem?
I'll drink to them!
Let's all drink to them!
And here's to the girls who just watch—
Aren't they the best?
When they get depressed, it's a bottle of
Scotch,
Plus a little jest.
Another chance to disapprove,
Another brilliant zinger,
Another reason not to move,
Another vodka stinger—
Aaaaahhhhh—
I'll drink to that.
So here's to the girls on the go—
Everybody tries.
Look into their eyes,
And you'll see what they know:
Everybody dies.
A toast to that invincible bunch,
The dinosaurs surviving the crunch—
Let's hear it for the ladies who lunch!
Everybody rise! Rise!
Rise! Rise! Rise! Rise! Rise! Rise! Rise!

Sondheim 101 Class 4: Featured Lyrics from *Company*

Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

“Being Alive”

[Disillusioned, Robert sings about what he's learned by observing his married friends. Hearing the voices of his friends, he yells, “Stop! What do you get?”]

ROBERT [sings]:
Someone to hold you too close,
Someone to hurt you too deep,
Someone to sit in your chair,
To ruin your sleep . . .

PAUL [spoken]: That's true, but there's more to it than that.
SARAH: Is that all you think there is to it?
HARRY: You've got so many reasons for not being with someone, but Robert, you haven't got one good reason for being alone.
LARRY: Come on, you're on to something, Bobby. You're on to something.

ROBERT:
Someone to need you too much,
Someone to know you too well,
Someone to pull you up short
And put you through hell . . .

DAVID [spoken]: You see what you look for, you know.
JOANNE: You're not a kid anymore, Robert. I don't think you'll ever be a kid again, kiddo.
PETER: Hey, buddy. Don't be afraid it won't be perfect . . . the only thing to be afraid of really is that it won't be!
JENNY: Don't stop now! Keep going!

ROBERT:
Someone you have to let in,
Someone whose feelings you spare,
Someone who, like it or not,
Will want you to share
A little a lot . . .

SUSAN: And what does all that mean?
LARRY: Robert, how do you know so much about it when you've never been there?
HARRY: It's all much better living it than looking at it, Robert.

PETER: Add 'em up, Bobby. Add 'em up.

ROBERT:
Someone to crowd you with love,
Someone to force you to care,
Someone to make you come through,
Who'll always be there,
As frightened as you
Of being alive,
Being alive, being alive, being alive.

AMY: Blow out the candles, Robert, and make a wish. *Want* something! *Want something!*

ROBERT:
Somebody hold me too close,
Somebody hurt me too deep,
Somebody sit in my chair
And ruin my sleep
And make me aware
Of being alive, being alive.

Somebody need me too much,
Somebody know me too well,
Somebody pull me up short
And put me through hell
And give me support
For being alive,
Make me alive,
Make me alive.

Make me confused,
Mock me with praise,
Let me be used,
Vary my days.
But alone is alone, not alive.

Somebody crowd me with love,
Somebody force me to care,
Somebody let me come through,
I'll always be there,
As frightened as you,
To help us survive
Being alive, being alive,
Being alive!

Sondheim 101 Class 4: Featured Lyrics from *Company*
Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

**Closing Songs Eventually Replaced by
“Being Alive”**

1st Attempt: “Multitudes of Amy”

[In this version of the script, Amy does not marry Paul at the end of Act I, and Kathy has told Robert she’s leaving New York to get married. Robert convinces himself that Amy is the right girl for him and prepares to propose to her. The song never got as far as rehearsal.]

ROBERT:

Multitudes of Amys
Crowd the streets below;
Avenues of Amys,
Officefuls of Amys,
Everywhere I go.
Wonder what it means—
Ho-ho, I wonder what it means;
I see them waiting for the lights,
Running for the bus,
Milling in the stores,
And hailing cabs
And disappearing through revolving doors.

Multitudes of Amys
Everywhere I look,
Sentences of Amys,
Paragraphs of Amys,
Filling every book.
Wonder if it means I've gone to pieces.
Every other word I speak is something she
says.

Walls hang with pictures of Amys,
Galaxies of Amys dot the night skies.
Girls pass and look at me with Amy's eyes.
I've seen an audience of Amys
Watch a cast of Amys act in a play.
Seems there are more of her every day.
What can it mean?
What can it mean?

I've caught a stadium of Amys
Standing up to cheer,
Choruses of Amys,
Symphonies of Amys,
Ringing in my ear.
I know what it means—
Hey, Amy, I know what it means!

Oh, wow!
I'm ready, I'm ready, I'm ready
Now!

All that it takes is two, Amy,
Me, Amy,
You, Amy . . .
I know what it means—
Hey, Amy, I know what it means!
Oh, wow!
I'm ready, I'm ready, I'll say it:
Marry me now!

2nd Attempt: “Happily Ever After”

[After they changed the plot back to having Amy marry Paul, “Multitudes of Amys” didn't work. Sondheim decided to “write a song which was Bobby's assessment of the marriages he's seen”]

ROBERT:

Someone to hold you too close,
Someone to hurt you too deep,
Someone to love you too hard,
Happily ever after.

Someone to need you too much,
Someone to read you too well,
Someone to bleed you of all
The things you don't want to tell—
That's happily ever after,
Ever, ever, ever after
In Hell.

Somebody always there
Sitting in the chair
Where you want to sit—
Always, always.
Somebody always there
Wanting you to share
Just a little bit—
Always, always.

Then see the pretty girls
Smiling everywhere
From the ads and the TV set,
And why should you sweat?
What do you get?
One day of grateful for six of regret.

With someone to hold you too close,
Someone to hurt you too deep,
Someone to bore you to death,

Sondheim 101 Class 4: Featured Lyrics from *Company* Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Happily ever after.

Someone you have to know well,
Someone you have to show how,
Someone you have to allow
The things you'd never allow—
That's happily ever after,
Ever, ever, ever after
Till now.

So quick,
Get a little car,
Take a little drive,
Make a little love,
See a little flick,
Do a little work,
Take a little walk,
Watch a little TV
And click!
Make a little love,
Do a little work,
Get a little drunk,
You've got one little trip,
Seventy years, spread it around!

Take your pick:
Buy a little here,
Spend a little there,
Smoke a little pot
For a little kick,
Waste a little time,
Make a little love,
Show a little feeling,
But why
Should you try?
Why not, sure, feel a little lonely
But fly,
Why not fly

With no one to hold you too close,
No one to hurt you too deep,
No one to love you too hard
Happily ever after?

No one you have to know well,
No one you have to show how,
No one you have to allow
The things you'd never allow—
That's happily ever after.
Ever, ever, ever after
For now!

Ever, ever after,
Ever, ever, ever, ever after
Ever, ever, ever, ever, ever ever after . . .

[This was the final song when the show opened in Boston, though it was followed by an epilogue. In part because the show was too long, the epilogue was cut, and because this song was such a downer, Hal Prince encouraged Sondheim to write a more uplifting song—hence, “Being Alive.”]