

**Loesser, Lerner & Loewe 101:**  
**Selections from *Paint Your Wagon* (1951)**  
**(Lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner & Music by Frederick Loewe)**

**“I’m On My Way”**

STEVE:

Where am I goin’? I don't know  
Where am I headin’? I ain't certain.  
All I know is I am on my way!

When will I be there? I don't know  
When will I get there? I ain't certain.  
All that I know is I am on my way!

Got a dream, boy? Got a song?  
Paint your wagon and come along!

Where am I goin’? I don't know  
When will I get there? I ain't certain.  
What will I get? I ain't equipped to say.  
But who gives a damn,  
We're on our way!

JAKE

Where am I goin’? I don't know  
Where am I headin’? I ain't certain.  
All I know is I am on my way!

When will I be there? I don't know  
When will I get there? I ain't certain.  
All that I know is I am on my way!

MINERS: Got a dream, boy? Got a song?  
Paint your wagon and come along!

SALEM:

Where am I goin’? I don't know  
Where am I headin’? I ain't certain.  
All I know is I am on my way.

MIKE:

When will I be there? I don't know  
When will I get there? I ain't certain.  
All that I know is I am on my way!

MINERS: Got a dream, boy? Got a song?  
Paint your wagon and come along!

SANDY, CROCKER, REUBEN:

When will I be there? I don't know  
When will I get there? I ain't certain.  
All that I know is I am on my way.

MINERS:

When will I be there? I don't know  
When will I get there? I ain't certain.  
All that I know is I am on my way!

Got a dream, boy? Got a song?  
Paint your wagon and come along!

Where am I goin’? I don't know  
When will I get there? I ain't certain.  
What will I get? I ain't equipped to say.  
But who gives a damn,  
We're on our way!

**“I Talk to the Trees”**

JULIO:

I talk to the trees  
But they don't listen to me.  
I talk to the stars  
But they never hear me.

The breeze hasn't time  
To stop and hear what I say.  
I talk to them all in vain.

But suddenly my words  
Reach someone else's ear  
Touch someone else's heart-strings, too.

I tell you my dreams  
And while you're list'ning to me,  
I suddenly see them come true.

I can see us on an April night  
Sipping brandy underneath the stars,  
Reading poems in the candle light  
To the strumming of guitars.

I will tell you all the books I've read;  
And the way I met the King of France.  
Then I'll send the servants off to bed;  
And I'll ask you for a dance.

But suddenly my words  
Reach someone else's ear,  
Touch someone else's heart-strings, too.

I tell you my dreams  
And while you're list'ning to me  
I suddenly see them come true.

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**“They Call the Wind Maria”**

STEVE:

Away out here they got a name  
For wind and rain and fire;  
The rain is Tess, the fire's Jo,  
And they call the wind Maria.

Maria blows the stars around  
And sends the clouds a'flyin'.  
Maria makes the mountains sound  
Like folks were up there dyin'.  
Maria! Maria! They call the wind Maria!

Before I knew Maria's name  
And heard her wail and whinin'  
I had a girl and she had me  
And the sun was always shinin'.  
But then one day I left my girl,  
I left her far behind me.  
And now I'm lost, so goldurn lost  
Not even God can find me

MINERS: Maria! Maria!

STEVE:

They call the wind Maria!

MINERS:

Out here they got a name for rain,  
For wind and fire only.  
But when you're lost and all alone,  
There ain't no word but lonely.

STEVE:

And I'm a lost and lonely man  
Without a star to guide me.  
Maria, blow my love to me;  
I need my girl beside me.

MINERS: Maria! Maria!

STEVE:

They call the wind Maria!

MINERS: Maria! Maria!

STEVE:

Blow my love to me!

**“I Still See Elisa”**

BEN:

I still see Elisa,  
She keeps on returning  
As breathless, young as ever.

I still hear Elisa  
And still feel a yearning  
To hold her against me again.

Her heart was made of holidays;  
Her smile was made of dawn.  
Her laughter was an April song  
That echoes on and on.

Since I saw Elisa,  
The shadows are falling  
And winter is calling above.  
But I still see Elisa  
Whenever I dream of love.

I still hear Elisa  
And still feel a yearning  
To hold her against me again.

Her heart was made of holidays;  
Her smile was made of dawn.  
Her laughter was an April song  
That echoes on and on.

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**“Wandrin’ Star”**

BEN:

I was born under a wand'rin' star.  
I was born under a wand'rin' star.  
Stayin' put can kill ya,  
Standin' still's a curse,  
To settle down can drive ya mad  
But movie' on is worse.  
I was born under a wand'rin' star.

When I learned to talk  
The word they taught me was “goodbye”  
That and “where’s my hat?”  
Are all I’ll need until I die.  
Achin’ for to stop and always achin’ for to  
go;  
Searchin’ but for what I will never know.

I was born under a wand'rin' star.  
I was born under a wand'rin' star.  
I been to lots of places  
Where I'd like to stay.  
But when I like 'em best of all  
Is the day I move away  
I was born under a wand'rin' star.  
A wand'rin' . . . wand'rin' star.

When I get to heaven,  
Tie me to a tree;  
Or I'll begin to roam and soon  
You know where I will be.  
I was born under a wanderin' star  
A wanderin' wanderin' star

**“Wandrin’ Star” (Reprise)**

MINERS:

I was born under a wand'rin' star.  
I was born under a wand'rin' star.

STEVE:

Goin' home to Georgia  
Back to settle down.  
But first I'll try my luck again  
In a new bonanza town.

MINERS:

I was born under a wandrin' star.  
When I learned to talk  
The word they taught me was “goodbye”

That and “where’s my hat?”  
Are all I’ll need until I die.  
Achin’ for to stop and always achin’ for to  
go;  
Searchin’ but for what I will never know.

I was born under a wandrin' star.  
I was born under a wandrin' star.

JAKE:

Gonna build a palace,  
Build it for the men;  
And if I lose it all  
I'll go somewhere else and try again.

MINERS:

I was born under a wand'rin' star  
A wand'rin' . . . wand'rin' star.