

Sweet Smell of Success (SSoS) Soprano Notes
October 6, 2025

NO REHEARSAL NEXT WEEK (10/13)

General notes

- Memorize! Seriously. No books on stage.
- Only 5 rehearsals after tonight, before the sitz.
- We sound young—don't.
- Ted will be “casting” us into different functionary groups, e.g., opera goers, night club patrons, baseball watchers, families, secretaries, etc. For this purpose he needs pictures of everyone. Stay tuned for instructions from Julie. (You can also send me these for the directory.)
- Over the next two weeks, listen to “what if” and “Dirt.”
- Broadway show video is available on YouTube

Music Notes

As mentioned last week, lyrics and music may change, so be prepared to be flexible.

Rumor/Column

- Opening bars 5-8 will probably be cut
- Bar 27, watch the half step on “player”
- Bar 33, attack the “oo”, lift before “it's”
- Bar 37, back off then crescendo on “oo” (messa di voce) into “what”
- Bar 47, accent “blow”, then back off. Don't be late on the “by”s.
- S2 work on the entrances at bars 33 and 37. Notes are hard to find. (We are on C natural and C# respectively.)
- P 8, Sops don't sing Bar 110; come back in at Bar 111
- Bars 113 and 117, cut off “gossip” cleanly on beat 4.
- Bars 118 and 119, accents on blow
- New page 10 will be coming (new words)
- Page 12-14 is now full chorus when it says Sidney and/or PAs; we sing down the octave
- Bars 169 and 171, toss off the sixteenth notes
- Page 17 will probably be cut, but we might sing it. If it's cut, Page 18 (“And the presses...”) will segue from JJ's “no hatchet ever got buried deep enough” dialogue on P 16.
- We got new pages 22+; note new words.
- Sops are second line down.
- Bar 294, 296 note the rests at end of bar.
- Bar 297+, build until the end
- Bar 300 S2 sing a D. Bar 303 S2 sing the Eb. (S1 as written)

Welcome to the Night

- Reprise (4A) is CUT!
- P 15, Bar 198C, lyric is “Sidney’s lookin’ slick”
- Keep working on precision and tuning of the melody

Rumor/Column Lyric

**Someone started a rumor
About me, about you
Such a terrible rumor
What I wouldn't give to make it...true**

**With a wink and a whisper
They've been linking our names
(Men) With a wing and a whisper
(All) Someone's playin' dirty little...games**

**Oo, it's good to be in an inuendo with you
Oo, what they're saying you did I wish you would do**

**If you're up for a rumor
(Men) It you're itchin' to know
(All) I could tell you a rumor
Blow by blow by blow by blow by ...blow**

**Someone started a rumor
(Altos) rumor
Rumor**

**(Sidney) Gotta get into JJ
(A+T) JJ
(All) JJ
Gotta give him the gossip
Gotta tell what you know
Gotta give him the gossip
Blow by blow by blow by blow by ...blow**

(Page 10—new words to come)

**He runs his column like a road show gangster
But it's the column, it's the column you need
Because it happens he's a road show gangster
Sixty million people read
But what sixty million people don't know is how the system works
(spoken answering Sidney) yup, you bet, JJ, ouch
(Sidney) JJ says what'll you give me, here's where you crawl like a bug
Just give him dirt, make it hurt
He gives your client a plug**

**And the presses are rollin'
(Men) Bangin' out the early edition
(All) The presses are rollin'
Loud enough to wake the dead
And the city is out there
Waitin' for the early edition**

**Someone started a rumor
About me, about you
Such a terrible JJ
Gotta give him the gossip
Gotta tell what you know**

Gotta give it to JJ

(Altos) JJ

JJ

Blow by blow by blow by blow

Blow by blow by blow by blow

Blow by blow by

Blow!