Deh vieni, non tardar
from Le Nozze di Figaro (1786)

Oh come, don’t be late

Le Nozze di Figaro is a comic opera that tells the love story of two servants, Figaro and Susanna, whose marriage foils the plans of Count Almaviva to seduce Susanna. Susanna, disguised as the Countess, sings “De viene, non tardar” within earshot of Figaro while he is hiding in the garden.

Deh vieni, non tardar
Oh come, don’t be late

Giunse alfin il momento
The moment finally arrives
Che godrò senz'affanno
When I'll enjoy [experience joy] without haste
In braccio al idol mio
In the arms of my beloved...
Timide cure uscite dal mio petto!
Fearful anxieties get out of my heart!
A turbar non venite il mio diletto
Do not come to disturb my delight.
O come par che all'amoroso foco
Oh, how it seems that to amorous fires
L'amenità del loco,
The comfort of the place,
La terra e il ciel risponda.
Earth and heaven respond,
Come la notte i furti miei risponda.
As the night responds to my ruses.
Deh vieni, non tardar, o gioia bella
Come when love calls you to enjoyment
Vieni ove amore per goder t'appella
Come where love calls you to enjoyment
Finche non splende in ciel notturna face
Until night's torches no longer shine in the sky
Finche l'aria e ancor bruna,
As long as the air is still dark
E il mondo tace.
And the world quiet.
Qui mormora il ruscel, qui scherza l'aura
Here the river murmurs and the light plays
Che col dolce susurro il cor ristaura
That restores the heart with sweet ripples
Qui ridono i fioretti e l'erba e fresca
Here, little flowers laugh and the grass is fresh
Ai piaceri d'amor
Here, everything entices
qui tutto adesca.
one to love's pleasures.
Vieni, ben mio, tra queste piante ascose.
Come, my dear, among these hidden plants.
Vieni, vieni!
Come, come!
Ti vo' la fronte incoronar di rose.
I want to crown you with roses.

[Translation by Naomi Gurt Lind]
Can’t Help Lovin’ Dat Man
from *Show Boat* (1927)

Jerome Kern (1855-1945)  
Oscar Hammerstein II (1895-1960)

*Show Boat* follows the lives of performers, stagehands, and dockworkers on a Mississippi River showboat from 1887 to 1927. “Can’t Help Lovin’ Dat Man” is sung by Julie, the leading lady of the showboat, and the song recurs as one of the show’s main themes.

---

On the Steps of the Palace
from *Into the Woods* (1987)

Stephen Sondheim (b. 1930)

*Into the Woods*, by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine, intertwines the plots of several Brothers Grimm and Charles Perrault fairy tales, including Rapunzel, Cinderella, Jack and the Beanstalk, and Little Red Riding Hood. Cinderella, returning from her last night at the ball, recounts her decision to leave her shoe for the prince to find during the song “On the Steps of the Palace.”

---

Someone Like You
from *Jekyll and Hyde* (1998)

Frank Wildhorn (b. 1959)  
Leslie Bricusse (b. 1931)

*Jekyll and Hyde* is a musical thriller based on the novel *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson. “Someone Like You” is sung at the end of Act One when Lucy Harris, a prostitute who met Dr. Jekyll at his bachelor party, questions his feelings for her.

---

I’m Not Afraid of Anything
from *Songs for a New World* (1995)

Jason Robert Brown (b. 1970)

This song cycle features songs influenced by pop, gospel, and jazz that are all connected by the theme “a moment of decision.” “I’m Not Afraid of Anything” tells the story of a young woman’s realization that the fears of the people she loves have been holding her back.

---

Getting Married Today
from *Company* (1970)

Stephen Sondheim (b. 1930)

*Company* is a musical comedy told in vignettes that revolves around the character of Bobby, five married couples who are his best friends, and his three girlfriends. “Getting Married Today” occurs at the end of Act One when Amy, a member of one of the five couples, gets cold feet before her wedding.