

Let's Talk Dusty!

The Ultimate Forum for Dusty Springfield Fans
<http://www.dustyspringfield.org.uk/forum/>

New to me Dusty info

<http://www.dustyspringfield.org.uk/forum/viewtopic.php?f=8&t=4783>

New to me Dusty info

by **Christianbrahm**

Page 1 of 3

Posted: **Thu Feb 07, 2013 4:30 am**

While doing a google search I found this posted by someone named Tarra Thomas:

My VERY FAVORITE PSB moment? I was walking down Hollywood Blvd with Dusty Springfield. She had just returned from London, and she told me about recording with the Pet Shop Boys. We were both broke, but I had an Amex, and we decided to see if we could find a place to get a burger that took the card. All of a sudden, as we're walking past one of the numerous stereo/music shops that blare music out onto the sidewalks, we hear "Since you went away..." We both stopped dead in our tracks. "That's you!" I said. She smiled in that semi-shy, coy way she had and said, "Does that mean we can have fries with our hamburger?" The moment was surreal because she had been through a tough few years. But somehow her manager Vicki Wickham had got her this song with the PSB. Later in the next year, I met Vicki and Nona Hendryx when they came to LA. And after that, Carole Pope and Dusty stayed at my apartment at the Villa Esther (she loved that name) in West Hollywood for one night. I'm not name dropping, and I didn't know any of them except Dusty well, but their deep and sincere affection and caring for Dusty was obvious. And, of course, Vicki had been her manager forever.

Dusty and I met in 1985, I think, and our first (and really, our last, "date") was the night we got carjacked in front of Mayfair market in West Hollywood.

She told me just to pull up in front, in the no parking zone, because she would "only be a minute." I would have bought her the store and put it on my Amex if she had asked, and so, I parked where she said. Dusty ran in to get some cat food for her beloved meows, and I watched the back of her platinum blonde head disappear through the doors. I was sitting there thinking, "This is going to be the night of my dreams," when a guy with a pistol slipped in the passenger side of what was a record company sub-compact car that Dusty had been given to drive for a while during the recording (I think) of White Heat, where she sang at least one Rough Trade/Carole Pope song, maybe two. OR maybe it was the duet she did with Spencer Davis. Anyway, as luck would have it, two things happened after the guy slipped into the car. I negotiated my way out of the vehicle by the time we got to the end of the driveway and were going to turn right on Santa Monica Blvd. (The guy went on to rob 7 more people that night, and what Dusty had earlier purchased at Rexall was part of what got him convicted...another story, another time.)

Anyway, I ran into the store to tell the manager, who called 911, and then I went to look for Dusty in cat food. She couldn't believe it, but then as we wheeled her cart out of cat food and into cookies, she saw someone I did not know. She screamed "Bruce! We've been carjacked!"

Well Bruce Vilanch was startled because...um, I think, not sure, he was having a "food slip" and was caught by Dusty with an overflowing basket of goodies, and it was pretty clear he wasn't sure what to respond to first- being caught, being caught by Dusty Springfield, or being caught by Dusty Springfield who was talking carjacking. So he said, "Dusty! We meet again! Wanna donut?" They were old friends, and while they laughed and yaked, I stood there trembling at the thought of the gun that had just been shoved into my side on my first real date with Dusty. I think we dated for 3 weeks, before every other word out of her mouth was Carole Pope! She was gone on her! Later it was singer 'Teda Bracci,' whom she cared for deeply, despite a relationship that was fraught with drama. In fact, I was the "minister" at Dusty and Teda's "wedding" at Helene Selery's house in Tarzana, and used the same Amex to rent a wedding gown on Fairfax for that wedding. News reports said Dusty had bought the gown at a thrift shop, but that's not what happened. For the Wedding I read from a sitcom script that belonged to an actress I was then seeing who was the star of the sitcom. When I read the part that asked if there were any objections to the marriage, we all raised our hands, including Dusty.

Dusty and I stayed friends through the years , and when she went back to England, we spoke by phone several times; the second to last time was the 4th of July 1998, eight or nine months before she died. We talked about quitting smoking and decided fuck it, all our vices had been taken away, let's have "a fag." As you all know, gay people, especially gay men but also gay women, adored Dusty. What you may or may not know is that she adored us back. Gay men were her favorites, and gay women were the "trouble and drama" she couldn't

resist. That, however, never kept Dust from loving all of us.

Sorry to have hijacked this thread, but the Pet Shop Boys, and their song "What Did I do to Deserve This?" were hugely important in launching the last phase of Dusty's career, and I believe that phase finally gave her the sense of peace and serenity and pleasure that the "hard years" had nearly taken from her. In the end, though, Mary Catherine Isobel O'Brien was pretty much just a good Irish girl with a wicked sense of humor and a helluva set of pipes. And she loved the Pet Shop Boys—and that song. RIP MIC O'B. Thanks Joe for putting the PSB video up and letting me walk down a lovely memory lane.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Christianbrahm**

Posted: **Thu Feb 07, 2013 4:33 am**

Does anyone have more info about this person. She seems to be well informed and nice. Any and all info appreciated.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **jeffery**

Posted: **Thu Feb 07, 2013 6:18 am**

Christianbrahm wrote:

Does anyone have more info about this person. She seems to be well informed and nice. Any and all info appreciated.

😊 What a sweet story, and it sounds genuine. (genuinely Hollywood 😄) It was a joy to read. 🍷
Tarra Thomas sounds like a stage name to me, so start your search there. She's unknown to me. You can also run that name through *California Dept. of Corrections* (hey, a search is a search 😄)
Back-track and scour the source where you found that story in the first place. What's her occupation ?
Hope you make a good connection. 😊

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Corinna**

Posted: **Thu Feb 07, 2013 9:51 am**

Good story, and it sounds VERY Dusty! 😄

I've never heard the name Tarra Thomas before, can you find out more about her, Christian? 🙌

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **karen**

Posted: **Thu Feb 07, 2013 10:14 am**

Thanks for posting , a nice memory from her , wonder who she is too? 😄 [mind you "first and last date" mentioned"] 😊

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **villagegirl**

Posted: **Thu Feb 07, 2013 3:58 pm**

The bit about the car jacking I've read before but not the bits either side of it. Very interesting.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Britlin**

Posted: **Thu Feb 07, 2013 4:20 pm**

I might be wrong, but I thought I read somewhere that she was with Helene Sellery when she was carjacked and all the robber got wad her make up bag. Was she carjacked twice?

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **pat.dunham**

Posted: **Thu Feb 07, 2013 4:55 pm**

Just a thought folks. I have just bought "White Heat" (not the £89 version -too many pennies)
Reading the notes as I always do, under "special thanks" which I presume was written by D there is

a Margaret Thomas, listed last.

Could this be Tarra - perhaps a nick/stage name? Interesting.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Christianbrahm**

Posted: **Thu Feb 07, 2013 9:17 pm**

All I have found so far is the name T.T. Thomas that she writes under and also her writers web site that looks like it hasn't been active in awhile. She does list her gmail address but I would feel to stalker ish to contact her do ask about her Dusty stories. Anyone connected with this website interested in taking up that cause? I'm so happy to have so many responses. Thank you. Christian

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Corinna**

Posted: **Thu Feb 07, 2013 11:14 pm**

Good detective work, Christian! Do you mean this web site? <http://www.ttthomas.com/> So she's a lesbian romance writer? We can all use more lesbian romance in our lives... 😊

I found it kind of her to share this sweet story, and I'm quite content with it. Personally, I don't feel any need to contact her. But I can only speak for myself. 😊

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Christianbrahm**

Posted: **Fri Feb 08, 2013 2:22 am**

Cor, yes it's a great story. However there was one more story listed in google search that explains how she met dusty but the link is broken or the story has been removed. That's why I asked about contacting her. But I can leave well enough alone if no one else has any interest.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **jeffery**

Posted: **Fri Feb 08, 2013 8:00 am**

Christianbrahm wrote:

Cor, yes it's a great story. However there was one more story listed in google search that explains how she met dusty but the link is broken or the story has been removed. That's why I asked about contacting her. But I can leave well enough alone if no one else has any interest.

👍 Go for it !

Contact her - What have you got to lose. Maybe she's just not aware we would love for her to share and be part of our community. You've got a line on it so make an invitation. Maybe even ask if she's the Margaret Thomas Dusty thanks on the White Heat album.

😬 It's like asking for a date isn't it ? She may say no, but if she says yes,... 😊

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Corinna**

Posted: **Fri Feb 08, 2013 10:05 am**

You bring out the detective in me too, Christian! Hmmm.... couldn't find that broken link, though. Only a link to "how TT Thomas, on a date with Dusty Springfield, first met Bruce", being the very story you posted. Does the broken link have a cached version you can get a preview of?

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Britlin**

Posted: **Fri Feb 08, 2013 12:18 pm**

Don't know if this will be of any help, but I found a site www.ttthomas.com/interview/. The picture looks a lot like the person in Dusty's wedding photo. She lists Dusty Springfield's greatest hits as one of five CDs she'd like to have if stranded on an island. She lists several ways she can be contacted.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Christianbrahm**

Posted: **Fri Feb 08, 2013 5:59 pm**

Cor, it is entirely possible that the link has cached info. I can't see it though. I am using an older model iPhone. I do know the link sends you to her Wordpress blog. Jeffrey, I may take you up on your "date" challenge. Haha. I am literally moving to another state today so It may have to wait a couple days.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **IWannaBeABluesSinger**

Posted: **Fri Feb 08, 2013 8:23 pm**

I just sent her a message.

Maggie

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **allherfaces**

Posted: **Fri Feb 08, 2013 9:38 pm**

I see she has decided to join LTD. thanks, Maggie.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Fri Feb 08, 2013 9:55 pm**

You guys crack me up---I HOPE I'm not on any Prison List, although Dusty and I did a few things in our time that could have landed us in Women's Detention...although she would have liked that! Also---WOW, that's some detective work you all did. As a writer, I can say that reading the posts was almost like reading a mystery novel!

OK, first, let me introduce myself. I am the afore-mentioned T.T. Thomas, Tarra Thomas and yes, on the White Heat album, because she was mad at me, the "Margaret Thomas" Dusty thanked. She just did that to bug me! LOL.

I am a writer, and I write Historical Romance under my T.T. Thomas name. You can find my books on Amazon, and yes, the <http://www.ttthomas.com> address is my website. My friends call me Tarra. As for Margaret? In Ireland, because they don't give women any land, or didn't used to, I come from a long line of Margarets who passed down their first name to a daughter---thus my great-grandmother, grandmother and mother were all Margaret. I live in Thousand Oaks, CA with my partner.

This post may have to come in sections! But to clear up a couple things. I am the person in the famous "wedding picture" and my presence was mandatory because I was "the minister," as it were. Teda and Dusty almost didn't get married that day, at Helene's house, because...well, there were several memorable reasons, but one was that I had borrowed a sit-com script from an actress friend (who shall, for now, remain nameless) because the script had one of those "Dearly Beloved, we are gathered today..." or was that the funeral script?!? LOL...Anyway, Teda was holding it, and then it disappeared, and she couldn't recall where she had left it. We did find it (along with a half empty bottle of whiskey), and although none of us mentioned the whiskey to Dust, she later said she could smell it on Teda's breath. Anyway, I cannot in all honesty say that the "wedding" went off without a hitch, but it DID happen.

Helene had been with Dusty for yeras, but many, many years before this "wedding" event. Helene and Dusty's secretary, Pat, and her manager Vicki Wickam were the mainstays in Dusty's life during the whole time I knew her. Fred Perry was there too, but...not after a while. Another story. Anyway, I'm not sure where I came in after Helene, but I can say that I was before Carol Pope and Teda Bracchi. I'd like to say I was a well-ordered segment of Dusty's otherwise wildly chaotic life, but the truth is, we were both nuts. It was more than a one-night stand, yes, but less than a calendar month. LOL...and then we just stayed friends, more or less. Well...

I spoke to Dusty the July 4th weekend the year before she passed...and then once more in, I think, November. She told me about the cancer and how it wasn't looking too good. Nicholas was fine and she worried most about him. It was a very emotional conversation because although I was getting a vague sense of finality, Dusty knew it would probably be our last conversation. And it was. Months after she passed away, Helene came by my apartment in Studio City. I was not home, but she left three or four books of Dusty's and a note that said she thought I'd like to have them. I moved away from Los Angeles for 9 years, and pretty much lost track of everyone. I tried to find Helene on Facebook a couple years back...and then further research revealed she too had passed away, as had Fred Perry. I know Teda is still around, somewhere, and of course, Carole, Vicki, etc...but I've not been in touch with them.

Oh hell...this is getting too sad...bringing up many, many old memories. Sorry. The story that someone picked up that I posted on the Joe.My.God site a couple years ago is true. Also, I will look for the photo of me and Dusty taken in the studio when she was doing White Heat.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to ask them. I will sign off for now, and I will say something I think anyone who knew Dusty would agree with: In her own way, she loved us all.

Tarra

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Corinna**

Posted: **Fri Feb 08, 2013 10:07 pm**

Hey there Tarra and welcome to LTD! Wow, thanks for sharing your stories. 🤝

If you have photos to share... wonderful!! Would love to see them. 🌟

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **jeffery**

Posted: **Fri Feb 08, 2013 10:32 pm**

👏 So happy to welcome you to LTD Tarra ! 🤗

I just read your interview, and have to say how much I admire the wit, and intellectual skills you share with so many of the other gals here in the forum. 🤔

My approach to an interview would probably be like barging in and taking hostages. I can strap sticks to my feet, and jump off a frozen cliff easy enough, but writing is a struggle for me.

I wasn't joking when I mentioned searching the California Dept. of Corrections. Actually I launched a search there for Teda, and threw you in with her. I knew you wouldn't turn up because I was sure T.T. to be a pen-name.

I've always thought Dusty to be a bit of a rascal, and wish I could have met her. Trading practical jokes with her would have been a gas although I think she would have got the better of me.

Thanks to Christianbrahm for breaking the ice, and Maggie for roping you in.

Again,... WELCOME ! 🌸❤️🌸

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Fri Feb 08, 2013 10:36 pm**

Thanks for the welcome. I recently moved back to Los Angeles area and many things are packed away. But I will find them and share the pix when I do. Anyone know the story about how Dusty threw a full-tilt boogie sword at me and Teda one day? She was mad at both us, although I can't recall why. She was...well, despite her condition that day, her aim was flawless. That sword sliced the air neatly midway between me and Teda's head. Suffice it to say, whatever we'd done or said to provoke her, we stopped doing! LOL. This story is important when I find a poster she gave me once because she drew a big black slash on her own neck right above the inscription to me. She had a wicked sense of humor and loved it when Teda or I would tell the story (in the right circumstances, with the right people, you understand!). The sword looked like something out of that Flying Tiger film...nasty thing, probably an antique. This was in her apartment in the Beechwood area of Hollywood. I believe her neighbor was Linda Lovelace of the Deep Throat fame, and Dusty thought that it was cool to live near someone as famous as herself for quite different reasons! LOL.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Fri Feb 08, 2013 10:39 pm**

Hi Jeffrey...yes, you might find Teda in those prison lists! LOL...I must go take a nap, this has all been so unexpectedly fun! When I return, I'll tell you how Dusty persuaded me to go in front of a judge for Teda and all I got was some flea-bitten kitty...awww.!

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Corinna**

Posted: **Fri Feb 08, 2013 11:02 pm**

A flea-bitten kitty? Naaaawwwww! 🤗🤗

Enjoy your nap, we look forward to your stories. 🤔

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **IWannaBeABluesSinger**

Posted: **Sat Feb 09, 2013 2:30 am**

allherfaces wrote:

I see she has decided to join LTD. thanks, Maggie.

I live to serve.

Maggie

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **darren2722**

Posted: **Sat Feb 09, 2013 8:06 am**

Thanks For the memories Tarra. Great recollections. 🤔 Would love to hear more and it would be really Lovely to see any photos you would be willing to share. 😊

Well Done Maggie, Cor, Christianbrahm,Britlin, Pat & Jeffrey for the detective work. 😊

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **karen**

Posted: **Sat Feb 09, 2013 11:14 am**

Yes thank you Tarra , for sharing these memories with us , lovely of you to do this , as you can see we are all great fans of Dusty , and anything you can and would like to share with us we would love to see.. 😊 😊 🌹

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **allherfaces**

Posted: **Sat Feb 09, 2013 8:58 pm**

IWannaBeABluesSinger wrote:

allherfaces wrote:

I see she has decided to join LTD. thanks, Maggie.

I live to serve.

Maggie

LOL Maggie--appropriate statement for a Dusty fan.

Come on back TT and tell us more.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Sat Feb 09, 2013 9:20 pm**

OK I got one! You see that in that post someone picked up from a couple years ago, I mentioned that the carjacking took place during "my first and only" date with Dusty. But actually there was a second "date" of sorts or there was gong to be. Plans were made the next day to go have Thai food at some place on, I believe, Lankershim Blvd in North Hollywood. I was to pick her up at 7. I knocked on the door at three minutes of and I heard, "You're early damn it!"

"Well let me in and pretend I'm not here yet," said I. So she did, warning me "don't look at me, yet."

"Oh no, absolutely not. Would you please tell Dusty I'm here?"

Giggles. Much thrashing around in either a bathroom or a closet. Full-on discussions with a cat I could not see. Little did I know this was to become the theme of our date night.

Two hours later, I pull into the parking lot of the Thai restaurant. I can smell the food, and by now, I'm ready to eat my steering wheel. We get out of the car, and I'm saying something like "How many times have you been he--"

"SHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!"

"Wha--?"

"Did you hear that?" she said.

"Hear what?"

"I heard a kitten."

We stood perfectly still for nearly 10 minutes. That's pretty hard to do with the scent of that food wafting across my airwaves. Plus the traffic on Lankershim was very busy and loud. I could hear nothing.

"Right there," she said, pointing to a small row of hedge-like bushes up against the front wall of the ever-elusive Thai restaurant.

"I don't hear anything or see anything. Let's go eat and check it out afterwards."

Dusty looked at me with pure panda-eye horror. "The kitten could be DEAD by then."

Ok, well no dead kittens,. Nuh uh. Not on my watch---er date. No way. "OK," I said, "let's find it so it doesn't die."

She gave me one of those "That's better," looks but I could tell she was concerned about my cat empathy quotient.

After about an hour and a half, after crawling around on the dirt, making exiting people step over us, and oh by the way, be quiet, she reached inside one of the bushes and with the sure-handed confidence of a born cat mother, pulled out what appeared to me to be a grey rat. But, hey, I'm not going there I tell myself. This could still be "a date."

The rest of that evening went swimmingly well and Dusty thanked me profusely. She said I had a way with kitties and was surprised I didn't have a cat. We were sitting on her couch, the small grey kitty resting on her, all warm and cozy from having been to the all-night vet, having been to the open-late pet store for supplies, and now, happily asleep in the cleavage I could but wave goodbye to, as I took the cold carton of take-out Mexican food home for a quiet repast. It's not usual for me to eat Mexican food at 6 a.m., but I took some refuge in the knowledge that I would have plenty of energy for the rest of the day's activities, which were to include finding a good home for the adorable, sweet, well-fed kitty.

I have no memory of a third date....LOL...but I believe there were a couple dozen more dates---it's just that I learned not to call them that in case I ended up at the pet shop. ;-)

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **IWannaBeABluesSinger**

Posted: **Sat Feb 09, 2013 11:09 pm**

The legendary Springfield ears strike again.

Maggie

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **charlotte**

Posted: **Sun Feb 10, 2013 12:08 am**

Welcome to LTD Tarra. And thank you for sharing your memories of Dusty with us. I look forward to hearing more from you and seeing your photos. Your stories made me laugh... I can only imagine hanging out with Dusty and getting into all sorts of mischief... 🤪😄

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **jeffery**

Posted: **Sun Feb 10, 2013 1:47 am**

🤪 Ha !

Yes, a good story to share with Charlotte who would have gotten' on well with Dusty. Seeing as how she stopped traffic in a major highway to salvage some poor stranded kitten. Birds of a feather I'd say. 🍀

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **fobakawa**

Posted: **Sun Feb 10, 2013 2:20 am**

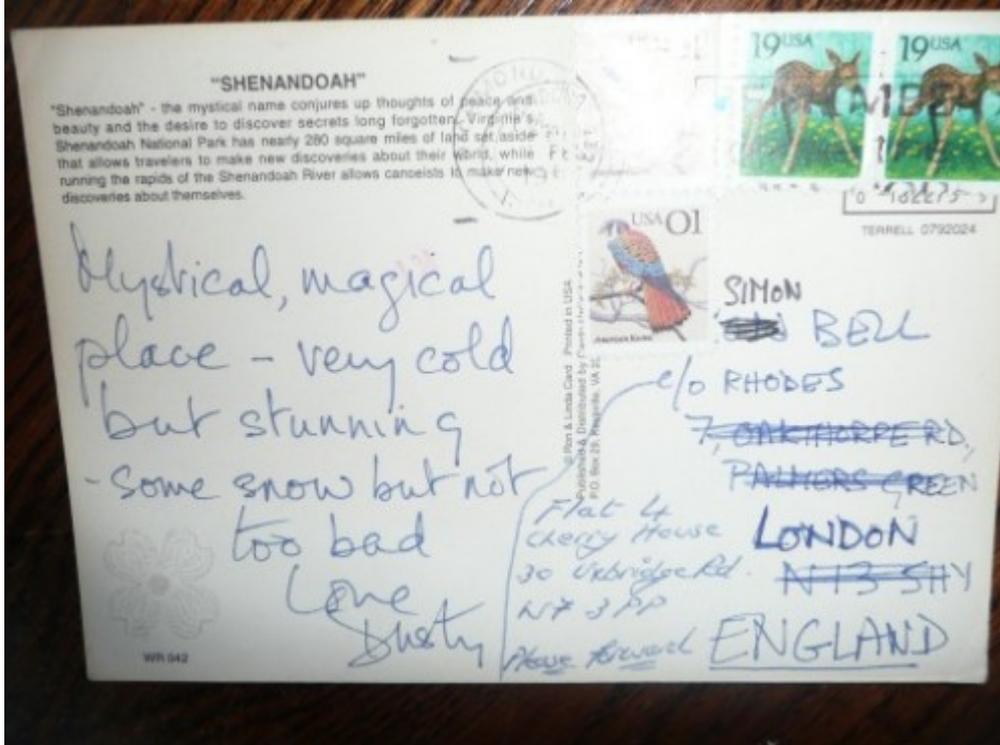
Welcome from me too Tarra! I am loving your stories. I am afraid I have a "crazy cat lady" reputation too but I include other kinds of animals as well 😄 My younger brother has said to me often "You and your f--king animals!". I harrassed him because he had his cat declawed and his dog needs more attention 🤨 Also, "it's crazy but it's true" I stayed at a motel one time on Lankershim! I think it was called the Magic Lamp, not real sure. I don't remember finding any stray kitties though 😄 Had I run into you and Dusty we could have populated an entire shelter 🍀

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Sun Feb 10, 2013 6:33 am**





Neil 😊

Re: New to me Dusty info

by Cas19

Posted: Sun Feb 10, 2013 1:50 pm

Loved seeing your postcard Tara, looking forward to any photos you may have.

Casx

Re: New to me Dusty info

by Corinna

Posted: Sun Feb 10, 2013 2:32 pm

Tarra, that postcard is worth some money, take good care of it! 🙏 I know what Neil paid for his. 😊

As for the location, Dusty moved to Herengracht 125 in Amsterdam. There are some photos of the house here on our website: <http://www.dustyspringfield.org.uk/LTD/> ... Ree_KV2Th4

As for the cat vs date story.... As a date, maybe it wasn't quite what you had hoped 😊 but I find it quite touching to put another being's welfare over one's own. Even if it meant a spoilt date and late dinner. 😊 Not "crazy cat lady-like" at all, just very caring and unselfish. (Did you pay the vet & pet food, Tarra? 😊)

And thanks for sharing, you don't know how much we appreciate your pics & stories!

Here's a pic with Spencer Davis. They recorded Private number in Dec. 1983. So from around the time of your first story.



spencerdavis.jpg (40.83 KiB) Viewed 5400 times

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Hampson**

Posted: **Sun Feb 10, 2013 5:21 pm**

Welcome Tarra and thanks for your stories and most of all the humour you tell them with. It is so nice to hear of one of Dusty's friends telling stories without looking to make a quick buck. Look forward to more.

Wend

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **daydreamer**

Posted: **Sun Feb 10, 2013 6:52 pm**

I agree with Wendy, nice that you are sharing these stories with us Tarra, and with no hidden motive! Thank you. When Dusty went to the States, those years became known as "the lost years" to most fans, so to have you fill in some of those blanks is great. We know she had some bad times and wasn't always the easiest person to have around but I'm always struck by the long term effect she had on those she knew. And I like the way you tell 'em 😊

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **allherfaces**

Posted: **Sun Feb 10, 2013 7:06 pm**

It's time I added my gratitude for your sharing your Dusty stories and memories. 🙌🙌
Fans treasure these first hand accounts more than you know.

Great to see Dusty's sense of humor and cat passion in full bloom. One of the small things we (LTD) do to try and honor Dusty is to help support various cat charities, such as Celia Hammond's which Dusty also helped out. Did you ever go with her to the Wildlife Way Station outside of LA? We have also supported them.

Is there anything you can tell us about Dusty in the studio? We've heard so many stories about her perfectionism. Did you witness that? I'll stop there, instead of going on with a million other questions.

But as for telling us more, in general, about Dusty, may I introduce our latest emoticon?

Please

I knew it would come in handy. 🙌🙌

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **trek007**

Posted: **Sun Feb 10, 2013 7:49 pm**

Thanks for sharing your stories and for the postcard much appreciated Tarra.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Sun Feb 10, 2013 10:23 pm**

>>Here's a pic with Spencer Davis.They recorded Private number in Dec. 1983. So from around the time of your first story.

Corrina---I was there! It was my first time in a recording studio. In fact, I almost want to say the car we were in when we got car-jacked was rented for Dusty by the record company to do this recording, as was the bungalow on, I think, Orange Grove, in Hollywood. I went with her nearly every day to that recording. Someone asked earlier about DS perfectionism---only time I really saw it was when she was singing, specifically, recording. "The pitch is off," I recall her saying to astounded technicians who thought that "take" was perfect. Then it became, "Hmmm, surprised you can't hear how off that pitch is." LOL...she had a million ways to say "NO!" Spencer was a gentleman, but his "handlers" just saw that clock ticking. Once she turned to me, "Can you hear that? Oh never mind, you've a tin ear." Too true! But even I COULD hear it after hearing her sing the same line 50 times.

Usually, because she stayed up so late, she'd pick me up and we'd go for breakfast about 4:30 in the afternoon. She loved IHOP (International House of Pancakes) in West Hollywood (which, btw, is where we went the night we got carjacked---more on that later). Only trouble with IHOP is I don't think they had her very favorite, which was some gawd-awfull plate called Hash. There may be more to that label, but I can't recall it. I always figured it was thinly disguised reconstituted soft spam diced up with hash brown potatoes and eggs on top. She loved it. And coffee, we both loved coffee.

Somewhere, don't ask me where, I have some old cassette tapes she left with me, and I want to say one might have been that duet with Spencer. I think another was her copy of a session with The PSB...these things will eventually materialize but it's going to take me some time and going through tons of boxes. When I found that postcard, I also found an empty envelope that I think was from her from London. It looks like something a birthday card would have been in. I'll scan it later and see what you think. Our birthdays were in the same month, April. Mine on the 7th, hers I think on the 16th. I was born in Hampshire, in a small village called Tadley. My mother was 100% Irish and she married my father an American WWII pilot--they met in London. In fact, DS's mum and mine were from the same area, I think...my mother was from Killorglin, County Kerry. They spoke on the phone once, DS and my mother, and I believe my mother knew some people that DS's mum knew. I was raised in the USA, and taught by Dominican nuns and Jesuit priests---so we had that Catholic thing in common too. We decided that I had more rulers broken over my palms than she did. She was surprised at that!

I wanted to say one thing here...many of you have written me and thanked me for telling these Dusty stories, particularly because they are more positive. We all know about Dusty's humanness, but I like to focus on the fun and/or memorable and interesting times, as those were not one bit less a story of her humanness. Besides, there is one other aspect to consider: Do any of you have ANY idea what would rain upon my head with my mom and Dusty having tea in Heaven if I dished the dirt? LOL...uh no.

I'll leave someone out, and I apologize in advance, but thanks for your welcomes from Darren, Karyn, Evelyn, Neil, Casx, Wend, Carole, Charlotte, Jeffery, Maggie, Corrina, and our board admin whose name I do not know but it's something about All Her Smiles...or All Her Looks...or All Her Hair or All Her Sumpin' or Another!! Thank you everyone! tarra

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Frans**

Posted: **Sun Feb 10, 2013 10:37 pm**

Thank you, Tarra! Your stories make fascinating reading!



Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Corinna**

Posted: **Sun Feb 10, 2013 10:58 pm**

 Wow wow wow. Great story, Tarra! 

You know, this is what we fans WANT to hear. Yes, we love gossip, but the good kind of gossip. The bad stuff, we've read all about in Dancing with Demons...  Your stories are so refreshing and fun! Keep 'em coming!



Btw, how did you and Dusty meet, or got introduced?

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **boztiggs**

Posted: **Sun Feb 10, 2013 11:09 pm**

Im BLOWN away by the whole thing, its just so good to read your stories, you tell them so well, thank you so much for sharing all this with us, it means the WORLD

Neil   

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Sun Feb 10, 2013 11:19 pm**

Oh someone asked if I knew about Wildlife Way Station--was it you Maggie? Anyway, yes, I sure did. Dusty and Fred Perry took me there the first time. And I went several more times with Dusty. I kept track of WWW in the news and once or twice sent them some small monetary gift. Well, remember when I said I moved away from Los Angeles for 10 years? I moved to an area that is about an hour and a half out, called Palmdale. My partner and I bought a gorgeous house in the western foothills of that area, and we loved the High Desert (although parts of Palmdale and nearby city Lancaster) are not so pretty, our area was lovely). Anyway, a few years ago, there was a terrible fire up in that area. By now I was on the WWW mailing list, and a plea came for help moving the animals. The fire was so big it went from an area called Tujungu, where Martine has the WWW, all the way north to Palmdale. At the time I had two blogs going---one a kind of "family" blog and one for the GLBT community. I've been so busy writing novels that I've not kept up with either one, but here's something <http://ttthomasopinionhead.blogspot.com/2009/09/making-progressand-helping-out.html> I did post on WWW. Not sure if I'm linking that correctly---still getting used to this forum. Anyway, other blogs picked it up and WWW received some nice donations. Also Tippi Hedren has a big cat rehab place up in an area midway between Tujungu and Palmdale called Agua Dulce.

When I would go with Dusty, she would visit each of the animals, leaving no one out, from the lions to the gorillas---wait, I can't be sure what they were but they were big and fierce and DS spoke to them so sweetly. Martine always seemed genuinely happy to see DS---Martine had a lot of celebs coming there once and donating...but DS went there as often as she could. Her concern was the real thing, and I believe Martine knew that.

So, my two blogs, if anyone's interested is the aforementioned <http://www.ttthomasopinionhead.blogspot.com> and my GLBT one is <http://www.ttthomas.wordpress.com>

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **boztiggs**

Posted: **Sun Feb 10, 2013 11:20 pm**

Oh, and I think the dish you mentioned was Corned beef hash! LOL

neil 

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Sun Feb 10, 2013 11:31 pm**

That's it Neil! Corned Beef Hash. It's not pretty. It's an acquired taste, I imagine. I tasted DS's once...she scraped around her plate to "get just the right combination" of STUFF, and I'm a good sport. I should add here that I never had it twice. LOL

Re: New to me Dusty info

Thought I'd get a post in before the boards explode with enthusiasm over your posts, T3. 😊

Thanks for the links to your blogs. The second link is just to the general wordpress site--is there one specifically to your blog? Where can we learn more about your novels? Or do you have a secret nome de plume?

First, THANK YOU for treating Dusty with respect whilst not deifying her. She is such an enigma that to hear someone talk about her as an everyday PERSON is so refreshing. And fascinating! 🙌🙌

THANK YOU for answering my questions about DS in the studio at at the WWW. I am but one of the board admins, but a proud founder of LTD along with Rob, Cor, Carole G and others. My username is allherfaces (after Dusty's song), my nickname (signature) is Bosseh (according to some, I have a bossy personality; I've heard Dusty was bossy too--do you agree? Also Bosseh is part of my longer nickname Bosseh Cow, which I'm told, but don't always believe, is a term of endearment. 🐮) My given name is Nancy. Like everyone else around here I'm a total Dusty freak. Your fascinating and fun posts are tearing me away from the presentation I'm preparing on my dissertation about not-straight Dusty fans. 😊



Enjoying every minute. Carry on.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by Dotty86

Posted: Sun Feb 10, 2013 11:59 pm

I couldn't agree more with everyone's comments. Thank you so much for sharing your heart warming stories Tarra and please keep them coming! 😊

Re: New to me Dusty info

by boztiggs

Posted: Mon Feb 11, 2013 12:01 am

oh, i shall have such nice dreams tonight while i process all this!!

Neil 🙏

Re: New to me Dusty info

by boztiggs

Posted: Mon Feb 11, 2013 12:03 am

And also, Corned beef hash is one of my favourites, and I wouldnt have left any of the animals out either

Neil 🙏

Re: New to me Dusty info

by T.T. Thomas

Posted: Mon Feb 11, 2013 12:07 am

LOL, Bosseh! Was Dusty bossy. Why yes, yes she was! ROFL...but she had a rapid-fire mind and I'd have to say that 99.99% of the time she was proven correct. Fortunately my mind was pretty quick then, too (now? not so much!). Dusty was five years older than I, but she always said three years. I only found out when I had to open a bank account for her and go on it as she had only her passport. We opened it at (the no longer in existence) Mitsui Bank in Hollywood, and I have a deposit slip somewhere, or maybe a book of them, with my name, her name and AKA Dutsy Springfield--because she'd get checks with the DS name and no way to cash them.

Someone asked how I met DS. I met her at a meeting of AA in West Hollywood. I was about 3-4 years clean and sober (now I'm around 33 years), and she was prettly new to showing up for meetings from what I heard later. I didn't even know who she was. I mean I knew who DS was but didn't realize the blonde across the room was DS! Anyway, it was one of those sharing meetings where you blurt out your latest drama/trauma and hope someone invites you for coffee afterwards because life is rough and then ya die! LOL...well, I was bemoaning my current relationship and said something about "the blonde tart on the hill" (she lived up Laurel Canyon). Well evidently Dusty's ears perked up at my choice of language because she came over to me at the break and said something about "blonde tarts on hills" and we laughed because she was clearly a blonde, I suspected a bit

of a tart and while I didn't know where she lived, on a hill sounded good. She invited me to join her for coffee that same night after the meeting. We had a great time talking, and then she phoned it into me for about 2-3 weeks. Late night phone calls, topics: everything. Finally, we had the infamous "first date"! Only much later did I appreciate the utter irony of "Well of course you got carjacked---you were with Dusty!" LOL...she called me Missy Tarra, and I know she called Helene Missy Helene, too, and you knew she was being extra sweet for some reason you could never quite figure out but it was lovely to hear.

I miss her. Always will.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **pat.dunham**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 12:20 am**

Thanks Tarra for joining us and recalling these wonderful anecdotes.

A further thanks must go to Christian for starting the whole thing off. 24 hours of detective work and you are found and join us.

Aren't we lucky!. Regards to all LTD's

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **allherfaces**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 12:31 am**

'Twas the HAND OF DUSTY!

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **IWannaBeABluesSinger**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 3:52 am**

Let's all pause a moment for some comfort food:

Corned Beef Hash



Rated: ★★★★★
Submitted By: Jodi McRobb
Photo By: mamahlann

Prep Time: 10 Minutes
Cook Time: 30 Minutes

Ready In: 40 Minutes
Servings: 6

"A combination of corned beef, potatoes, and onions. A quick and easy meal."

INGREDIENTS:

6 large potatoes, peeled and diced 1 medium onion, chopped
1 (12 ounce) can corned beef, cut into chunks 1 cup beef broth

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a large deep skillet, over medium heat, combine the potatoes, corned beef, onion, and beef broth. Cover and simmer until potatoes are of mashing consistency, and the liquid is almost gone. Mix well, and serve.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED © 2013 Allrecipes.com Printed from Allrecipes.com 2/10/2013

I think in England, during WWII, this was known as Bully Beef. Maybe Dusty had it as a child and that's why she liked it.

Maggie

Re: New to me Dusty info

by jeffery

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 4:10 am**

😊 Above all I think Dusty called you a *friend*, and that makes you very special to us. 🥰
Somehow you're more genuine than the ordinary tarts. 😊 Serosuly it's reassuring for me to know that Dusty had you for a friend. I lived out there for awhile, and I know that however crowded L.A. can be a lonely place. Some of us refer to Dusty's time there as her "wilderness years".
Your stories reassure me that she had a friend with some things in common (your heritage), and she had fun romping around with you. 🥰 So I know she wasn't too lonely. 🤗
Thanks for being her friend. Looking forward to *T.T.'s Tall Tales of Two Tarts*. 🥰🥰

Re: New to me Dusty info

by T.T. Thomas

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 5:11 am**



Repurposed Dusty

This is the envelope I made mention of earlier---I'm pretty sure it's from Dust. The envelope was empty, and I have no idea if I still possess its contents, somewhere, but I imagine I kept the envelope because it seemed so quintessential her--no need to throw away a perfectly good envelope just because the recipient changed!

ROFL. The back appears to say "please forward (unreadable) if you can." Now I had, at some point, been living at another address in Studio City with someone, so that first mark under my name might have been the "in care of" sign (%).

Anyway, this one always makes me smile, and maybe I'll find the contents someday. I realized it couldn't have been a birthday card because it's got a December date. I think it says 1990.

If anybody has questions, please don't be shy or feel intrusive. If I know, I'll tell you. You invited me here...and I chose to stay around. ;-)
 tarra

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **allherfaces**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 5:38 am**

Mos def Dusty's handwriting 

Did Dusty really throw stuff into her swimming pool or was that before you met her?

Do you recall her ever talking about her recordings?

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Beautiful soul**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 6:49 am**

Hi Tarra,

I guess you can tell by the many encouraging and appreciative posts you are reading by our members, how we have waited and hoped for someone to help improve our understanding of who Dusty was in life. Even our beloved "veterans" who we're Dusty's fans from the beginning are urging you on, high praise indeed! 

I'd like to take you up on your generous offer in inviting questions, probably the first of many. You spoke of knowing Dusty after Helene, and before Carole & Teda-- but around what year did you meet? Since you knew Pat and Vicki, did you meet Norma as well? How did Dusty spend a typical day? We recently had a thread on Dusty's hobbies, it would be fun to know how well we guessed.

It sounds like you got along well with Helene, what was she like? Much has been said about how Dusty underplayed her own talent, do you think she had any idea how unique and special her voice sounded and how rare it is for someone to be so versatile? What about the "going before the judge story", where you were rewarded with a "flea-bitten kitty"?

I'm certain I'll think of a dozen more questions, so I'll stop here for now. Thank you again for your great stories and the opportunity to get to know Dusty the way we always hoped to!

Best wishes, Connie

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 7:47 am**

Hi Connie!

I will probably take these questions in sections.

>>You spoke of knowing Dusty after Helene, and before Carole & Teda-- but around what year did you meet? Since you knew Pat and Vicki, did you meet Norma as well?

I'm going to guess that I met her around 1982. I vaguely recall I had only been in AA about 3 years, and I joined that auspicious movement in September, 1979. But I might have been 5 years sober. I need something to jog my memory---if I knew the dates she was actually in the recording studio with Spencer, I could figure it out. Maybe someone else knows when the sessions were held...seemed to be over a 4-6 weeks period, maybe less.

I did not know her friend Pat. I only knew of Pat through Dusty, understood her to handle all of Dusty's business in England and to be someone Dusty completely and totally trusted---which, btw, I don't believe I ever heard her say that about a single other person. I did not know Norma, but Dusty spoke very highly and warmly about her. Vicki I did meet, on a couple occasions, along with Nona Hendrix. We all had dinner at a hotel on Sunset Blvd. Dusty had to "explain" to me who Nona was---I knew nothing. This despite the fact that I had worked at

Billboard Publications at one point as a reporter and editor (BUT: for one of their sister publications covering appliances, floors, personal electrics, yeah...whoa!). Anyway, So yes, I did meet Vicki and I believe spoke with her on the phone after that a couple times..during a couple emergencies. Also, much later, at some point I wanted to reach Dusty, who had moved back to England for good, and I didn't know her address. So I sent her a letter in care of Vicki in New York. Thankfully, Vicki sent it on to Dusty, who called me. I also met Sue Cameron numerous times. Carole once or twice, and, of course, Teda. But the person close to Dusty that I knew best was Helene. That will have to wait for my next set of answers because it's bedtime in beautiful Southern California! ;-)

One added note: I really didn't know much about Dusty's history before i met her, career-wise, and when we were friends, there wasn't much of a career going on, so I would have to say that I knew her mostly as a person, because I don't know all that much about the career part after she left the US--you all probably know far more than I do. But I know something up close and personal about the so-called wilderness years or the dark years, but only that part for the 4-5 years before she moved back to UK for good.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 8:06 am**

allherfaces wrote:

Mos def Dusty's handwriting 🤔

Did Dusty really throw stuff into her swimming pool or was that before you met her?

Do you recall her ever talking about her recordings?

Sorry Nancy I meant to answer this before Connie's questions!

That incident or incidents happened before I knew Dusty. Although I do know of one time she threw Teda in the pool at an apartment she lived in, but I don't think it was in fun. LOL

Her recordings? Well if I understand the question, I loved telling her the story of the first song I ever heard of hers and where I was, etc etc. It was "You Don't Have To Say You Love Me (Just be etc etc), and she'd always say, after asking me to tell her the story again, "Too many horns."

A few times I heard her say, "That fucker is messing with me," and that was during the White Heat sessions and I believe she was talking about someone up at the controls. One thing I do know--if she got too mad, she wouldn't be able to sing, no matter how good a mood she was in when we set out for the studio. Many sessions were cut short and she took the blame, saying something about her voice, but...it wasn't her voice more than a few times. Then she'd tell me, "No, it really is my voice tonight." LOL. But usually it was "that fucker is messing with me." I'm not sure what it all meant because she always seemed to treat all the technical people very well. But this one guy kept playing the song back to her saying it sounded great, but she said it didn't. It was the song with the footsteps...by whatshisname? Sorry, I'm tired.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **daydreamer**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 9:22 am**

That would be "Soft Core" Tarra. Pat will be happy to know how well Dusty spoke of her in those years, I know for a fact how much she worried about her out there. I wonder if the hotel you were in on Sunset was the Hyatt? Only because when I stayed there a few years back, and although at the time I didn't know Dusty had visited or stayed, I got such a feeling of her. Later, in an interview, I saw that she had stayed there.

I hope Dusty enjoyed her Corned Beef Hash with mushy peas and red cabbage 🍷

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **karen**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 10:33 am**

Thank you so much Tarra for sharing all this with us , reads like a book that we want to read about Dusty , more the person that we want to know about than the unpleasant things that happened .. lucky you..and as all of us are saying thank you for joining us here and sharing your memories..really appreciated.. 🤔🍷

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Cas19**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 11:17 am**

I was wary at first of reading what you had to say Tarra, but I get the feeling that you are much more genuine than others who claim to know Dusty. I'm enjoying reading the simple things about her. Thank you.

Casx

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 4:35 pm**

Carole---you know what, I think it was a song by Elvis Costello--did that have footsteps? I remember her telling me she wanted to get that one right. It was not one of CP's songs. I remember we had the first of numerous disagreements (which always blew over) because there was a song on that album I didn't like--was there something called Black Sheep? It seemed to drone on to me! At the time I had no idea who CP was, just that she was being mentioned by DS a lot. DS told me I didn't understand "edgy." Lol Oh I think I did! But I wasn't as fond of "edgy" as she was during that period. Finally, at some point during the recording of that album, she told me she was "intrigued" by CP. But she was concerned because she was "older" than her. I think that concern, which I doubt she voiced to CP, filled her with a great deal of anxiety and insecurity. She told me CP was "very big" in Canada. She laughed when I said something about CP had a ways to go, then, because she (DS) was very big in the whole world. She didn't think so, but she kind of liked that I thought so. There's one I was right about!

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Cardiff Bluesgirl**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 4:37 pm**

hello Tarra, just wanted to add my thanks for your posts and for sharing your memories of our favourite girl.



I was ,like Cas, very wary when this thread started and hoped it would be a positive,happy look back at your friendship with Dusty.

we are all very protective of her and the disloyalty she suffered from those in her life who saw her through some very bad times is painful.

enough people let her down without us encouraging them.

so thankyou for the discretion you have shown to her memory. 😊

I am one of the oldies on here ,having followed her since the Springfields days, she was and is my favourite and I just never want to hear intimate, personal tales that she certainly didnt want the public to know about. not because she shouldnt be flawed,we all are, but because I dont believe its our business.

we all loved her anyway and dont understand those who betrayed her.

it seems you have good tales to share and thats really good of you to let us know.

we love hearing gems about her and to reaffirm how she was in perfecting her music and her deep love of all animals.

its interesting how you had such connections re your family history, schooling etc,she must have enjoyed the links between you.

Pat will be pleased to hear your comments too as we all have such respect for her and the true friends who protected and supported her through all the years.

they retained such love and loyalty and Dusty was lucky to have them in her life. 🌹

thankyou for sharing with us. 😊

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **SweMaria**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 5:48 pm**

Just like all the others here I want to add my thanks for all the information about Dusty that you want to share with us! 🙌 All this has been very interesting to read! 😊

The name of the Elvis Costello song on the LP "White Heat" was called "Losing You" but I think the footsteps.. are from the song "Soft Core".. 🎵

I like the fact that she sounded a little like Elvis Costello when she sang the song he had written.

Thank you very much for sharing your memories from Dusty's recordings of the LP "White Heat"! 🎵

I really appreciate to read about any musical memory re Dusty! 🎵 😊

Maybe this is a strange or stupid question 🤔 but do you remember what kind of music Dusty herself was

listening to during these years? Did she like "edgy music"?

Thanks again for your posts! 😊

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 6:05 pm**

Liz, Cas, everyone...I do understand the wariness. It's how I felt when "new" people would mysteriously appear in DS's life...some were fine, most were not. But I won't be writing any Dusty books, although I am a writer (fiction) because two reasons: first, I don't feel I know the subject well enough--I only know a few years of MY interactions with her, and second, I know for a fact she would be most pleased for me to share my stories with her dedicated fans in just this way, in this venue. I was friend of hers, and a fan, but the emphasis was on our relationship as friends. And you'll not be hearing from me whatever intimacies I know. And my "take" on the "troubles" is quite different in its understanding from those I've read. There's a reason you never see my name (that I know of) in the round-ups about Dusty. I know I was important to her during that time, on various levels, but not all levels, but I was not important to anyone who has written about her in book form. I think that pretty much says it all...tarra

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 6:14 pm**

>>>Maybe this is a strange or stupid question but do you remember what kind of music Dusty herself was listening to during these years? Did she like "edgy music"?<<

Oh I don't think any questions are stupid...some answers are though! LOL...Dusty's listening habits? Here's what I know: every time she got in the car, she would turn my radio off if I had music on. Every time I got into whatever her car was, the radio was either off or it was on talk radio. I never knew her to like "edgy" music--so the White Heat album was a surprise to me. I think the whole subject of "music" was not welcome when she wasn't making music. Too painful I always thought. I got to the point where I'd turn the radio off before she got into the car once I figured it out. If she listened to music alone, I don't know what kind; I heard nothing ever being played in her apartment other than a couple blues albums by people I didn't know, on a cheap cassette player she kept around. I don't recall ever seeing a full-on stereo set in any of her places. She once had me listen to something Teda had recorded, but it was on the stereo system at my house.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 6:20 pm**

And Connie---I've not forgot your other questions, just running out of time! I still work full time at my day job (who can afford to retire?) and will be for another couple years at least. But I will get to those questions about how Dusty spent a typical day (LOL--hint: nothing was typical!), more about Helene and I'll go back later and see what else you asked.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Corinna**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 6:43 pm**

T.T. Thomas wrote:

And you'll not be hearing from me whatever intimacies I know. And my "take" on the "troubles" is quite different in its understanding from those I've read. There's a reason you never see my name (that I know of) in the round-ups about Dusty. I know I was important to her during that time, on various levels, but not all levels, but I was not important to anyone who has written about her in book form. I think that pretty much says it all...tarra

You don't know how good this sounds to us! 🌟🌟

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Beautiful soul**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 6:54 pm**

Thanks Tarra,

I'm almost hesitant to ask, but I have so many questions I must be patient 🙏 just think of me as an overly excited Labrador retriever, pat me on the head and tell me to "sit" and "stay"! 😊

Not since the serialized installments of the Sherlock Holmes stories has anyone's writings been more eagerly awaited! Lol

I know others will have their questions too, so take your time and do what's best for you.

(Ps previous post had a typo, didn't mean you knew Pat, meant knew of her from Dusty)

Best wishes, Connie

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 7:02 pm**

>>Not since the serialized installments of the Sherlock Holmes stories has anyone's writings been more eagerly awaited! Lol<<

Oh LOL Connie...I wish my fiction would be as popular! LOL, but it's getting there.

btw, Carole: Yes! It was the Hyatt on Sunset where DS and I met Vicki and Nona for dinner. And I do believe DS had stayed there, possibly often. So your "Dusty feelings" were accurate.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **allherfaces**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 7:17 pm**

"And my "take" on the "troubles" is quite different in its understanding from those I've read. "

I would be interested in hearing your take, if you wish to speak to it at some point.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Hampson**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 7:32 pm**

LOL Tarra you realise we could keep you going for years on here. You won't have time for any more writing fiction or otherwise. And forget the day job, this is it.

<http://www.dustyspringfieldsoul4u.com>

Thought you might like to see our Dusty website as well.

Wend

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **boztiggs**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 7:54 pm**

Couldnt get home from work fast enough today LOL

Neil 🙏

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **villagegirl**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 8:31 pm**

I can only reiterate what others have already said. Thank you for the stories you have shared with us Tarra, as you can see they are greatly appreciated and enjoyed by all on this site. 😊

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **paula**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 9:20 pm**

Hello and Welcome Tarra

enjoying your stories , along with everyone else. It IS wonderful of you to share some of your "hanging with Dusty' moments. It's a pleasure to hear from someone who did hang with Dusty, who was a friend and who

respects that some of those memories are private & personal but willing to share some of your fun times & interesting adventures together. As you can see, most of us our Dusty obsessed and when something or someone comes along with new stories, pictures, music ect...we are in our glory. thanks for sharing and yes..I think Dusty would like you sharing with her fans. look forward to more 😊

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **boztiggs**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 9:43 pm**

So sad that she stopped listening to music because it was painful to her that she wasnt making music herself, after it being so much a part of her, I shall have a good cry about that tonight, i can tell already

Neil 🎵 🎵 🎵 🎵

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Beautiful soul**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 9:56 pm**

Me too Neil, I often forget that having a musician's ear must be a blessing and a curse. Imagine hearing every little imperfection in a recording, it must be torture. Just keep remembering that Dusty found her way back again-- but yeah, a good cry is called for I think 🎵

Connie 😊

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **jeffery**

Posted: **Mon Feb 11, 2013 10:56 pm**

Corinna wrote:

T.T. Thomas wrote:

And you'll not be hearing from me whatever intimacies I know. And my "take" on the "troubles" is quite different in its understanding from those I've read. There's a reason you never see my name (that I know of) in the round-ups about Dusty. I know I was important to her during that time, on various levels, but not all levels, but I was not important to anyone who has written about her in book form. I think that pretty much says it all...tarra

You don't know how good this sounds to us! 🌟🌟

🌹 🙏 Thank you for being a friend ! 🙏 🌹

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **IWannaBeABluesSinger**

Posted: **Tue Feb 12, 2013 12:10 am**

Maybe Dusty didn't listen to music in the eighties because most of it was wretched. After a lifetime of Ella, Peggy Lee, Motown and Stax just imagine how she responded to Take On Me, or anything by KC and The Sunshine Band 😊

Maggie

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Hampson**

Posted: **Tue Feb 12, 2013 12:35 am**

IWannaBeABluesSinger wrote:

Maybe Dusty didn't listen to music in the eighties because most of it was wretched. After a lifetime of Ella, Peggy Lee, Motown and Stax just imagine how she responded to Take On Me, or anything by KC and The Sunshine Band 😊

That's true Maggie, I switched off through most of the 80's and 90's.

Wend

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **oboe93**

Posted: **Tue Feb 12, 2013 2:07 am**

I want to chime in and say Welcome Tarra and thank you SO much for sharing these stories. I love your writing style and sense of humor that sounds pretty similar to Dusty's. :) It's nice to hear about the good stories with that touch of sarcasm that makes them all the more endearing. After all, I think we find so many of her "quirks" endearing (stalling dinner to save kitties, taking forever to get ready, having a million passive-aggressive ways to say 'no' in the studio to get exactly what she wanted). And while you acknowledge that yes bad things happened, I echo everyone else's appreciation that you've had the tact to know what's appropriate to share and in what "venue" to share it. Again, thank you so much.

As far as the not listening to music part, I also find that so incredibly sad - especially after hearing about the enthusiasm she had in the 60s for sharing music she loved with her friends, (supposedly cranking the volume to 11).

80s music: I was actually skeptical of White Heat after hearing one or two tracks (I think one of them was Blind Sheep). It's so drastically different from all her earlier stuff. But then I finally gave the whole album an honest listen and realized that Jean-Alain Roussel's synth arrangements were really ahead of their time. So many layers! And the synth sounds used are a lot less "grating" than so much crap that was put out in the 80s. I mean, when "Donnez-Moi" opens up into the bridge, it's like clouds parting and sounds like some electro indie-pop that you'd hear at SXSW today. I love it. I also like the wide range of styles on that album and the fact that "Soft Core" (the footsteps one) was an accidental live take! Which is a rare treat when she was known for painstakingly recording things word by word, syllable by syllable. Hey, maybe that's why she was being so picky on that track when she thought "that fucker is messing with me". Haha! But I can see why she was "uncharacteristically proud" of that album (according to Wikipedia).

Ok I will definitely think of questions to ask you, but for now I just wanted to add some thoughts and say how much I'm enjoying following this thread! And thanks to everyone who got it started!

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Christianbrahm**

Posted: **Tue Feb 12, 2013 5:42 am**

OMG! I have been gone for just a few days and look what happened! I am so very pleased. Thank you Tara for all this wonderful information and stories. Thanks to everyone else for thanking me haha. I feel so happy to have found that link to Tara's PSB story.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **allherfaces**

Posted: **Tue Feb 12, 2013 5:18 pm**

That will teach you to leave us, Christian. 😊 😊

Please

C'mon back T3; your loyal readers await. 🙏

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Tue Feb 12, 2013 5:28 pm**



DS Wedding.jpg (33.52 KiB) Viewed 5324 times

I'm workin' on it Bosseh! In the meantime, someone was nice enough to send me a copy of "the wedding" picture, and with my handy-dandy editing aptitude (ie almost none), I managed to delete the offending buffoon she married, and what's left is me reading the "vows" from an actress friend's sitcom script. Note who Dust is looking at! LOL...You probably all have seen this, but I had not, so it was a walk down "memorable lane" for me until I find that Polaroid of me and DS in the studio. The reason I chose to put this up is that I want to talk about me and Dusty shopping for that inauspicious day...LOL...but you be waitin' a day or so for THAT story 'cause I just remembered I have a partner and Pug to pay attention to, oh a go to work, for a day or so! LOL...t3

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Tue Feb 12, 2013 5:30 pm**

By the way...THREE CHEERS fro Christian for urging y'all on your detective work! LOL...still laughing at someone looking at prison roles. Thanks Christian! t3

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **karen**

Posted: **Tue Feb 12, 2013 5:38 pm**

Unfortunately I can't see the picture Tarra... 🙄

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **T.T. Thomas**

Posted: **Tue Feb 12, 2013 6:29 pm**

Karen--any better now? T3

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **karen**

Posted: **Tue Feb 12, 2013 6:48 pm**

Thank you Tarra .. can now and you too .. 🙄 😊

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **Corinna**

Posted: **Tue Feb 12, 2013 8:54 pm**

"T3"? Many people take much longer to get a nickname here, but well done for earning one so fast! 😊 Well deserved, I may add. 🙄

Please say hello to your long-suffering partner and to the pug. Apologies to them, but you're wanted here! 😊



Re: New to me Dusty info

Can't wait for the shopping spree story. 😊

Re: New to me Dusty info

by boztiggs

Posted: Tue Feb 12, 2013 9:47 pm

Im having the time of my life LOL

Neil 😳😳😳😳😳😳

Re: New to me Dusty info

by jeffery

Posted: Tue Feb 12, 2013 10:40 pm

T.T. Thomas wrote:
 DS Wedding.jpg
 I'm workin' on it Bosseh! In the meantime, someone was nice enough to send me a copy of "the wedding" picture, and with my handy-dandy editing aptitude (ie almost none), I managed to delete the offending buffoon she married, and what's left is me reading the "vows" from an actress friend's sitcom script. Note who Dust is looking at! LOL...You probably all have seen this, but I had not, so it was a walk down "memorable lane" for me until I find that Polaroid of me and DS in the studio. The reason I chose to put this up is that I want to talk about me and Dusty shopping for that inauspicious day...LOL...but you be waitin' a day or so for THAT story 'cause I just remembered I have a partner and Pug to pay attention to, oh a go to work, for a day or so! LOL...t3

🙄 The Teda beast has been deleted. 🙄

Re: New to me Dusty info

by anagrnt90

Posted: Wed Feb 13, 2013 4:30 am

Tarra,

I'd like to express my gratitude for everything you've said until now, and also for being so sincere and respectfully so. (I tried to defend Carole Pope in the other thread, but I don't think I did so well, though 😊). I even said to Nancy earlier today, I am so jealous of each and everyone of you that were lucky enough to meet Dusty. I just wish there would be any way it could happen to me as well. I know it isn't possible, so I'm always very happy when you guys are willing to share your memories. Keep 'em coming, please, you have no idea of how desperate a 15 year old can get! hehe

Ana.

Re: New to me Dusty info

by IWannaBeABluesSinger

Posted: Wed Feb 13, 2013 6:02 am

anagrnt90 wrote:
 ...I am so jealous of each and everyone of you that were lucky enough to meet Dusty. I just wish there would be any way it could happen to me as well. I know it isn't possible, so I'm always very happy when you guys are willing to share your memories.
 Keep 'em coming, please, you have no idea of how desperate a 15 year old can get! hehe
 Ana.

Ana,

you are forgetting that most of us were 15 when WE first fell under Dusty's spell so we know exactly what it's

like. We just had the advantage of knowing that she was "out there" somewhere. And, in a very real way, she still is. I can only bear to think of her as someone who is still here because I DIDN'T see her when she was alive. So she's as real to me today as she ever was.

Maggie

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **jeffery**

Posted: **Wed Feb 13, 2013 6:58 am**

😊 Yes I was also 15 once Ana, and I could only dream of meeting Dusty Springfield. Late at night I could only hear her on this Philco tube radio broadcast from WBZ out of Boston. Her music stayed with me since then, and now excites new generations. She is timeless. 🍷



Philco%2050-1725%20radio-phonograph.jpg (69.32 KiB) Viewed 5227 times

Re: New to me Dusty info

by **fobakawa**

Posted: **Wed Feb 13, 2013 7:06 am**

jeffery wrote:

[8] Yes I was also 15 once Ana, and I could only dream of meeting Dusty Springfield. Late at night I could only hear her on this Philco tube radio broadcast from WBZ out of Boston. Her music stayed with me since then, and now excites new generations. She is timeless. 🍷

Philco%2050-1725%20radio-phonograph.jpg

If I lived nearer to you Jeffery I would be straight up at your house trying to buy that radio from you! Does it still work?