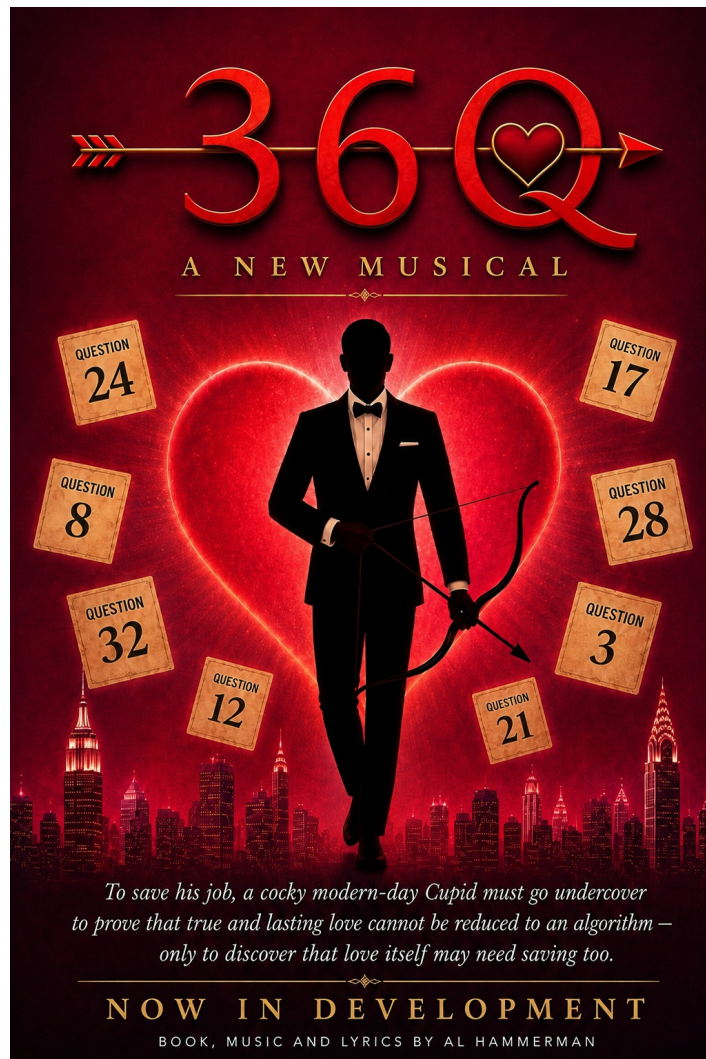




36Q

A New Musical

To save his job, a cocky modern-day Cupid must go undercover to prove that true and lasting love cannot be reduced to an algorithm — only to discover that love itself may need saving too.

Book, Music & Lyrics by Al Hammerman

NOW IN DEVELOPMENT

SYNOPSIS

Charming, witty, and more than a little overconfident, Cupid—known to his friends simply as Q—has held the job of the world's premier matchmaker for more than two thousand years. But when a young New York psychologist, Dr. Brown, goes viral with his “36 Questions,” some begin claiming that science can now do everything Cupid does. Suddenly, the world's most experienced matchmaker finds himself facing obsolescence.

Quietly guided by the mysterious Sisters Fate, Q's superiors issue an ultimatum: go undercover as a mortal, put Dr. Brown's questions to the test, and prove they cannot replace Cupid's work before midnight on Valentine's Day—or lose his job forever.

Accompanied by his boss and longtime friend Zeus, Q descends into modern-day Manhattan expecting to expose the flaws in Dr. Brown's research. Instead, his carefully orchestrated plan unravels in ways both hilarious and unexpectedly moving, leading to an arrest, a crisis of confidence, and an unlikely encounter with the very psychologist whose work he set out to discredit.

But Dr. Brown reveals a truth Q never anticipated. The real threat isn't the “36 Questions.” They are simply one symptom of a much larger challenge. In a world increasingly shaped by dating apps, social media, algorithms, and AI, technology may help people meet—but it cannot teach them how to love. Real love requires what no algorithm can provide: genuine connection, commitment, vulnerability, and the courage to truly know another person. In a culture increasingly content to swipe rather than commit, those qualities are becoming an endangered species.

For the first time in two millennia, Q begins to question not only his methods, but his purpose. Realizing that Dr. Brown is uniquely equipped to meet love's modern challenges, he offers him the chance to become the new Cupid. When Dr. Brown accepts, Q finds himself free, for the first time in centuries, to return to something few would imagine he ever possessed—a mortal life—where he hopes to help others find their way through love in a digital age, while pursuing, perhaps for the first time, a true love of his own.

But stepping aside proves more complicated than Q imagined. Chaos, a primordial force strengthened by a world increasingly divided and disconnected, recognizes that Q's new mission threatens the very foundation of his own dominion—and moves to stop him. Only the unwavering loyalty of his friends on Mount Olympus—and the Sisters Fate's carefully orchestrated plan, finally revealed—allow Q to leave the past behind and embrace the life, and perhaps the love, that has been waiting for him all along.

At its core, 36Q is a contemporary romantic musical comedy that asks whether real love can survive in a digital world—and answers with both a laugh and a full heart.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

- #1 ALL ME**
Q, Dion & JZ
Q boasts of his two million years of matchmaking glory, from Camelot to the Capulets — until reality intrudes.
- #2 FUNNY FEELING**
Q
Meeting the Sisters Fate in disguise, Q is blindsided by an inexplicable stirring he can't quite name.
- #3 GOOD FOR WHAT YOU GOT**
Posey & The Sisters
The Sisters, undercover, coax a self-doubting Natalie into embracing her own worth.
- #4 THE SISTERS**
The Sisters Fate
Posey, Lacey, and Chloe reveal their mysterious dominion over destiny — and issue Q his impossible challenge.
- #5 A KISS COULD HAPPEN**
Q & Natalie
Q and Natalie playfully act out a movie-perfect romance, neither of them quite admitting it might be real.
- #6 HERE'S TO HAPPY**
Natalie
Natalie toasts to the happy ending she desperately wants but has never managed to find.
- #7 IF THE ANSWER IS LOVE**
Q & Natalie
As the 36 Questions unfold one by one, Q and Natalie edge closer — question by question — to genuine connection.
- #8 ANOTHER PRETTY GIRL**
All Prisoners
Male prisoners in a holding cell confess how the lure of the next swipe has always sabotaged their real relationships.
- #9 ONLY JULIA**
Q
Q reveals the one love story from his past that he never managed to close — a woman named Julia.

ACT TWO

- #10 LOVE YOURSELF**
Dr. Brown
Dr. Brown makes his case: no lasting love is possible until a person is willing to love themselves first.
- #11 KISS MY JAZZ**
Dion
Dion delivers a defiant, high-spirited anthem about refusing to live anyone's life but your own.

#12 AS LONG AS THERE IS LOVE

JZ

Zeus makes the timeless argument: whatever the era, the hope of true love is what keeps the world going.

#13 STEP UP

JZ, Q & Dr. Brown

The trio rallies Dr. Brown — and each other — to stop hedging and fully commit to what matters most.

#14 DOWN TO YOU

The Sisters Fate

The Sisters deliver the show's central revelation: fate opens the door, but free will decides who walks through it.

#15 HERE'S TO US!

Q & JZ

Q and JZ share a bittersweet farewell toast as Q prepares to surrender his immortal role.

#16 ONLY LOVE IS REAL

Q & Natalie

From opposite ends of the stage, Q and Natalie each declare, separately, their belief in a love that transcends time.

#17 MAYBE BE MINE

Q & Julia

Q and the mysterious Julia — his long-lost love — rediscover each other at Gate 36Q on Valentine's Day.

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

Q (CUPID)

Leading Role

Charismatic, sharp, and more than a little too sure of himself, Q has spent over two million years as the world's greatest matchmaker. Going undercover as a mortal for the first time, he finds his confidence tested — and his heart unexpectedly opened. The show's comic and emotional center.

NATALIE

Leading Role

A sweet, sincere, and slightly uncertain novice undercover police officer who stumbles into Q's investigation and into his life. Natalie longs for a real happy ending — and may be closer to one than she realizes.

JZ (ZEUS)

Supporting Lead

Q's boss and closest friend, Zeus presides over the proceedings with sardonic wit and genuine affection. He delivers hard truths with a twinkle in his eye and a drink in his hand.

DR. ARON BROWN

Supporting Lead

The handsome, personable psychologist behind the viral 36 Questions study. Initially formal and academic, Dr. Brown emerges as Q's unlikely teacher — and eventually, his successor.

DION (DIONYSUS)

Featured

Bartender, truth-teller, and keeper of the show's spirit (literally and figuratively). Strong, funny, and nonbinary, Dion grounds the show's mythological world in real, human warmth.

THE SISTERS FATE (Posey, Lacey & Chloe)

Featured Ensemble

The three Fates move through the story in elaborate disguises — society ladies, various airport characters, and more — always known to the audience, never to Q. Each wears a signature color (Posey: red; Lacey: blue; Chloe: yellow), and together they orchestrate the show's central mystery: what is Q's true destiny?

JULIA

Featured

A warm, quick-witted flight attendant who appears at the story's end. Julia is Q's lost love — a figure he has been quietly carrying in his heart, whose reappearance at Gate 36Q on Valentine's Day provides the show's most surprising and emotional resolution.

CHAOS

Special / Non-Speaking

One of the oldest and most powerful forces in the Greek pantheon — with no human form. Chaos manifests as an ominous sound cue, a reminder that even the best-laid plans of gods and men remain subject to the universe's most fundamental wild card.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

A gifted composer and clever lyricist, Al Hammerman strives for songs that capture the hearts and imagination of each listener — songs that linger long after they end.

“I love his musical sensibilities and the way he pays loving homage to the Great American Songbook. Musically, his sense of style and swagger are meticulous while all the while remaining true to this treasured musical form.” — Grammy Winner Steve Tyrell

With an aptitude for creating an impressive array of commercially and artistically successful songs, numerous film and TV music supervisors have taken note. Al’s popular song “Nothing But Time” was recently used as the theme for Giorgio Armani’s “Made to Measure” advertising campaign.

Imagine music with all the style of American Songbook composers such as Gershwin, Porter, and Jobim — intertwined with the rhythms of Jazz, Pop, and Latin influences. Al’s smart and sophisticated sound is on pace to be remembered as contemporary standards. He has released five CDs, most recently Just a Dance, and 36Q is his debut musical.

Grammy winner Patti Austin perhaps said it best: “In short, love him — love his talent.” Watch for Al Hammerman’s songs to become an integral part of the American musical tapestry.

CONTACT

Al Hammerman | Book, Music & Lyrics

alhammerman@gmail.com

314-853-6230

36Q Website

www.36QTheMusical.com

Personal Website

www.AlHammerman.com