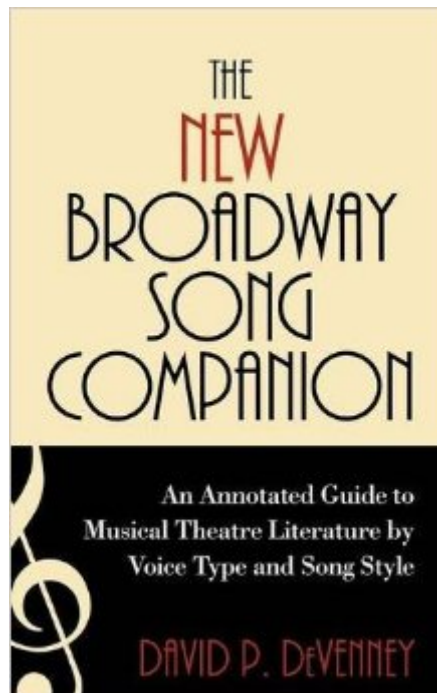


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# The New Broadway Song Companion: An Annotated Guide To Musical Theatre Literature By Voice Type And Song Style



## Synopsis

This is a completely revised and expanded second edition of *The Broadway Song Companion*, the first complete guide and access point to the vast literature of the Broadway musical for the solo performer. Designed with the working actor in mind, the volume lists every song from over 300 Broadway shows, including at least 90 more than the first edition. Organized by show, each song is annotated with the name of the character(s) who sing(s) the song, the vocal range, and a style category, such as uptempo, narrative ballad, swing ballad, moderate character piece, etc. Several indexes are supplied, organizing the songs by voice type (soprano, baritone, etc.) and song style, vocal arrangement (duets, trios, chorus, etc.), and composer and lyricist, allowing increased access to the repertoire. For instance, a soprano looking for a ballad to sing will find every song in that category in the index. All solos, duets, and trios are indexed in this manner, with quartets and larger ensembles listed by voice type. Furthermore, the instant breakdowns (how many lead characters, who sings what song, and the range requirements of each character) will be a valuable resource to directors and producers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Disappointed in the way this book arranges things. It has a HUGE section that list songs by name of the musical. Within that section, it identifies vocal part by a letter, and then range, which is not identified in the same manner that MTI or Stage Agent would identify it--so you have to learn their

method--and then style of the song. So, this is only particularly good if you know what musical you want a song from. There is a SMALL section where you can choose by vocal part--soprano, baritone, etc., and solo/duet, etc. Within that section, there is simply a list of songs, with no indication of which musical they are from or what style of song. I would MUCH PREFER if this were arranged by vocal type, and then include the song, the musical, the composer, the type of song, and the specific range (MTI/Stage Agent compatible). Honestly, that is what I expected. To even use this book, I will have to do a lot of work on my own. Most of us don't know all of these songs nor do we know all the musicals, so simply having a song title tells us NOTHING, other than it is a BARITONE/BASS tune. For \$45, I expected the work would be done for me.

Mr. DeVenney's work is admirable, but this book suffers from some practicality issues: 1. Songs are not categorized by musical style/time period. That is the first thing performers consider when they are looking for audition songs. Musical theatre repertoire is NOT all the same musical style (especially today). The little 'style' markings the author includes don't cut it. 2. Show names aren't included with the song titles in the voice part indexes. That means readers have to flip back and forth between the indexes and the actual show entries. Very tedious. 4. It would be great to have a chronological index of shows in the back of the book.

Really great book for the professional musical theatre musician, teacher, or actor. I have to say that this is not for the novice--you need to know what you're doing to make full use of the information in the book. BUT, an excellent scholarly resource.

This is an incredibly helpful, informative book. Lists all Broadway musicals alphabetically, the songs within each show, and categorizes the song with the type and range (ie: soprano, up tempo, C4-C6.) The Index is categorized by songs for Soprano, Mezzo, Tenor, Baritone, Bass, duets, and ensemble also in alphabetical order. A colleague of mine told me about it, and I'm so happy to own it. If you're a musical theatre performer, or a teacher of musical theatre (be it voice, acting or dance-or a 'fusion' of the three disciplines) this is a 'must-have' book.

This is a book intended for the working professional in musical theater. It lists virtually all musicals and gives a list of the song titles in that play. It does not have the music or the lyrics, just the title giving you a place to start if you are looking for songs from a particular work. Knowing the title of the song, you can go to the web, the music companies or other sources to get the details. ==The layout

of the book starts with a alphabetical listing of the play, then it has a series of indexes where the individual songs are broken down by areas such as trios, duets, solos and more. In some indexes it tells you which publishing company has the songs available. All in all the book covers hundreds of plays, thousands of songs and is probably the most complete listing of its type. The utility of the book comes down to the question: If you need this type of information very often the price will return itself quickly in the form of saved time.

I was very excited to get the new version of this, as the old one was very helpful for me. However, the kindle addition does not have the promised indexes by voice part, which is the only part I use. I feel like I just wasted my money. I know the hardcover edition is great, but the kindle is missing a huge part. This should be mentioned in the product description.

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