

Article – May 2022  
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## ***Bloomin' Tunes***

Throughout history, people have drawn inspiration from nature to help express a variety of thoughts, ideas, and emotions through many forms of art. Poets, painters, sculptors, musicians... yes, musicians too, have included elements they observed from the natural world in their artwork.

Though I am not a professional musician, I do enjoy listening to a variety of music. Music, as an art form, has grown by leaps and bounds to become an integral part of our lives. With the development of many genres, especially within the past century, music is everywhere and there is something for everyone, in every stage of life, coincidentally, just like parks.

There are a variety of nature-inspired songs like “Rocking Robin” by Bobby Day, or “It’s Not Easy Being Green” by Kermit the Frog, “Honey Bee” by Blake Shelton, “Poison Ivy” by The Coasters, and “Butterfly” by Mariah Carey. Are you humming a tune yet?

Some songs may already be playing in your mind right now, but who else has used nature concepts in songs? Let’s do a quick on-line search. Wow, there are so many! One favorite topic seems to include flowers – very fitting for this month as flowers are blooming all around us.

Actually, a more specific “flowers in music” search has yielded many songs I have never heard before, and some that I don’t know as I would personally listen to again. It is much like nature, some people like to snuggles with snakes or pick up worms while others dread seeing flowers in bloom since they have allergies from the pollen that is produced.

That is the great thing about music and nature – there is something for everyone.

Some songs that the “flowers in music” internet search brought up include “Build Me Up Buttercup” by The Foundations, “Life Is A Flower” by Ace of Base, and “Bring My Flowers Now” by Tanya Tucker that use flowers as a way to express positive feelings of hope, love, beauty in life, happiness, unity, purity, enlightenment, and strength to overcome obstacles.

Other songs use flowers to express sadness, loss, heartbreak or a darker side of humanity like drug abuse, danger, mystery, and vulnerability. The internet search seems to include many more of these types of songs such as “Every Rose Has Its Thorn” by Poison, “You Don’t Bring Me Flowers Anymore” By Barbara Streisand And Neil Diamond, and “Bed Of Roses” by Bon Jovi.

There are even some old hymns that have come up in my search. An 1848 hymn of the Church of Ireland, written by Cecil Frances (Humphries) Alexander was titled “Each Little Flower That Opens”, “In A Bulb There Is A Flower” by Natalie Sleeth, and “He Will Never Fail To See You Through” whose author is unknown.

So, you can see, the natural world is truly for everyone, for mind, body, and soul. It is available for everyone to draw inspiration and healing from in any point of life. The benefits of parks are endless.

If you are in need of some inspiration or solitude, you can explore the park trails on your own or participate in programming with others. You never know, the next hit song may be inspired from a park here in Seneca County!

For information on Seneca Parks locations and upcoming programming, please visit the Seneca Parks website at [www.SenecaCountyParks.com](http://www.SenecaCountyParks.com).

“Every Rose Has Its Thorn” by Poison;  
“Bed Of Roses”, Bon Jovi  
“Build Me Up Buttercup”, The Foundations  
“Life Is A Flower” by Ace Base;  
“Supermarket Flowers” by Ed Sheeran;  
“Kiss From A Rose” by Seal;  
“Like A Rose” by Ashley Monroe;  
“The Rose”, Bette Midler  
“Lotus Flower”, Radiohead  
“Marigold”, Nirvana  
“(Listen To The) Flower People” By Spinal Tap  
“Tiptoe Thru The Tulips” By Al Dubin And Joe Burke  
“Dead Flowers” By The Rolling Stones  
“Black Roses Red” By Alana Grace  
“Wildflowers” By Tom Petty  
“Amaryllis” By Shinedown  
“Coming Up Roses” By Keira Knightley  
“Cherry Blossom Girl” By Air  
“Rose In December” By Halestorm  
“Forget Me Nots” By Patrice Rushen  
“Daisy” By Zedd Ft. Julia Michaels  
“You Don’t Bring Me Flowers Anymore” By Barbara Streisand And Neil Diamond  
“Fading Like A Flower” By Roxette  
“Flower” By Kylie Minogue  
“Two Dozen Roses” By Shenandoah  
“Lilac Wine” By Jeff Buckley  
“Daisy” By Zedd Ft. Julia Michaels

Songs about Flowers:

“Every Rose Has Its Thorn”, Poison

Love may be wonderful, but it's far from flawless, as Poison points out in their number-one single. This 1988 power ballad epitomizes the peak of hair metal.

The song is about a failed love relationship, and Brett Michaels wrote it. He was on the road when he dialed his girlfriend's number, only to be interrupted by a man's voice. The romance ended just as his career was gaining traction, but it provided us a love ballad about the growing distance between two lovers on the verge of heartbreak.

"Life Is A Flower", Ace Base

Ace of Base's song "Flowers" is another on the list of songs about flowers. This song was written to focus on the better aspects of life. Flowers are often referred to and described as art, as previously said.

Ace of Base wanted to wake people up to the idea that life is half full and beautiful. Flowers are part of the song since they have a reputation for making people happy. This is factual, especially with bright flowers with happy personalities, such as sunflowers.

"Like A Rose", Ashley Monroe

In her young life, the narrator of this 2013 country song has suffered a great deal of tragedy. The dad died when she was just 13 years old, and her family began to fall apart. As a means of escaping her home environment, she had to marry an inappropriate man too soon. Despite her poor choices and circumstances, the narrator might marvel at how she has managed to emerge as a rose.

"Supermarket Flowers", Ed Sheeran

In this 2017 pop song, old photographs, wilting grocery flowers, and get-well cards are painful reminders of the narrator's newly dead mother. They depict "fond memories of a life lived." The narrator is naturally sad and heartbroken that the angel in his life has returned home.

"Kiss From A Rose", Seal

Officially released in the mid-90s, the hit song sold more than eight million records worldwide. Seal, a British singer, recorded the song. Alongside its massive record sales, the track had earned significant honors. At its debut, those familiar with Kiss from a Rose were curious about its inspiration. It's no wonder that the fans were intrigued by the music. Seal, unfortunately, never went into great detail about his motives. Instead, he stated that a relationship inspired the song.

"The Rose", Bette Midler

Miss M was in her heyday when she produced this 1979 pop classic. Her voice felt heavenly. Her hit song expresses that love can be brutal and painful and has a redeeming beauty.

“Lotus Flower”, Radiohead

Your knowledge about the lotus flower can help you interpret the song. The lotus blossom is [a Buddhist emblem of unity, purity, and enlightenment](#). It emerges from the muck and blooms above the murky water surface. Lotus flowers are reported to have psychedelic qualities in some varieties.

In this 2011 rock song, the writer explains his desire to his sweetheart to an addiction, and uses the lotus flower as a metaphor for their tight bond.

“Run For The Roses”, Dan Fogelberg

We all adore baby horses. Released in 1982, this soft rock is the unofficial Kentucky Derby theme. It praises the fate of a newborn colt.

Aside from lush meadows, the baby thoroughbred appears destined to mature and compete in the world’s most prestigious horse event, the Kentucky Derby.

This is a three-year-old horse race known as ‘The Most Exciting Two Minutes In Sports.’ A blanket of roses is also placed over the winning horse.

“Bed Of Roses”, Bon Jovi

It was all about the “swagger” when Bon Jovi broke through in the late 1980s. Mr. Jovi had softened substantially by 1993 when [his Keep the Faith](#) album was released. The most popular hit from the album was Bed of Roses.

This song was only one of many that demonstrated the band’s transformation into a more mature sound. This song is nearly six and a half minutes long, which is considered long by today’s standards. Jovi was regarded as one of the best songwriters of his generation, and this song was written in a hotel room while he was drunk and mourning his wife. On the Billboard Hot 100, Bed of Roses peaked at number ten.

“Marigold”, Nirvana

Kurt Cobain was a fan of herbaceous sunflowers. While Nirvana’s drummer Dave Grohl wrote and recorded the original in 1992, Nirvana’s version, released as a B-side to Heart-Shaped Box in 1993, is most remembered.

“Build Me Up Buttercup”, The Foundations

The basis of this song is that the more the guy's partner betrays his vows, the more he pursues her. He wonders why she continuously builds him up, only to disappoint him. The composer of this 1968 pop tune pours his heart out for the girl of his dreams.

The lady he affectionately refers to as 'Buttercup' continues to wreak havoc on his mind. Buttercups are noted for their spectacular beauty and because they can be deadly to a few animals. Thus his nicknames are probably suitable.

### **13. "(Listen To The) Flower People" By Spinal Tap**

Spinal Tap had their first big hit by embracing a psychedelic folk vibe between changing their name from the Thamesmen and releasing *Smell the Glove*. Tap not only had the opportunity to tour the world with "(Listen to the) Flower People," but they also validated the reality of the flower people and the importance of listening to them. In addition, Tap's technique impacted a slew of up-and-comers, from Nigel Tufnel's Mozart licks to Derek Small's pitch-perfect shushing. Kiss' "Under the Rose" was undoubtedly influenced by "Flower People," while the music from 'The Elder' cut could have been a satire.

### **15. "Dead Flowers" By The Rolling Stones**

The Rolling Stones are experienced in flower-themed music. They named a 1967 American collection *Flowers* and recorded a song called "Dandelion," Keith Richards even named his [daughter Dandelion](#). The Stones' song "Dead Flowers" was one of their many attempts into country music, with singer Mick Jagger adding a solid twang to his voice for laughs. The [song is more about drugs](#) than flowers. Because heroin is derived from the poppy, the title could be interpreted as a nod to that substance. Keef would never say no to a package of "dead flowers" back in the 1970s, even if sending them via mail wasn't the best idea.

### **"Black Roses Red" By Alana Grace**

Danger, mystery, vulnerability, or dark feelings are all represented by black roses. Black roses are an extremely dark hue of red, purple, or crimson.

In this 2009 pop song, a woman feels empty and drowns in her loneliness. "Can you turn my black roses red?" she asks the object of her devotion, despite her fear of rejection and her desire for respite from her misery.

### **"Plastic Roses" By Jessica Sanchez**

Fake flowers are the essence of deception. Unfortunately, the heroine in this 2013 pop song is disappointed in love after falling for a player who does not reciprocate her feelings. She lies on the floor, crushed and deceived, smelling the artificial roses left by her plastic-hearted lover.

### **“Wildflowers” By Tom Petty**

The title track sets the tone for what is to come on Tom Petty’s best album as the understated opener to the Wildflowers album. Tom wishes his subject freedom “among the wildflowers” and subsequently adds they belong “near to me” in the album’s first song, which captures the album’s gloomy tone. True, it’s a love song, but not in the romantic perception. Perhaps it’s a father’s blessing to his adult child.

### **“Amaryllis” By Shinedown**

You might be perplexed as to why the amaryllis would inspire a rock song. The lily is the most used term for the amaryllis. It is prized for its ability to flourish indoors in the winter. Most cultures frequently use it in funeral arrangements as a sign of innocence and transition.

In this yearning melody from 2012, the protagonist is confronting a death of sorts and evokes unwelcome catastrophes and his recent eulogy. He invites the amaryllis to bloom and exhibit its hues, stuck between an old identity that persists and one that is just beginning to flourish.

### **“Coming Up Roses” By Keira Knightley**

This song is from the soundtrack of the [2013 film Begin Again](#) and is about a relationship where everything is going well for a single party.

As both of their lives take divergent paths, the writer discovers the changes that are coming. She spends her time trying to make peace with it, but she’s torn between clinging on to the present and letting go of the past.

### **“Cherry Blossom Girl” By Air**

When you’re shy, you can miss out on the love of your life. The protagonist of this 2004 pop song is falling head over heels for a lady he refers to as “the cherry blossom girl.” He can’t summon the guts to approach her, despite the encouragement of others. Cherry blossom girl is a slang word for the girl of one’s dreams, someone who is attractive on the outside and has a lovely soul.

### **“Tiptoe Thru The Tulips” By Al Dubin And Joe Burke**

This delightful short tune was composed in 1929. Nick Lucas, a jazz guitarist, recorded his version, which topped the charts the same year. According to the study, it was also featured in the first Looney Tunes animation, "Sinkin' in the Bathtub," according to study.

### **"Rose In December" By Halestorm**

This is one of the best songs about flowers that talk about that once-in-a-lifetime lover you wish to spend your life with. Released in 2001, this love song is about a guy who swears that even though others have turned away, he will steadfastly endure through the most difficult of circumstances till the return of his soulmate.

### **"Lilac Wine" By Jeff Buckley**

James Shelton wrote Lilac Wine in 1950. It's about a forlorn lover who becomes drunk with wine made from a lilac tree. Many artists have covered it since then, including Miley Cyrus. Nevertheless, Jeff Buckley's rendition is possibly the most well-known.

### **"Daisy" By Zedd Ft. Julia Michaels**

Daisy, the girl, named after a gorgeous blossom, makes poor decisions when it comes to love. The narrator of this 2015 pop sensation tries to save Daisy from a shattered heart. Understandably, he believes that he is key to Daisy's future happiness if only they were together.

### **"You Don't Bring Me Flowers Anymore" By Barbara Streisand And Neil Diamond**

In 1978, this song was initially planned as the theme song for a television show. It was the top hit song at its release. "You don't bring me flowers, you don't sing me love songs, you hardly talk to me." were the words of Streisand and Diamond, who were a couple at the time.

### **"Fading Like A Flower" By Roxette**

Other feelings may endure even if love is gone. In this 1991 hit, the protagonist is still trying to let go of her ex-boyfriend.

She reaches out for him just out of habit, hoping but not receiving his presence. She fades like a bloom without water just by seeing him.

### **"Flower" By Kylie Minogue**



The narrator of this 2012 pop song, written when the famous singer was still undergoing treatment for breast cancer, addresses a future kid whom she may or may not ever see. This melancholy song reflects a desire to keep life lovely.

Kylie Minogue understands how much parents adore their children from when they are a sparkle in their father's eyes till the last time they see them.

### **30. "Two Dozen Roses" By Shenandoah**

In this 1989 country song, a man is sad after being abandoned by his unfaithful partner. He ponders whether there is a way to reclaim her love.

Sorry isn't always enough for what you've done to someone else or for what they've done to you.

### **"Forget Me Nots" By Patrice Rushen**

In this 1989 song, a man is sad after being abandoned by the unfaithful partner. He ponders whether there is a way to reclaim her love.

Sorry isn't always enough when it comes to what you've done to someone else or what they've done to you.

Flowers are not only lovely, but they also have a number of properties that make them ideal representations of numerous emotions and events in the world. This is why there are so many flower-themed songs available to listen to. Even if the message isn't totally about the flower, the flower is referenced in some way. Four of these songs were covered above, and they are considered to be among the best in the world.

<https://www.musicgrotto.com/songs-about-flowers/>

He Will Never Fail to See You Through  
Author unknown

The withered flowers hold the seeds of promise,  
The winter days are harbingers of spring;

The trials that may often seem most bitter  
May bring to you the joy that makes you sing.

The sorrows that have come to you unbidden  
Have often brought a peace before unknown.;  
the Maker of your destiny is striving  
To fit your heart to be His royal throne

Your roses may have thorns, but don't forget  
Your thorns may have some roses, too;  
The Lord of great compassion loves you yet,  
And He will never fail to see you through.

## IN THE BULB THERE IS A FLOWER (HYMN OF PROMISE)

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**BY** [NATALIE SLEETH](#)

In the bulb there is a flower;  
in the seed, an apple tree;  
in cocoons, a hidden promise:  
butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter  
there's a spring that waits to be,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence,  
seeking word and melody;  
there's a dawn in every darkness  
bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future;  
what it holds, a mystery,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning;  
in our time, infinity;  
in our doubt there is believing;  
in our life, eternity.  
In our death, a resurrection;  
at the last, a victory,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.



## Hymn of Promise

*Unison*

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple  
 2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o -  
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i -

tree; in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be  
 dy; there's a dawn in ev - ery dark - ness bring - ing hope to you and  
 ty; in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni -

free! In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to  
 me. From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter -  
 ty; in our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to -

be, un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.  
 y, un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.  
 ry, un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

"Each Little Flower That Opens", Cecil Frances (Humphreys) Alexander (1848, Church of Ireland)

*All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful:  
The Lord God made them all.*

Each little flower that opens,  
Each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colors,  
And made their tiny wings.

*All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful:  
The Lord God made them all.*

The rich man in his castle,  
The poor man at his gate,  
He made them, high or lowly,  
And ordered their estate.

*All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful:  
The Lord God made them all.*

The purple headed mountains,  
The river running by,  
The sunset and the morning  
That brightens up the sky.

*All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful:  
The Lord God made them all.*

The cold wind in the winter,  
The pleasant summer sun,  
The ripe fruits in the garden:  
God made them every one.

*All things bright and beautiful,*

*All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful:  
The Lord God made them all.*

The tall trees in the greenwood,  
The meadows where we play,  
The rushes by the water,  
We gather every day.

*All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful:  
The Lord God made them all.*

God gave us eyes to see them,  
And lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty,  
Who has made all things well.

*All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful:  
The Lord God made them all.*

<http://ehymnbook.org/CMMS/hymnSong.php?id=pd00292>