

SONGWRITING CONSIDERATIONS:

SIMPLICITY

USE PROPER ENGLISH

WRITE WHAT YOU BELIEVE AND ABOUT WHICH YOU ARE PASSIONATE; IF YOU DO NOT, IT WILL SURELY SHOW

PERFECT RHYME, PERFECT METER

DO NOT RHYME A WORD WITH ITSELF

DO NOT USE CONTRACTIONS

For example: replace "that I've" or "that she's" with "I have" and "she is" . . . it is guaranteed to be more graceful and clean

BE WARY OF THE WORD *THAT*, FOR MOST OFTEN IT AMOUNTS TO UNNECESSARY CLUTTER

SHARE A VALUABLE STORY OR INSIGHT, PREFERABLY ONE WHICH IS POSITIVE AND CASTS THE SINGER IN A POSITIVE LIGHT

WHAT IS THE STORY, IN ITS ESSENCE? (EXPRESS THIS WELL AND YOU HAVE SOMETHING GOING)

WHAT IS THE LINE, IN ITS ESSENCE? (EXPRESS THIS WELL AND YOU HAVE SOMETHING GOING)

WHAT IS THE WORD, IN ITS ESSENCE? (EXPRESS THIS WELL AND YOU HAVE SOMETHING GOING)

THE MORE YOU DESCRIBE SOMETHING, THE MORE YOU DIMINISH IT

BE WILLING TO MAKE UP YOUR OWN WORDS

AS IN ALL ART, EACH ELEMENT MUST BE ESSENTIAL, OR IT HAS NO PLACE IN THE ART

THERE IS ALWAYS ANOTHER WAY TO EXPRESS THE IDEA, LIKELY NOT IN YOUR DESIRED TIME FRAME

REPLACE *USED TO* WITH *ONCE*

REPLACE *BECAUSE* (IN ALL ITS VARIATIONS) WITH *FOR*

CUTE IS TYPICALLY NOT CUTE

IF STUCK, WORK RHYMING WORDS BACKWARD. THAT IS, IDENTIFY THE WORD TO BE RHYMED, FIND THE RIGHT WORD TO RHYME WITH IT, THEN LOOK AT WHAT WORDS WOULD BE NEEDED TO END THE DIFFICULT PHRASE IN THE RHYMING WORD YOU SELECTED.

LESS IS MORE; WHITE SPACE IS OFTEN THE MOST BRILLIANT COLOR ON YOUR PALETTE

WRITE ONE LINE, THEN TAB/INDENT EACH SUCCEEDING LINE, SO AS TO FACILITATE EASY EYE-FOLLOWING ON YOUR DRAFTS

IF DONE RIGHT, SONGWRITING IS A CRUEL MISTRESS AND ONE OF THE MOST DIFFICULT OF HUMAN ENDEAVORS

WRITERS AND PUBLISHERS CLAIM TO OWN THE WORKS, BUT NO ONE OWNS THE WORDS OR THE IDEAS THEY CONVEY

WHEN THE SONG IS OVER, DO YOU IMMEDIATELY REMEMBER IT AND ITS TITLE?