

# If I Only Had A Brain

(Scarecrow verse)

Words & Music:  
E.Y. Harburg & Harold Arlen (1939)

*There is a transcription of the Laurence Juber arrangement of this classic tune. He uses open D tuning (D A D G A D), but I have given the basic chords here, courtesy of Jumbo Jim.*

D7 G Am7 Bm7 C  
I could while away the hours conferrin' with the flowers,  
G Am7 Bm Bbm7  
Consulting with the rain.  
C C/B Am7 Am7/G D D/C D/B  
And my head I'd be a scratchin' while my thoughts were busy hatchin'  
D7 G Am7 Bm7 D9 D7  
If I only had a brain.

I'd unravel ev'ry riddle for any individdle  
In trouble or in pain.  
With the thoughts that I'd be thinkin', I could be another Lincoln  
If I only had a brain.

## BRIDGE:

C Cdim Bm7-5 E7 Am7 Dm7 D7 G G/F# Em  
Oh, I----- could tell you why---- the ocean's near the shore.  
F#m7 B7 Em B+  
I could think of things I'd never thunk before.  
A7 D D7  
And then I'd sit and think some more.

I would not be just a nuffin', my head all full of stuffin',  
My heart all full of pain.  
C C/B Am7 Am7/G D D/C D/B  
And perhaps I'd deserve you and be even worthy erv you ["of you"]  
D7 G Am7 Bm7 Am7 G  
If I only had a brain.

**"If I Only Had A Heart" (Tin Man) verse:**

When a man's an empty kettle, he should be on his mettle  
And yet I'm torn apart  
Just because I'm presumin' that I could be kinda human  
If I only had a heart.

I'd be tender, I'd be gentle and awful sentimental  
Regarding love and art  
I'd be friends with the sparrows and the boy who shoots the arrows,  
If I only had a heart.

Picture me..., a balcony..., above a voice sings low:  
"Wherefore art thou, Romeo?: I hear a beat. How sweet!

Just to register emotion: "jealousy," "devotion"  
And really feel the part.  
I could stay young and chipper and I'd lock it with a zipper  
If I only had a heart.

**"If I Only Had The Nerve" (Cowardly Lion) verse:**

Yeah, it's sad, believe me missy, when you're born to be a sissy,  
Without the vim and verve.  
But I could show my prowess, be a lion not a mowess,  
If I only had the nerve

I'm afraid there's no denyin' I'm just a dandelion  
A fate I don't deserve.  
I'd be brave as a blizzard...  
TIN MAN: I'd be gentle as a lizard...  
SCARECROW: I'd be clever as a gizzard...  
DOROTHY: If the Wizard is a wizard who will serve.  
SCARECROW: Then I'm sure to get a brain...  
TIN MAN: ... a heart  
DOROTHY: a home  
LION: the nerve!

*[segues to "We're Off To See The Wizard"]*