

Chorus - Assignment 2

The Traditional Chorus in traditional Broadway musicals

Write a chorus which a series of wedding guest soloists might sing in a traditional Broadway musical¹, and include at least three verses sung by the soloists which changes the perspective or dramatic context of the words of the chorus. Include a brief prose set-up, so we understand who's getting married; and also include before each of the verses who's to sing this particular verse/chorus, and how (s)he feels about the bride and groom. We're *not* looking for an AABA Refrain. This should be a "chorus," as explored in this unit. You may use the following set-up, if you wish, or create your own. But in either case, write the chorus and all the verses.

Example:

Set-up: A 21-year-old is marrying an 86-year-old billionaire.

Verse 1: The billionaire is positive this is true love, and is happy to have his final years on earth be happy ones. He has never been married before.

Billionaire's verse
Chorus, sung by the billionaire

Verse 2: The bride is afraid all this excitement is going to give her husband-to-be a heart attack before they actually get to the words "I do," so she's hurrying everyone along, faster, faster, faster. She doesn't love the guy; she just wants his money.

Bride's verse
Chorus, sung by the bride

Verse 3: Sung by an 80-year-old woman, who truly loves the 86-year-old billionaire. She has *just* told the guy how she feels, for the first time in her life, and he has just said he'll drop all his plans and marry her right now! But she doesn't have the self-esteem to believe him, and is now trying to talk him into forgetting about her, and marrying the golddigger.

80-year-old woman's verse
Chorus, sung by the 80-year old

Verse 4: The billionaire stands up to the golddigger, and announces his intentions to marry the 80-year old, to the shock of the golddigger, and the delight of the crowd.

Billionaire's final verse
Chorus, sung by the billionaire

¹ In this context, "traditional Broadway musical" means can mean a traditional book musical from the 50's and 60's, such as "Fiddler on the Roof" or even a contemporary Broadway book musical such as "The Wedding Singer" or "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels." But for assignment 11.2, pattern your verse/chorus after traditional models, and hold off experimental forms for assignment 11.3.