

# Summer Romance

**"I'll Be Seeing You"**

**"Let's Do It (Let's Fall in Love)"**

**"Summer Wind"**

**"The Way You Look Tonight"**

**"Tea for Two"**

## The Music of Summer & Love

The warm summer season brings about fond memories of passionate romances, flirty flings, and a heartbreaking yearning for long gone relationships. These songs will transport us into a safe space for us to feel the depth of summer love, loss, and longing.



**Song: "I'll Be Seeing You" (1938)**  
**Songwriters: Irving Kahal & Sammy Fain**

**Brief Context:** "I'll Be Seeing You," written by Irving Kahal and composed by Sammy Fain, was first performed in the musical *Right This Way* (1938), and included in the song's 1944 namesake film. "I'll Be Seeing You" only grew popular after Kahal's death, when Bing Crosby's cover became the #1 hit ballad for star-crossed lovers during World War II. In the 1950s, it became the theme song for *The Liberace Show* and has since appeared in several movie and television soundtracks .

**Activity:** Listening

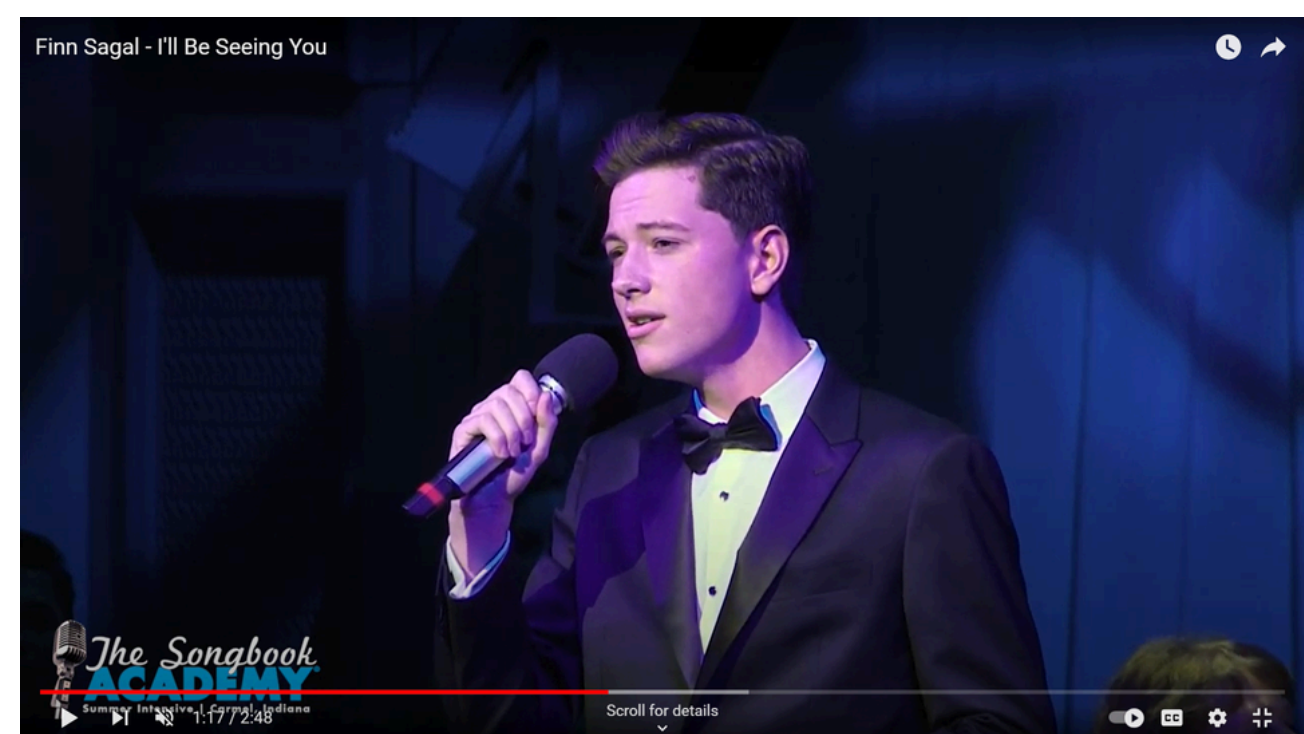
**What do you need?**

- Perfect Harmony "I'll Be Seeing You" video

**Additional listening:**

In addition to this beautiful piano instrumental rendition of this song, listeners are also encouraged to enjoy the song's lyrics as performed by 2017 Songbook Academy alum Finn Sagal.

**CONSIDER:** Does your understanding of this song change when you hear the lyrics? Do you prefer listening to the song with or without lyrics?



**Listen at:**

<https://youtu.be/6mxml-dlUqo?si=EOt5pgz2iU2vZ2lx>





## **Song: "Let's Do It (Let's Fall in Love)" (1928)**

**Songwriter: Cole Porter**

***Brief Context:*** Cole Porter's iconic "Let's Do It (Let's Fall in Love)" captures the cheeky spirit of a flirty summer romance. The lyrics explore the zoologically romantic habits of a variety of animals, from the birds and the bees to fish in the sea. The "Let's Do It" was featured in the musical *Paris* (1928), where Irene Bordini coyly sang the tune. The song became an immediate hit and set the stage for the future of American music to play with the boundaries of cultural norms.

### ***Activity: Singing***

#### **What do you need?**

- Perfect Harmony "Let's Do It" video
- Perfect Harmony "Let's Do It" lyrics

#### ***Additional listening:***

**Did you know that Cole Porter was considered one of the most famous composers and lyricists of the 1920s/30s? Flamboyant and bold, Porter relished creating songs like "Let's Do It". His witty and suggestive lyrics caught the eye of censors, and the title was quickly changed to "Let's Do It, Let's Fall in Love." Listen to Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga's rendition of the tune featured in the Songbook Foundation's online exhibit *The Soundtrack of the 20s/20s* by visiting [TheSongbook.org/20s-exhibit](https://www.thesongbook.org/20s-exhibit).**



# **Let's Do It (Let's Fall in Love)**

**Birds do it, bees do it**

**Even educated fleas do it**

**Let's do it, let's fall in love**

**Mosquitos, heaven forbid, do it**

**So does every katydid do it**

**Let's do it, let's fall in love**

**The most refined ladybugs do it**

**When a gentleman calls**

**Moths in your rugs do it**

**What's the use of moth balls**

**The locust up in the trees do it**

**Even sentimental centipedes do it**

**Let's do it, let's fall in love**

# **Let's Do It (Let's Fall in Love) (page 2)**

**Romantic sponges they say do it**

**Oysters down in Oyster Bay do it**

**Let's do it, let's fall in love**

**Cold Cape Cod clams, 'gainst their wish, do it**

**Even lazy jellyfish do it**

**Let's do it, let's fall in love**

**Electric eels, I might add, do it**

**Though it shocks 'em I know**

**Why ask if shad do it**

**Waiter, bring me shad roe**

**In shallow shoals, English soles do it**

**Goldfish in the privacy of bowls do it**

**Let's do it, let's fall in love**

**Song: "Summer Wind" (1966)**

**Recorded by: Frank Sinatra**

***Brief Context:*** Originally written in German by Heinz Meier and Hans Bradtke in 1965, Johnny Mercer adapted "Summer Wind" for English-speaking audiences. Mercer perfectly matched the song's ephemeral themes with Sinatra's lilting voice for the album *Strangers in the Night* (1966). "Summer Wind" explores feelings connected with memories spent with a past lover.

***Activity: Movement***

***What do you need?***

- Perfect Harmony "Summer Wind" video

***Suggested Seated Movement***

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

**Use movements like . . .**

- Reaching your arms up to the sky
- Swaying side to side
- Rolling your shoulders





**Song: "The Way You Look Tonight" (1936)**

**Songwriters: Dorothy Fields & Jerome Kern**

***Brief Context:*** Winner of the Academy Award for Best Original Song in 1936, Fred Astaire sang "The Way You Look Tonight" for the film *Swing Time*. The Dorothy Fields' lyrics provide a sense of unconditional love as Jerome Kern's melody warmly washes over the listener. The song became a standard for artists to cover, with one of the most popular renditions recorded by Frank Sinatra in 1964.

**Activity: Singing and Discussion**

***What do you need?***

- Perfect Harmony "The Way You Look Tonight" video
- Perfect Harmony "The Way You Look Tonight" lyrics

***Suggested Discussion Prompt***

**As I sing this song, it brings to mind ...**

- my partner
- a friend
- my children
- a sibling

**... and how I just love [the way their eyes sparkle when they look at me, the sound of their laugh, other personal descriptor, etc.]**

**Think about a person dear in your life and tell someone one quality you love about them.**



# **The Way You Look Tonight**

**Someday when I'm awfully low  
When the world is cold  
I will feel aglow just thinking of you  
And the way you look tonight**

**But, you're lovely, with your smile so warm  
And your cheeks so soft  
There is nothing for me but to love you  
Just the way you look tonight**

**With each word your tenderness grows  
Tearin' my fear apart  
And that laugh that wrinkles your nose  
Touches my foolish heart**

**Lovely, never, never change  
Keep that breathless charm  
Won't you please arrange it?  
'Cause I love you  
Just the way you look tonight**



# **The Way You Look Tonight (page 2)**

**With each word your tenderness grows**

**Tearin' my fear apart**

**And that laugh that wrinkles your nose**

**Touches my foolish heart**

**Lovely, never, never change**

**Keep that breathless charm**

**Won't you please arrange it?**

**'Cause I love you**

**Just the way you look tonight**

**Just the way you look tonight**

## **Song: "Tea for Two" (1925)**

**Songwriters: Irving Caesar & Vincent Youmans**

***Brief Context:*** Known as one of the most performed songs of all time, "Tea for Two" was written by Irving Caesar and composed by Vincent Youmans for the musical *No, No, Nanette* (1925). Within the year, both Benson Orchestra and Marion Harris's recordings reached top of the charts. The Tommy Dorsey Orchestra starring Warren Covington later developed the ambitious rendition "Tea for Two Cha Cha" in 1958, which quickly became a #1 hit.

***Activity:*** Listening

***What do you need?***

- Perfect Harmony "Tea for Two" video

***Instrument Activity***

If you have access to formal rhythm instruments (egg shakers, rhythm sticks or maracas), listeners are encouraged to select an instrument of their choosing and shake or tap along to the rhythm! Listen closely for the moments of silence and FREEZE along with the instrumentalists.

If you don't have instruments, you might try creating a drum surface with a paper plate or tapping kitchen utensils together as makeshift rhythm sticks. Clapping your hands or tapping a part of your body to keep the beat works too!

