

Outline

- Step I. Thesis Sentence: Eva Cassidy, Barbra Streisand, and Patti LaBelle have the ability to convey clearly songs' beautiful messages.
- Step II. Body Paragraphs:
- A1. Topic Sentence: Eva Cassidy has a varied style that gets songs' messages across to their listeners.
1. "Fields of Gold"
 2. "Over the Rainbow"
 3. "Songbird"
- A2. Concluding Sentence: Cassidy conveys the importance of relationships with people and oneself through "Field of Gold," "Over the Rainbow," and "Songbird."
- B1. Topic Sentence: Barbra Streisand has the unique style that makes songs' meanings very clear.
1. "The Way We Were"
 2. "Cry Me A River"
 3. "People"
- B2. Concluding Sentence: Indeed, Streisand conveys the importance of relationship in "The Way We Were," "Cry Me A River," and "People."
- C1. Topic Sentence: Finally, Patti LaBelle makes changes in tones to let a listener appreciate the lessons provided in every song.
1. "Somebody Loves You Baby"
 2. "I Don't Do Duets"
 3. "Over the Rainbow"
- C2. Concluding Sentence: Obviously, is it not more than lyrics but a performer like LaBelle who makes them take on real meaning?
- Step III. Concluding Paragraph—Topic Sentence: Some female singers have the talent to convey songs' deep-rooted messages.
1. Cassidy's guitar playing and calm, lingering singing style conveys messages of hope.
 2. Streisand's intense singing style conveys messages of hope.
 3. LaBelle's distinctive stage presence

voice convey messages of hope.
 Concluding Paragraph—Soul ("So What") Sentence: Certainly, there are three female songstresses who clearly convey songs' touching messages about relationships with different and very effective styles.

Whom would I pay money and stand in traffic to hear? There are very few people I would spend money or time to hear. After all, I can buy their CDs. However, I have and still pay to hear Patti LaBelle let out a song's message with a clear high C. And, if she were still alive, I would pay to hear Eva Cassidy because of her ability to make a lovely song actually make tears come to my eyes. Thus, Eva Cassidy, Barbra

Streisand, and Patti LaBelle have the ability to convey clearly songs' beautiful messages.

First, Eva Cassidy has a varied style that gets songs' messages across to their listeners. With a smooth strum of the guitar, Cassidy sings the metaphoric lines, "You'll remember me; I'll remember you in the fields of barley. And the sun will meet with its jealous sky as we walk the fields of gold." The love between a couple will be so intense that even the sky will be envious. Cassidy so effortlessly sings this message. And, then, she brings her own rendition to a *Wizard of Oz* favorite, "Over the Rainbow." "Somewhere over the rainbow, blue skies shine" are words that give any listener hope after a relationship or experience has been challenging. Cassidy sings with little orchestration. It is just her guitar and her voice. And with a calm, wispy, yet strong voice, Cassidy projects the hope that "Over the Rainbow" promises. It is with "Songbird" that Cassidy demonstrates her ability to use technology to harmonize with her own voice and she plays the guitar. Love is so very definite in this song: "For you, there'll be no crying; for you, the sun will be shining 'cause I feel when I'm with you, it's all right..the songbirds keep singing like they know the score." Cassidy conveys the importance of relationships with oneself and people through "Fields of Gold," "Over the Rainbow," and "Songbird."

Then, Barbra Streisand has the unique singing style that makes songs' meanings clear. Having seen the movie, *The Way We Were*, when I hear Streisand sing the song, tears come to my eyes. This is a song that nostalgically recalls the happiness now since gone between two previous lovers: "Memories of the way we were." And for the lover who has caused and, finally, realizes his loss, Streisand bellows that he should "cry me a river" because she "cried a river over you." As she begins with the low tone and, then, ends with a crescendo letting the failed lover know he must show his sincerity by "crying a river since I cried a river over you." However, Streisand provides hope for people who may have been dismayed never to give up by singing "People." Indeed, the only way humanity can survive life's challenges, it is imperative man/woman depends on mankind. As Streisand gives her total spirit in the lyrics, "Lovers are the luckiest people in the world...People who need people are the luckiest people in the world." Indeed, Streisand conveys the importance of relationships in "The Way We Were," "Cry Me A River," and "People."

Finally, Patti LaBelle, an R & B diva, makes changes in tones that let a listener appreciate the performed songs. LaBelle's voice clearly lets a listener know that s/he should not hesitate to state one's feelings to

a lover. In “Somebody Loves You Baby,” the lyrics provide reassurance to, perhaps, an embattled individual: “Somebody loves you baby, and, baby, it’s me.” Unfortunately, as in some circumstances, sometimes, the individual is not able to reciprocate. And so, as much as one party wants the relationship to go further, the other party is not ready, as “I Don’t Do Duets” clearly illustrates. LaBelle’s voice almost carries a sorrowful resolve as lyrics recognize that sometimes wrong choices are made: “It seems I always fall for the men with the bedroom eyes.” However, the real power of LaBelle’s voice expounds when she sings “Over the Rainbow.” Having seen her in a live performance, this is truly her hallmark song. For after singing a song with a sorrowful resolve, she resonates with the body movements of a mythological phoenix rising from the ashes of a failed love affair. From the quiet low tones singing “Little blue birds fly” to a rousing “why can’t I,” no one in the audience doubts one can survive any hurt. Indeed, is it not only the lyrics but a performer like LaBelle who makes these words take on real meaning?

Most definitely, some female singers have the talent to convey songs’ deep-rooted messages. These messages make the songs meaningful; Cassidy’s, Streisand’s, and LaBelle’s voices make them beautiful to hear. There is no doubt for whom I would pay and stand in line to hear in concert. Cassidy’s guitar playing and calm, lingering style

conveys messages of hope. Streisand’s intense style conveys messages of hope. LaBelle’s distinctive stage presence and voice convey messages of hope. Certainly there are three female singers who clearly convey songs’ touching messages about relationships with different and very effective styles.

