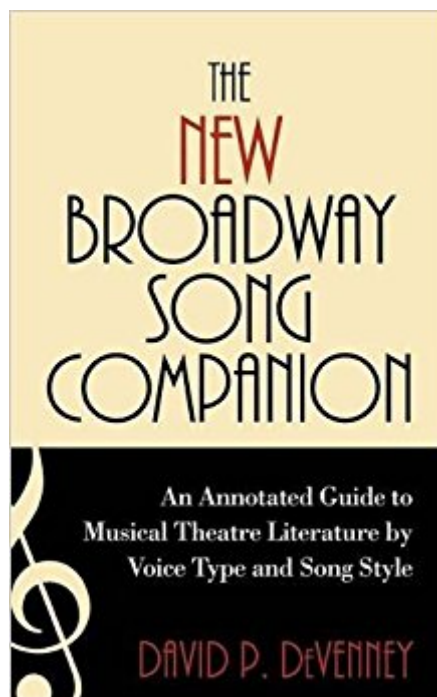




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# The New Broadway Song Companion: An Annotated Guide To Musical Theatre Literature By Voice Type And Song Style



## 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

This unique approach to the musical theatre's song repertoire will help solo performers and ensembles assemble programs suitable for their vocal talents and expressive of their interests. (Rettig On Reference) DeVenney is the perfect resource person to answer that perennial question,

what should I sing for my audition? This volume is an absolute necessity for all college and high school musical theater collections. Essential. (CHOICE, January 2010) As valuable as the annotated entries are six indexes. ... For music theater performers and their instructors this book is a boon, both for repertoire selection and role preparation. ... An affordable addition to the reference section of a studio library. (Journal of Singing, January/February 2010) This book will be a welcome addition to a teacher's studio library. Musical theatre repertoire is a staple for many high school students, and in order to keep up with their passion, teachers must become savvy with the repertoire. I recently experienced this learning curve for musical theatre repertoire in my own teaching. How nice it would have been to have this book in my library during the learning process! (Classical Singer Magazine, May 2010) A veritable casting bible for producers and directors of musicals on the one hand and an invaluable source for any individual voice to find all the songs in his or her range from the Broadway canon ... very well structured ... this is one reference book that no one interested in musical theatre should be without! (Amateur Stage)

David P. DeVenney is professor of music and Director of Choral Activities at West Chester University.

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.

Buyer beware! The Kindle version is missing about 70 pages of content when compared to the print version. All of the indices are missing, greatly reducing the value and usability of this book. The print version is an important part of my musical theatre library and I was hoping to add the Kindle version

for greater personal convenience. But the missing pages essentially renders it useless for my purposes. (And oddly enough, the "About This Book" references the indices as though they exist in this version.) Try again, ; total fail on the Kindle edition.

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 things 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.

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.

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.

Good book wish it was just a little more user-friendly for the e-book version

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.

I'm a voice teacher, and many of my students are young musical theater singers, and this book is incredibly helpful. It not only lists the songs and characters in each musical, but also includes a list of songs organized by voice type (i.e. Soprano ballads, Male-Female duets, etc).A valuable

resource for voice teachers or musical theater singers!

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