

# Johnny Mercer, Accentuate The Positive

Ac-Cent-Tchu-Ate the Positive

- Artist: Johnny Mercer as sung on "Remember the 40's-Music Of the War Years Vol. IV, 1941-45"; CEMA Special Markets (Capitol-EMI) CDL-57367
- peak Billboard position # 1 in 1945
- competing versions charted by Bing Crosby and The Andrews Sisters (#2), Artie Shaw (#5), and Kay Kyser (#12)
- Words and Music by Harold Arlen and Johnny Mercer

Gather 'round me, everybody  
Gather 'round me while I'm preachin'  
Feel a sermon comin' on me  
The topic will be sin and that's what I'm ag'in'  
If you wanna hear my story  
The settle back and just sit tight  
While I start reviewin'  
The attitude of doin' right

You've got to accentuate the positive  
Eliminate the negative  
And latch on to the affirmative  
Don't mess with Mister In-Between

You've got to spread joy up to the maximum  
Bring gloom down to the minimum  
Have faith or pandemonium's  
Liable to walk upon the scene

To illustrate my last remark  
Jonah in the whale, Noah in the ark  
What did they do just when everything looked so dark?

(Man, they said "We'd better accentuate the positive")  
("Eliminate the negative")  
("And latch on to the affirmative")  
Don't mess with Mister In-Between (No!)  
Don't mess with Mister In-Between

(Ya got to spread joy up to the maximum)

(Bring gloom down to the minimum)

(Have faith or pandemonium's)  
(Liable to walk upon the scene)

You got to ac (yes, yes) -cent-tchu-ate the positive  
Eliminate (yes, yes) the negative  
And latch (yes, yes) on to the affirmative  
Don't mess with Mister In-Between  
No, don't mess with Mister In-Between

and do not necessarily correspond with lyrics from other recordings, sheet music, songbooks or lyrics printed on album jackets.