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can·ta·bi·le  (kän-tä bĭ-lā') *Music*

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adv. & adj.

In a smooth, lyrical, flowing style. Used chiefly as a direction.

n.

A cantabile passage or movement.

[Italian, from Late Latin *cantābilis*, worthy to be sung, from Latin *cantāre*, to sing; see **kan-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

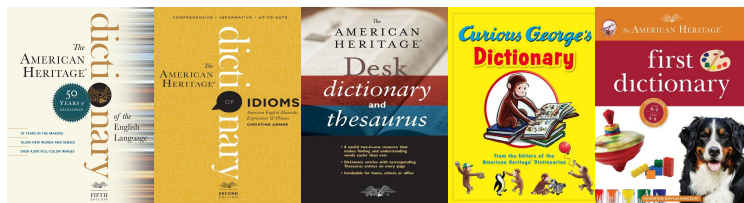
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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