

LOOK FOR THE SILVER LINING

Jerome Kern, Music; B. G. DeSylva, Lyrics; 1920

"Look For the Silver Lining" is a popular song with music by Jerome Kern and lyrics by B.G. DeSylva. It was written in 1919 for the unsuccessful musical *Zip, Goes a Million*. In 1920, it was published and reused in the stage musical, *"Sally"*, whence it was popularized by Marilyn Miller and Irving Fisher. *"Sally"* was later made into a film in 1930.

It fell into obscurity until 1946, when Judy Garland performed it in the film *"Till the Clouds Roll By"*, a 'biopic' about composer Jerome Kern. During the early years of the Tin Pan Alley era, Kerns worked as a 'song-plugger' for music stores and publishing companies playing piano to promote and help sell new sheet music.

In 1949, *"Look For the Silver Lining"* was the theme song for another musical biography tracing the career of Broadway star, Marilyn Miller. The film's working title was *"Silver Lining"*.

Through her life she suffers such personal tragedies as the wartime death of her first husband, songwriter Frank Carter (Gordon Macrae), but manages to smile through the tears and go on to even loftier showbiz heights. The film ends in 1936, the year of Miller's death; we last see her "giving her all" to her audience, while an offstage observer makes ominous comments about her future.

~Tull

