

# A Bowler Hat

Stephen Sondheim

(Kayama picks up a derby.)

It's called a bowler hat  
I have no wife  
The swallow flying through the sky  
Is not as swift as I  
Am, flying through my life  
You pour the milk before the tea  
The Dutch ambassador is no fool  
I must remember that

I wear a bowler hat  
They send me wine  
The house is far too grand  
I've bought a new umbrella stand  
Today I visited the church beside the shrine  
I'm learning English from a book  
Most exciting  
It's called a bowler hat

(Kayama brings out a watch.)

It's called a pocket watch  
I have a wife  
No eagle flies against the sky  
As eagerly as I  
Have flown against my life  
One smokes American cigars  
The Dutch ambassador was most rude  
I will remember that

I wind my pocket watch

We serve white wine  
The house is far too small  
I killed a spider on the wall  
One of the servants thought it was a lucky sign  
I read Spinoza every day  
Formidable  
Where is my bowler hat?

(Kayama puts a monocle to his eye.)

It's called a monocle  
I've left my wife  
No bird exploring in the sky  
Explores as well as I  
The corners of my life  
One must keep moving with the times  
The Dutch ambassador is a fool  
He wears a bowler hat

(Kayama puts on a pair of glasses.)

They call them spectacles  
I drink much wine  
I take important pills

I have a house up in the hills  
I've hired British architects to redesign  
One must accommodate the times  
As one lives them  
One must remember that

(Kayama holds up a tailcoat.)

It's called a cutaway