

Diamonds and Rust

Song by Joan Baez · 1975

Well, I'll be damned
Here comes your ghost again
But that's not (1) _____
It's just that the moon is full
And you happened to call
And here I sit
Hand on the (2) _____
Hearing a voice I'd known
A couple of light years ago
Heading straight for a fall

As I remember your (3) _____
Were bluer than robin's eggs
My poetry was lousy you said
Where are you calling from?
A booth in the (4) _____
Ten years ago
I bought you some cufflinks
You brought me something
We both know what memories can bring
They bring diamonds and rust

Well, you burst on the scene
Already a (5) _____
The unwashed phenomenon
The original vagabond
You strayed into my arms
And there you stayed
Temporarily lost at (6) _____
The Madonna was yours for free
Yes, the girl on the half-shell
Could keep you (7) _____



Our breath comes out white clouds
Mingles and hangs in the (9) _____
Speaking strictly for me
We both could have died then and there

Now you're telling me
You're not (10) _____
Then give me another word for it
You who are so good with words
And at keeping things vague
'Cause I need some of that vagueness
now
It's all come back too clearly
Yes, I loved you (11) _____
And if you're offering me diamonds and
rust
I've already (12) _____

Source: [LyricFind](#) Songwriters: Joan Baez

Now I see you standing
With brown leaves falling all around

And snow in your hair
Now you're (8) _____ out the window
Of that crummy hotel
Over Washington Square

Speaking Task: Discussion

1. Did you like "Diamonds and Rust"? Why/ Why not?
2. What is love? What is indifference? Give examples, if possible.
3. When does the heart ache? How does it ache? What is heartbreak?
4. When does a love relationship turn toxic? Give examples.
 - a. When should you say "enough is enough" in a relationship?

- b. What can you forgive and what not?
5. What advice can you give to get away from a “rusty” relationship and move on?
And to get away from a toxic relationship?

Lesson Plan

- 1) Introduce the name of the song and elicit information about Joan Baez and Bob Dylan.
- 2) Explain briefly that Joan Baez wrote the song in 1975, when she received a phone call from Bob Dylan, his former boyfriend, around 10 years after they had split up. For further information you can check "[*Stella: 'Diamonds and Rust' by Joan Baez*](#)".
- 3) Students read the hand-out with the fill-in-the gap task. Then, they listen to the song twice and discuss the missing words first in pairs and then as a whole class.
- 4) Check the answers to the listening task.
- 5) Ask students: What is the song about? What might Joan Baez refer to the lines you understand best? They can discuss these questions in pairs and then together as a class.
- 6) Do the speaking task: students discuss some of the questions in pairs and then together as a class.

Key

- 1) unusual, 2) telephone, 3) eyes, 4) midwest, 5) legend, 6) sea, 7) unharmed, 8) smiling, 9) air, 10) nostalgic, 11) dearly, 12) paid.