

Love!

"Almost Like Being in Love"

"Best of My Love"

"Make You Feel My Love"

"My Cherie Amour"

"What I Did for Love"

Celebrating a Lifetime of Love

February provides a perfect backdrop for exploring the theme of love in all its forms. From Valentine's Day celebrations to reflecting on cherished relationships, this time of year encourages us to appreciate the power of connection and passion.



This month, follow cupid's arrow through song with "Almost Like Being in Love" to fall in love again and "My Cherie Amour" to reminisce about those we care for the most. Celebrate that enduring warmth by grooving along to The Emotion's "Best of My Love" and allow that timeless emotion to wash over you with "Make You Feel My Love" and "What I Did for Love."



Song: "Almost Like Being in Love" (1947)

Songwriters: Alan Jay Lerner, Frederick Loewe

Brief Context:

"Almost Like Being in Love" is a classic show tune with lyrics written by Alan Jay Lerner and music by Frederick Loewe for the musical *Brigadoon*. Introduced in the show's original run by David Brooks and Marion Bell, Gene Kelly led the vocals in the 1954 film version. The song captures the exhilarating feeling of being on the verge of falling in love. Its lively melody and heartfelt lyrics have made it a well-known standard in both musical theatre and popular music, performed by many artists over the decades.

Activity: Singing

What do you need?

- Perfect Harmony "Almost Like Being in Love" video ([YOUTUBE](#))
- Perfect Harmony "Almost Like Being in Love" lyrics

Did you know?

The 1954 movie release of *Brigadoon* features Gene Kelly opposite of Cyd Charisse in a chance romance that is pressured by the ephemeral nature of a magical town in Scotland which appears only once every one hundred years. The movie won the 1955 Golden Globe for Best Cinematography and was nominated for three Academy Awards.



Brigadoon (1954)



Almost Like Being in Love

What a day this has been

What a rare mood I'm in

Why, it's almost like being in love

There's a smile on my face

For the whole human race

Why, it's almost like being in love

All the music of life seems to be

Like a bell that is ringing for me

And from the way that I feel

When that bell starts to peel

I could swear I was falling

I could swear I was falling

It's almost like being in love

repeat x1

Song: "Best of My Love" (1977)
Songwriters: Maurice White and Al McKay

Brief Context:

Written and composed by Maurice White and Al McKay of Earth, Wind & Fire, "Best of My Love" released on The Emotions' fourth studio album *Rejoice*. The feel-good hit song melded the funky rhythms of R&B and lifting vocals of gospel with pop music's bubbly positivity, earning the #1 spot on the *Billboard Hot 100* chart for five weeks.

Activity: Movement

What do you need?

- Perfect Harmony "Best of My Love" video ([YOUTUBE](#))

Suggested Seated Movement

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

Use movements like . . .

- **Alternate stepping to the side and tapping your toes to the beat.**
- **Sway your arms from side to side upwards and wave your hands above your head.**
- **Move your hand around your head, then blow a kiss while stretching your arm out in front of you.**



Song: "My Cherie Amour" (1969)

Songwriters: Stevie Wonder, Henry Cosby, and Sylvia Moy

Brief Context:

"My Cherie Amour" is a soul classic that captures the sweet yearning of young love. Released in 1969, it was a major hit for the then 19-year-old Stevie Wonder. The song's gentle melody, combined with the heartfelt vocals, paints a picture of a love that is both cherished and just out of reach. Today, the song is beloved across generations for its timeless expression of affection and longing.

Activity: Singing

What do you need?

- **Perfect Harmony "My Cherie Amour" video ([YOUTUBE](#))**
- **Perfect Harmony "My Cherie Amour" lyrics**



Stevie Wonder playing at a piano, 1967. Public Domain.

My Cherie Amour

La-la-la-la-la-la

La-la-la-la-la-la

My cherie amour, lovely as a summer day

My cherie amour, distant as the Milky Way

My cherie amour, pretty little one that I adore

You're the only girl my heart beats for

How I wish that you were mine

In a cafe or sometimes on a crowded street

I've been near you, but you never noticed me

**My cherie amour, won't you tell me how could
you ignore**

That behind that little smile I wore

How I wish that you were mine

La-la-la-la-la-la

La-la-la-la-la-la

My Cherie Amour

La-la-la-la-la-la

La-la-la-la-la-la

**Maybe someday, you'll see my face among the
crowd**

Maybe someday, I'll share your little distant cloud

Oh, cherie amour, pretty little one that I adore

You're the only girl my heart beats for

How I wish that you were mine

La-la-la-la-la-la

La-la-la-la-la-la

La-la-la-la-la-la

La-la-la-la

Song: "Make You Feel My Love" (1997)

Songwriters: Bob Dylan

Brief Context:

Bob Dylan's hit "Make You Feel My Love" has found an inarguable place as a new standard in contemporary popular music. Released on his 1997 album *Time Out of Mind*, the song is a heartfelt ballad where the narrator expresses a deep desire to comfort and cherish their loved one.

While Dylan's version has a raw, bluesy feel, the song has resonated with artists across genres, becoming a modern classic celebrated for its expression of love and devotion.

Activity: Singing & Discussion

What do you need?

- Perfect Harmony "Make You Feel My Love" video ([YOUTUBE](#))
- Perfect Harmony "Make You Feel My Love" lyrics

Suggested Discussion Prompt

Tell someone what ways you might show or give love to others.

- **Actions:** Do you enjoy doing acts of service or giving gifts for others?
- **Gestures:** Do you prefer to express your love for others with physical touch or from a distance?
- **Words:** What words do you use to let others know how you feel?

What ways do you receive love from others?



Make You Feel My Love

When the rain is blowing in your face

And the whole world is on your case

I could offer you a warm embrace

To make you feel my love

When the evening shadows and the stars appear

And there is no one there to dry your tears

I could hold you for a million years

To make you feel my love

I know you haven't made your mind up yet

But I would never do you wrong

I've known it from the moment that we met

No doubt in my mind where you belong

I'd go hungry, I'd go black and blue

I'd go crawling down the avenue

Go to the ends of the Earth for you

To make you feel my love

Make You Feel My Love

The storms are raging on the rolling sea

And on the highway of regret

The winds of change are blowing wild and free

You ain't seen nothing like me yet

I could make you happy, make your dreams come

true

Nothing that I wouldn't do

Go to the ends of the Earth for you

To make you feel my love

To make you feel my love

Song: "What I Did for Love" (1975)

Songwriters: Edward Kleban and Marvin Hamlisch

From the musical A Chorus Line

Brief Context:

In exploring the love of performance, Kleban and Malisch's "What I Did for Love" has become the enduring ode to artists who find passion in their craft, even past retirement. In *A Chorus Line*, the dancers celebrate the fleeting nature of their talent free of regret and find purpose in preserving that love for the future.

Activity: Listening

What do you need?

- Perfect Harmony "What I Did for Love" video ([YOUTUBE](#))

Did you know?

While "What I Did for Love" first debuted in the *A Chorus Line*, the song's themes of dedication and love for performance has resonated with many popular artists, finding a particular home with Songbook Hall of Fame member Eydie Gormé. Her 1976 rendition of the song reached #23 on the US Adult Contemporary chart (US AC).

Check out this clip of Gormé performing "What I Did for Love" on the Carol Burnett Show on [Youtube](#).



Edie Gormé posed with husband Steve Lawrence, 1958. Public Domain.

