Everlasting Love

"At Last"

"I Could Write a Book"

"Always"

"I Only Have Eyes for You"

"Our Day Will Come"

Love in the Songbook

If there is one common theme in the timeless lyrics of the Great American Songbook, it's that crazy little thing called love. Whether it's romantic love, love of country, love of family, friends, animals, food, drink, you name it, there is a song that celebrates the feeling that your lonely days are over and life is like a song.





Song: "At Last" (1941)

Songwriters: Mack Gordon & Harry Warren

Brief Context: "At Last" is a timeless classic written by Mack Gordon and Harry Warren, most famously performed by Etta James. This iconic ballad captures the moment when love is finally realized and cherished. The song's words convey the joy of finding true love after a period of anticipation and longing. "At Last" remains a favorite for weddings and romantic moments, resonating with audiences through its message.

Activity: Singing

What do you need?

• Perfect Harmony "At Last" video



• Perfect Harmony "At Last" lyrics

Songbook Archives

Attached is an image of the sheet music for "At Last" from the Robert Denby Collection housed in the Songbook Library & Archives. The song was written by Mack Gordon and Harry Warren for the musical film *Sun Valley Serenade* (1941). Glenn Miller and his orchestra recorded the song several times, but it rose to popularity thanks to Etta James' recording in 1960.

Perfect Star

At Last

At last My love has come along My lonely days are over And life is like a song At last The skies above are blue My heart was wrapped up in clover The night I looked at you

I found a dream that I could speak to A dream that I could call my own I found a thrill to rest my cheek to A thrill that I've never known Oh yeah you smile, you smiled And then the spell was cast And now here we are in heaven For you are mine at last

Song: "I Could Write a Book" (1940)

Songwriters: Richard Rodgers & Lorenz Hart

Brief Context: "I Could Write a Book" is a classic jazz standard that showcases the artistry of Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart. Originally written for the musical *Pal Joey* in 1940, the song has since become a timeless gem with various interpretations by many artists. The lyrics, filled with wit and charm, show the narrator's confidence in their ability to share the depth of their feelings if they were to write a book about love.

Activity: Listening

What do you need?

• Perfect Harmony "I Could Write a Book" video

Did you know?

"I Could Write a Book" is from the 1940 musical *Pal Joey* with music by Richard Rodgers and lyrics by Lorenz Hart. This musical also features the beloved Songbook standard "Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered."





Song: "Always" (1930)

Songwriter: Irving Berlin

Brief Context: Irving Berlin gifted the song "Always" to his bride, Ellin Mackay, as a wedding present when they got married on January 4, 1926. With its heartfelt lyrics and tender melody, "Always" captures the enduring nature of true love. It has been performed by many artists like Patsy Cline, Tony Bennett and Diana Ross.

Activity: Movement

What do you need?

• Perfect Harmony "Always" video

Suggested Seated Movement

Follow Perfect Harmony leader Karen or create your own seated movement!

Use movements like . . .

- Fold your hands over your heart
- Slowly fan one arm out at a time
- Alternate toe touches to the front and side



Song: "I Only Have Eyes for You" (1934)

Songwriters: Harry Warren & Al Dubin

Brief Context: Composed in 1934 by Harry Warren with lyrics penned by Al Dubin, "I Only Have Eyes For You" debuted in the 1934 film Dames. Over the years, the song achieved hits in 1959 with The Flamingos, in 1966 with The Letterman, and in **1975** with Art Garfunkel. It earned the distinction of being named the most-recorded song of the 20th Century by ASCAP (The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers).

Activity: Singing and Discussion

What do you need?

- Perfect Harmony "I Only Have Eyes for You" video
- Perfect Harmony "I Only Have Eyes for You" lyrics sheet

Suggested Discussion Prompt

Tell somebody about a time when you fell in love with someone special in your life.



I Only Have Eyes for You

Are the stars out tonight? I don't know if it's cloudy or bright Cause I only have eyes for you, dear

The moon may be high But I can't see a thing in the sky 'Cause I only have eyes for you

I don't know if we're in a garden Or on a crowded avenue

You are here, so am I Maybe millions of people go by But they all disappear from view And I only have eyes for you

Song: "Our Day Will Come" (1963)

Songwriters: Mort Garson and Bob Hilliard

Brief Context: "Our Day Will Come" is a classic song written by Mort Garson and Bob Hilliard. Ruby and the Romantics first recorded it in 1963, and it quickly became popular, reaching number one on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. Other artists, like Amy Winehouse, have covered it over the years. The song's enduring charm comes from its hopeful lyrics, saying that love will win, and better days are coming.

Activity: Listening

What do you need?

• Perfect Harmony "Our Day Will Come" Video

Did you know?

Dionne Warwick recorded the initial demo of "Our Day Will Come" for songwriter Bob Hilliard, expressing her admiration for it. In 1982, Warwick featured the track as her sole cover on the album "Heartbreaker."

