

The Cheese Stands Alone

Song #1: The Cheese Stands Alone

The farmer in the dell, the farmer in the dell.
Hi-ho the derrio, the farmer in the dell.

The farmer takes the wife, the farmer takes the wife.
Hi-ho the derrio, the farmer takes the wife.

The wife takes the nurse, the wife takes the nurse.
Hi-ho the derrio, the wife takes the nurse.

The nurse takes the child, the nurse takes the child.
Hi-lio the derrio, the nurse takes the child.

The child takes the dog, the child takes the dog.
Hi-ho the derrio, the child takes the dog.

The dog takes the cat, the dog takes the cat.
Hi-lio the derrio, the dog takes the cat.

The cat takes the rat, the cat takes the rat.
Hi-ho the derrio, the cat takes the rat.

The rat takes the cheese, the rat takes the cheese.
Hi-ho the derrio, the rat takes the cheese.

The farmer takes the wife,
the wife takes the nurse,
the nurse takes the child,
the child takes the dog,
the dog takes the cat takes the rat takes the cheese!

The cheese stands alone! The cheese stands alone!
Hi-ho the derrio, the cheese stands alone!
Hi Ho!

Scene 1

(Cheesy ends up on one side of the stage and everybody else on the other.)

Cheesy: (to Mr. Rat, in a loud, DESPERATE stage whisper)
Mr. Rat, come back. Can't you see,
I'm standing all alone?
I thought you were the truest friend
that I had ever known.

Mr. Rat: (hoping the others don't hear)

I can't come over there with you.

They'll all make fun of me.

We can only be best friends

when no one else can see!

(Cheesy goes over and tries to pull Mr. Rat back to her side.)

Cheesy:

Why are you acting out this way?

We've been best friends for years.

And now you're going to stay away

because of pressure from your peers?

(They continue to argue in a tug-of-war with Cheesy pulling on one of Mr. Rat's arms or tail and the rest of the cast pulling on the other. There are lots of ad libs ... "Come over here!" ... " Stay with us!"... "Come on!"... "Let go of me!" ... "Ouch!" etc. It gets very loud until finally the farmer yells ...)

Farmer: Stop!!

(Everyone freezes with Cheesy all alone again on one side of the stage. They are all upset with Cheesy because they think that Cheesy started the argument and disrupted the peaceful scene.)

Farmer: (very frustrated)

It's happened again, right after the song.

There's always one in the crowd.

Everyone else is going along,

but one's got his head in the cloud!

Wife:

You're supposed to go on down the line,
just like the cat took the rat!

It's all a matter of design.

You can't look back like that.

Farmer:

Every time it's the same old story;
someone ruins the song.

Just when things are hunky dory,
someone gets it wrong! (he glares at the cheese)

(Farmer leaves in disgust)

Wife:

It's the cheese. You know, he does it for spite.

Then he winds up on his own.

If we go left, he always goes right
and always ends up all alone.

Nurse:

What's his problem? Can't he change
and go along with us all?
Is he really totally strange?
Do we need a cheese overhaul?

Child:

He likes to march to the beat of his drum
whenever we perform.
He has a lot to overcome,
and he doesn't want to conform.

Dog:

It's really "ruff" being a cheese
and always last in line.
If he really wasn't so hard to please
I think he'd be just fine!

Cat:

So he's the one! I see it all now;
it's only him he's trying to please.
When the farmer comes back from storing the plow,
we'll tell him, "It's the cheese!"

All: We'll tell him, "It's the cheesi?"

Song #2: "It's the Cheese"

It's the cheese! It's the cheese!
It's the cheese, if you please!
He's put all of us in a bit of a squeeze.
Say it, oh please, ev'rybody agrees:
It's the cheese!

When you're out for the day, ev'rything can be swell.
But then you discover a powerful smell.
Cheddars to Bries, we can smell them with ease:
It's the cheese!

Cheese in the morning! Cheese ev'ry night!
Cheese on the left, and cheese on the right!
Cheese on a burger is a beautiful sight!
Come on ev'rybody say "Cheese!"

When you order a pizza in my neighborhood,

just what makes it taste so incredibly good?
Ask maitre d's, they will give guarantees:
It's the cheese!

It's the cheese! It's the cheese!
It's the cheese, if you please!
He's put all of us in a bit of a squeeze.
Say it, oh please, ev'rybody agrees:
It's the cheese!

C!H!E!E!S!E!
Come on ev'rybody say,
You can shout it, that's O. K.
Come on ev'ry body say: "Cheese!"

Scene 2

Cheesy:

I don't know why you are so upset
I do the best I can!
Just let me be the way I am.
I won't mess up your plan.

Wife:

Well, what are we supposed to do
with someone of his kind?
How are we supposed to live
with a cheese so set in his mind?

Nurse:

Should we even be his friend
if he won't go along?
Maybe now's the time to end
his singing in our song.

Child:

That's it. Cheese, we've all decided
it's time for you to go.
Your opinions are just two one-sided
to be in the farmer's show.

Cheesy:

You mean, you'd kick me out like that,
right now in mid production?
I know I sing a little flat,

but it's just the introduction.

Dog:

It's not your singing that we mind.
You do know how to croon.
It's your opinions that we find
a trifle out of tune.

All: A trifle out of tune! (all rubbing their ears as if they have heard a bad sound)

Cheesy:

What is it that I said, my friends,
that made you so upset?
Perhaps I still can make amends,
so this trouble you'll forget.

(there is much whispering in a huddle and then...)

Cat:

Someone said they overheard
you say you liked the rat!
Now you're a cheese and that's absurd.
We can't put up with that! Meow!

All: We can't put up with that!! Meow!

Cheesy:

It's true, I really like the rat.
We get along just fine.
In fact we've never had a spat.
He is a friend of mine!

(There is an uproar ... "He can't be your friend" ... "He's the rat" ... "You're the cheese"

"That doesn't make any sense" ... etc.)

Farmer:

But that's the problem, can't you see?
The cheese can't like the rat!
You must know he's your enemy,
just like his is the cat!

All: Just like his is the cat!

(the cat smiles)

Mr. Rat: (trying to be angry with his friend)

Don't be silly, Mr. Cheese,
liking me won't do!

For any minute, just as I please,
I'll take a bite of you! (wagging his finger at Cheesy)

All: He'll take a bite of you!! (wagging their fingers at Cheesy)

Cat:

Let's move along now everyone
to a new neighborhood.
Our friendship with this cheese is done.
Let's leave him here for good. Meow!
(all exit except Cheesy)

Song #3: "All Alone"

(Cheesy)

I'm all alone again.
Haven't got a friend.
Not even a cracker to lie on!
I'm nobody's chum,
a mis'erable bum,
with nobody's shoulder to cry on!

(All)

What's wrong with liking somebody new?
What's wrong with taking a stand?
All that he really wanted to do
was offer a new friend his hand.

Alone again, alone again,
alone again, alone!

(Cheesy)

It isn't any fun bein' only one,
and feelin' like nobody wants me.
I know in the end,
that I'd be their friend.
But now that sad feeling still haunts me.

(All)

What's wrong with liking somebody new?
What's wrong with taking a stand?
All that he really wanted to do
was offer a new friend his hand.

Alone again, alone again,

alone again, alone!

Alone again, alone.

Scene 4

Telegram Man:

Telegram! Telegram!

A telegram for you!

When you're feeling down and out,
a telegram will do!

Cheesy:

Telegram? Telegram?

A telegram for me?

Where on earth did it come from?

Quick, I want to see!

Telegram Man:

It came to me from far way,
and I opened it, I admit.

It says your relatives are coming today
for a cheerful cheesy visit.

Cheesy:

My relatives are coming, you say?

I can't believe my ears,
but I can smell them miles away,
for they have aged for years!

Telegram Man:

Cheeses and a couple of curds,
I think I read it right.

One thing certain and, mark my words,
there'll be a hot time in Cheese Town tonight!

(The cheeses from all over the world storm on to the stage in a raucous party song.)

Song #4: "Hot Time in Cheese Town"

(Refrain: All)

Here we come! Gonna make it fun!

Gonna party on! Bring in anyone!

Gonna keep it up 'til we get it right!

Gonna be a hot time in Cheese Town tonight!

Ev'ryone, bring a friend along!
Gonna dance all night! Have a sing-along!
Have a Heart-to-Heart, and a hearty appetite.
Gonna be a hot time in Cheese Town tonight!

(Rap Solos)

Gouda: I came from Holland in an open Barracuda.
Friends call me aged, but you can call me Gouda!

Brie: Flew in from France with my cousin, Camembert.
I'm the best Brie that you'll find anywhere!

(All-sung) Gonna be a hot time in Cheese Town tonight!

Feta: Off the boat from Greece with my cousin, Scarletta.
We'd like to introduce you to a little bit of Feta!

Limburger: Ya! I'm German and I'm proud to proclaim
I'm good cheese! Limburger is the name!

(All-sung) Gonna be a hot time in Cheese Town tonight!

Swiss: Fin'lly made it here and I guess you couldn't miss,
I'm so full of holes that I must be Swiss!

Fondue: Some like it hotter, I can melt right on cue!
I'm Swiss too, you can call me Fondue!

(All-sung) Gonna be a hot time in Cheese Town tonight!

Gorgonzola: I'm Gorgonzola! And I brought along a fella!
Get a load o' my brother, Buffalo Mozzarella!

Sharp Cheddar: Ev'rybody's here, it just doesn't get any better!
I'm the last one to arrive and you can call me
Sharp Cheddar!

(go back to beginning and repeat Refrain)

Scene 5

(The Cheese Party recognizes that Cheesy is still looking very sad.)

Velveeta: (in a husky voice)
Hey there, friend, what perfect timing.

I'm very glad to meet ya!
I'm the one with silver lining
that they all call Velveeta!

Cheesy: (sadly) Hi.

Velveeta:

What's the matter, Cheesy?
Why on earth are you so down?
Everyone is happy
' when Velveeta comes to town!

Limburger: (in German accent)

Looks like you lost your very best mate,
and that will never do.

Maybe we showed up a little late;
but, is there anything we can do?

All: Is there anything we can do?

Cheesy:

You're right, I lost my friend, the rat,
and I don't understand.

Never before did we have a spat.
I thought that things were grand.

All: (shocked) You like a rat!!

Cheesy: (resignedly) I like a rat.

All: (resignedly) He likes a rat.

Velveeta:

Well if you like the rat and he likes you,
then what can be the matter?

The worse that could happen it seems to me,
is the rat could end up fatter.

Gouda: (in Dutch accent)

I think I see where the problem lies;
the rat is feeling the squeeze.

Everyone is telling him
he can't befriend a cheese!

Swiss Cheese: (accent)

But if you want to be a friend,
you have to give it your all.
Sooner or later or 'round the bend,
that friend will hear your call.

Mozzarella: (in Italian accent)

Sometimes you have to hold your ground,
stick up for what you know.
That's the way the world goes 'round,
that's the way we grow.

Gorgonzola: (accent)

It may not always be so easy,
but if you think you're right,
don't you give up, Mr. Cheesy,
without a proper fight.

Brie: (French accent)

Don't worry if you're the only wheel,
sitting on a shelf.
Always keep an even keel
and always be yourself.

Song #5: "Be Yourself"

Be yourself. It's O. K.
Be yourself on ev'ry single day!
Be yourself, and you'll know what to do.
Just be true to noone else but you!

Be yourself. Do your best.
Be yourself and you can pass the test.
Be yourself and if you need a friend,
then we'll all be right there in the end!

You may not understand.
We learn from day to day.
But when you take command,
then for sure you'll find your way!

(March Break)

Be yourself. Just be strong.
Be yourself and you will not go wrong.
Oh, ev'ry day, ev'ry way,
do it right along!
Be yourself and stay true
to your own song!

Scene 5

Fondue: (French accent)

You really like a rat the best?

Now I think I've heard it all!
But if that's the case, forget the rest.
Let's give that rat a call.

All: (calling offstage) Let's give that rat a call!

(Mr. Rat enters)

Mr. Rat: (looking around at all of the cheese)

I heard somebody wanted me,
so I came right away.
And since I'm feeling quite hungry,
I'd say this looks okay!

Sharp Cheddar:

Go ahead Cheesy, here's your chance;
tell him a thing or two.
We'll be right here if you need us.
We won't abandon you!

Mr. Rat:

What is it Cheesy? What's the beef?
What did you want to say?
Tell me now and make it brief.
I haven't got all day.

(All of the Cheeses are encouraging Cheesy. "Go ahead. Cheesy, tell him!"
etc.)

Cheesy: (with determination)

Mr. Rat, I'm quite upset.
I tried to be your friend,
and all you've done is cause regret
and bite me in the end.

Cheesy: (getting more riled up)

I have to tell you eyes to eyes,
you can never have too many friends.
I think it's time you apologize
and try to make amends.

Mr. Rat: (softening)

Well, I never knew you felt that way,
that your feelings were so strong.
I hardly even know what to say.
Could it be that I was wrong?

Cheesy:

The farmer took his wife.

The wife took the nurse.

Brie: (French)

The nurse took the child.

The child took the dog.

Gouda: (Dutch)

The dog took the cat.

The cat took the rat.

Velveeta: (not in a rhymy voice)

And you left poor Cheesy standing there all alone without a friend in the world
and we all think that's mean!

All: And we all think that's mean!

Swiss Cheese: (strongly to Mr. Rat)

Cheesy here is the bravest thing
that ever sat on a platter.

He'd be a friend to anything,
and we think that should matter!

Cheddar: (to Mr. Rat)

So what, if he didn't go in order,
and looked your way instead?

A friendship ought to know no border!
What's happening in your head?

Mr. Rat:

To tell you the truth, it's all been a game.
Our friendship can now become permanent.
I'm really a cheese eater only by name.
The fact is I'm lactose intolerant.

All: (all happily surprised) The fact is he's lactose intolerant!

Mr. Rat:

I promise I'll never do it again,
next time we sing that song.
I won't ignore my brand new friend.
I'll take the cheese along!

All: Hooray! He'll take the cheese along!
(Everybody cheers)

Reprise: "Be Yourself"

Song #5: "Be Yourself"

Be yourself. It's O. K.

Be yourself on ev'ry single day!
Be yourself, and you'll know what to do.
Just be true to noone else but you!

Be yourself. Do your best.
Be yourself and you can pass the test.
Be yourself and if you need a friend,
then we'll all be right there in the end!

You may not understand.
We learn from day to day.
But when you take command,
then for sure you'll find your way!

(March Break)

Be yourself. Just be strong.
Be yourself and you will not go wrong.
Oh, ev'ry day, ev'ry way,
do it right along!
Be yourself and stay true
to your own song!