WOW: Word Of the Week

Hush
July 22, 2026

Yes, indeed! A strange WOW – unless you know the song.
Here is a YouTube link: Acappella - Hush

What you may not need to know, but I nearly always include. Hush is an example of **onomatopoeia**. **Hush** originated as an imitative, onomatopoeic sound used to enjoin silence—mimicking the natural "shhh" breath sound that requires the least muscular effort to produce. In the early 1400s, it was spelled with a final “t.”

This is another installment in my WOW series focused on lessons learned over the four months since Jan’s fall.

Jan and I have arrived at our four-month post-op checkup, following up with the surgical team. All looks good medically, but we are still dealing with far too much pain.

I am thinking back to the first days in the hospital. Jan fell on Thursday, 911, ambulance, ER, traction, uncertainty. Friday afternoon surgery, all pretty much a blur in retrospect. Church friends and leaders showed up – how meaningful.

The first Sunday, two days after surgery. I took my computer to the hospital, Christian a cappella music on YouTube, this song showed up. We both teared up, we listened—again and again, on repeat.

The church elders called from their regular Sunday morning meeting – we were already at worship, but we were waiting to share communion with the entire church on the weekly live stream.

“Hush.” For three weeks until we came home from post-hospital inpatient rehab, again and again, tearfully listening, mouthing words. Hush. Comfort, strength, faith.

God is standing by, So hush, don't you worry, Don't cry

And when troubles come, Don't cry, no don't cry
When all your dreams, And would be fortunes pass you by
And when there is heartache, So many trials and life's unclear
Just look up toward heaven, There's a God and He's standing near

And when there is parting, All your friends and loved ones leave you
And you hurt so bad, You feel you just don't know what to do
And if you're wondering if there's anybody who Really cares
Let me assure you, that there's a God, And He'll be right there

God is standing by, So hush (so hush), Don't you worry (don't worry), Don't (you) cry
So hush (so hush), Don't you worry (don't worry), Don't cry
Hush.

Songwriters: Joe South
Hush Lyrics: Kevin Schaffer
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