Songwriting Checklist

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# Tasks:

☐ **Theme**

☐ **A lot of people can relate to the song idea.**

☐ **The song has a unique or fresh approach.**

☐ **The idea of a song is believable.**

☐ **The song doesn't confuse the listener with too many themes or details that don't lead to the hook.**

☐ **The characters are interesting or believable.**

☐ **Melody**

☐ **Melody shows good contour, with a distinctive shape.**

☐ **There is verse that would serve as a climactic point for that melody.**

☐ **Verse melody works its way upward, and connects somewhat seamlessly to the chorus.**

☐ **Chorus melody resides a bit higher than the verse melody.**

☐ **Bridge melody (if applicable) is generally higher than the chorus.**

☐ **Lyrics**

☐ **Plain, everyday language that connects with average people.**

☐ **Ensure that verse lyrics primarily describe events and situations.**

☐ **Ensure chorus lyrics primarily describe reactions and emotions.**

☐ **Avoid being unnecessarily wordy.**

☐ **There is a memorable title or hook.**

☐ **There is a strong opening line.**

☐ **The lines are concise and every word counts.**

☐ **Overall Impact**

☐ **The song has a beginning, a middle and an end.**

☐ **All the verses are strong and non-repetitive.**

☐ **The message is powerful.**

☐ **The song generates emotion.**

☐ **The storyline is good.**

☐ **The song resolves itself to the listener's satisfaction.**