

# THE ICE CREAM TANGO

(written for the 1973 production at UCSC of the musical *Park*)  
words and music by Tom Lehrer

Elizabeth: [*spoken*] *Do you know what I would really like right now?*  
                  [*sung*]            I would like ---- some ice cream.

Sara & Jamie:            Me too!

Elizabeth:                I would like ---- a cone.

Sara & Jamie:            Me too!

Austin:                    Me too!

Elizabeth:                It would really hit the spot,  
                              And make me feel a lot  
                              Like a queen upon a throne.

Jamie: [*spoken*]         *What flavor does your majesty crave?*

Elizabeth:                I would like ---- vanilla.

Jamie:                    Me too!

Austin:                    Not me. I'll take choc'late.

Sara:                      I want peach.

Jamie: [*spoken*]         *Peach??*

Sara: [*spoken*]         *All right, choc'late.*

Elizabeth:                But wouldn't it be pleasant,  
                              Some day when no one's present,  
                              To order one of each.

Sara: [*spoken*]         *Including peach! [Sara and Jamie stick tongues out at each other.]*

Austin:                    Would you rather have a dish?

Elizabeth: [*spoken*]     *A bit too fancyish!*

Austin:                    Would you like it on a plate?

Elizabeth: [*spoken*]     *It's good -- but not great.*

Austin:                    Would you like it on a stick?

Sara & Jamie: [*spoken*] *Ick!*

Austin:                    Well, how about a cup? [*others shake their heads*]  
                              Okay, four cones, coming up!  
                              I'll go and get the ice cream.

Jamie:                    Me too! You can't carry them alone.

Elizabeth & Sara:        He's right.

Austin:                    I know.

Jamie:                    Two choc'lates, two vanillas,  
Elizabeth & Sara:        Two choc'lates, two vanillas.

Austin: For nothing the world has ever known.....

Jamie:                                Nothing the world has ever known.....

Elizabeth & Sara:                                Nothing the world has ever known

All [*in harmony*]:        Can compare with an ice cream

Elizabeth:                Cone!

Austin & Jamie            I want an ice cream cone!

Elizabeth & Sara: [*spoken*]     *Me too!*

A possible scene to set up "The Ice Cream Tango"

*(Possibly some introductory dialogue, indicating that the four people are friends, that it is summer, etc.)*

*(Bell rings offstage)*

A: What's that?

B: Could it be an ice cream truck?

C: I didn't think they existed any more.

D: Remember when we were kids how we used to look forward to the Good Humor Man?

*(All laugh) (trill in the music)*

Soprano: *(spoken)* As a matter of fact, do you know what I would *really* like right now?

*(sings)* I would like some ice cream.....

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Possible scene after the song

*(During "two chocolates, two vanillas", A looks out the window.)*

A: Hey, he's gone!

*(All register disappointment.)*

B: He must have left while we were standing around here singing.

*All resume singing with "Nothing the world has ever known", etc.*