

Let's Talk Dusty!

The Ultimate Forum for Dusty Springfield Fans

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[Re: New biography](#)

by [daydreamer](#) » Thu Jul 10, 2014 6:46 am

*LilCajunGirl wrote:*Can someone please tell me what a "serviced flat" is? Is it like an extended stay hotel?

Yes, in a way it is.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Serviced_apartment

There's a part of you, that's a part of me...

Carole x



[daydreamer](#)

Moderator



Posts: 3667

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:17 am

Location: Cheshire, England

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [LilCajunGirl](#) » Thu Jul 10, 2014 6:55 am

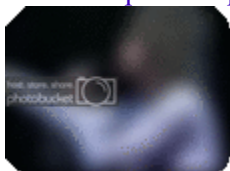
Thank You, my dear! I was confused!!!

[JoAnn](#)

(Lil Cajun Girl)

XXOO

"...So I'm packin up my bags, gonna make my getaway..."



[LilCajunGirl](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 240

Joined: Sun Jan 12, 2014 7:37 am

Location: New Orleans, Louisiana USA

[Top](#)

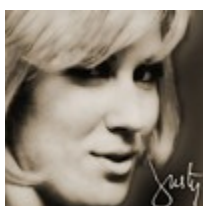
[Re: New biography](#)

by [Corinna](#) » Thu Jul 10, 2014 9:16 am

I never saw the laundry bag before, Neil. What a treasure!
Cor xx



*Dusty Springfield, that's a pretty name
Pretty as a pearl
What a pretty girl*



[Corinna](#)

Site Admin



Posts: 8252

Joined: Wed Dec 16, 2009 8:52 pm

Location: Stockholm, Sweden

- [Website](#)

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [IWannaBeABluesSinger](#) » Thu Jul 10, 2014 10:36 am

LilCajunGirl wrote: Can someone please tell me what a "serviced flat" is? Is it like an extended stay hotel?

It's a flat that comes furnished, with maid service like a hotel (sheets, towels, cleaning).

Maggie



[IWannaBeABluesSinger](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1682

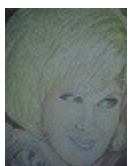
Joined: Sun Apr 24, 2011 3:54 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [darren2722](#) » Thu Jul 10, 2014 2:08 pm

Love it Neil. 😊
I Couldn't Ask For More



[darren2722](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 7912

Joined: Sat Jun 16, 2012 6:12 pm

Location: Sittingbourne Kent

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Cas19](#) » Thu Jul 10, 2014 3:09 pm

boztiggs wrote: Im over it now. I got Dustys laundry bag out before and thought F*** Karen Bartlett and her malicious money making violation of Dusty. cos I've got Dustys laundry bag, and that is far more important.

10492073_10152321381718515_1765257627220799874_n.jpg

Neil 😊

Love it Neil, what a fantastic thing to own.

Casxx

Something in your eyes



[Cas19](#)

All I see is you



Posts: 23272

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:25 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [boztiggs](#) » Thu Jul 10, 2014 5:08 pm

Thanks all, what i love most is that its so obviously well used, and really personal to Dusty, these things matter!

Neil 😊

[http://i213.photobucket.com/albums/cc16 ... 3f87dd.gif](http://i213.photobucket.com/albums/cc16...3f87dd.gif)



[boztiggs](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1761

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 9:22 am

Location: wales

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Richard](#) » Thu Jul 10, 2014 6:00 pm

I haven't bought this yet, but I did read a few extracts in the Daily Express a week or so ago. It seems to be the type of book that likes to show the star in a not very good light. 😞 Not sure I really want to read it, as I'm not sure how much is based on fact and how much is an exaggerated version of the truth. One thing I read that interested me was that Dusty was offered the Bond theme, Nobody does it better, but this was at a low point in her life and she didn't quite get her act together in time to record it. Is this a fact? If so, how sad that Dusty didn't get to do this. Rich.

[Richard](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 175

Joined: Sat Jan 01, 2011 6:12 pm

Location: United Kingdom

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [IWannaBeABluesSinger](#) » Thu Jul 10, 2014 7:26 pm

Richard wrote: I haven't bought this yet, but I did read a few extracts in the Daily Express a week or so ago. It seems to be the type of book that likes to show the star in a not very good light. 😞 Not sure I really want to read it, as I'm not sure how much is based on fact and how much is an exaggerated version of the truth. One thing I read that interested me was that Dusty was offered the Bond theme, Nobody does it better, but this was at a low point in her life and she didn't quite get her act together in time to record it. Is this a fact? If so, how sad that Dusty didn't get to do this. Rich.

The fact Dusty turned down the Bond theme, and several other eventual hits in the mid-seventies, has been misinterpreted as Dusty somehow losing her ability to pick songs. Far from it.

It came when she was in the grip of a regular cycle of drug-induced psychosis brought on by daily doses of anti-depressants. She knew that a hit song meant promotional appearances, live performance and interviews. But because she couldn't predict how she would be functioning from one day to the next she didn't dare make commitments that she might have to cancel at the last minute. Dusty knew that would destroy what was left of her career so it was better to say no to everything, regardless of the immediate cost.

Of course, she didn't explain it that way when she said no, and her reasons for turning down the songs seemed illogical and a form of career suicide. If anything her career instincts always remained impeccable, no matter how scrambled her thinking appeared to others.

Maggie



[IWannaBeABluesSinger](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1682

Joined: Sun Apr 24, 2011 3:54 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [JMFabianoRPL](#) » Fri Jul 11, 2014 3:19 am

Cas19 wrote:

boztiggs wrote: Im over it now. I got Dustys laundry bag out before and thought F*** Karen Bartlett and her malicious money making violation of Dusty. cos I've got Dustys laundry bag, and that is far more important.

10492073_10152321381718515_1765257627220799874_n.jpg

Neil 😊

Love it Neil, what a fantastic thing to own.

Casxx

So bag wise you get the laundry- instead of the scum-.

[JMFabianoRPL](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 187

Joined: Thu Oct 13, 2011 2:01 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [JMFabianoRPL](#) » Fri Jul 11, 2014 3:20 am

Didn't Fred Perry say she disliked the Bond song because it was "suggestive"?

Well, we know that Dusty DID do a Bond song -- sort of -- and it couldn't be topped anyway.

[JMFabianoRPL](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 187

Joined: Thu Oct 13, 2011 2:01 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [cMdM333](#) » Fri Jul 11, 2014 5:37 am

hello,

i think i've read all the Dusty biographies and thought i may as well add this latest one to the list...it was not what i expected...i thought that karen bartlett was a serious journalist and would have taken a more scholarly approach...it is sloppy and a mess...i read a lot of biographies and the best one i've read in the last five years is STEVE JOBS by Walter Isaacson but there are glaring differences...Walter Isaacson is good writer...he does his "homework" ...he had the cooperation of Steve Jobs because Steve Jobs wanted to be known...the good, the bad and everything in between...it's a great book...Dusty did not want to be known...with all the good, the bad and everything in between written about her, i think the worst thing that can be said about Dusty as a person is that her behaviour hurt herself more than anyone around her...i've seen interviews of Dusty on YouTube and the only thing that she has said that i don't believe is that she didn't care about the words to a song...NO ONE could sing and phrase a song like she did and not care, understand, and feel the words...anyway...let them talk, let them profit, let them try to elevate themselves...at the end of the day, i go to my iPhone, i pick the artist - Dusty Springfield - i hit shuffle and THAT IS WHAT MATTERS!

cheers,
christine



[cMdM333](#)

Little by little



Posts: 45
Joined: Thu Nov 28, 2013 12:38 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

■ by [IWannaBeABluesSinger](#) » Fri Jul 11, 2014 11:16 am

JMFabianoRPL wrote: Didn't Fred Perry say she disliked the Bond song because it was "suggestive"?

Well, we know that Dusty DID do a Bond song -- sort of -- and it couldn't be topped anyway.

Dusty said she didn't like the suggestive line - Nobody Does IT Better. She thought it was vulgar.

A laughable sentiment from an adult woman who had sung "The only boy who could ever teach me" and "Looking to see how much we've grown", but what was she supposed to say to put them off? "I can't record your song because if it's a hit that would really be a problem for me. You see I have these demons that keep showing up and when they're here I just can't function. Sorry." Nope. Better spin something non-sensical.

Maggie



[IWannaBeABluesSinger](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1682

Joined: Sun Apr 24, 2011 3:54 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

■ by [daydreamer](#) » Fri Jul 11, 2014 7:32 pm

I was wondering where to post this but then decided here was good enough. I came across this wonderfully positive blog on Dusty and Henley earlier today, it's really moving and counteracts the worst parts of the book. He's writing about Dusty in the way I would like to, if I could only find the right words.

<http://tingleblades.wordpress.com/2012/...th-myself/>

Dusty Springfield: I just don't know what to do with myself
dusty

Henley on Thames is a funny old place. It's just about the most kempt town in England. Spick pavements advertise their immaculate surfaces; Pedigree Chum advert dogs keep obediently on the leash. The river beckons you to pootle, to call up the spirit of Ratty and mess around in boats, though the scene is so perfect it's even impossible to imagine a disruptive Toad toot-tooting his way up the High Street. Gosh, no; these are roads designed for four-by-four weekend Sloanery and open-top sports-car displays of headscarf and diamonds. Henley. Antonym: Middlesbrough. An easy-living, Bolly-swallowing, Spectator-subscribing, pastel-shirt and chino-togged embodiment of much that is piss-awful about this country.

Well, on some levels, yes. I've had to bite my lip sometimes in this simulacrum of aristo privilege, and break on through my class hang-ups to the other side (not least because the rambling country round the Hambleden Valley and the nearby Chiltern woods is so life-affirming and glorious). Henley has also been the site of some unlikely musical experiences. Perhaps the most bizarre was the 80s Rewind Festival in 2009. It was lovely to see and hear so many second-rate stars of yesteryear (erm, Howard Jones, Go West, Carol Decker) as well as some genuine pop legends (Bananarama, ABC, Gloria Gaynor), but my overriding memory of the festival is the mind-boggling descent of deely-boppered fortysomethings onto unflappable Henley, hysteria rubbing up against hauteur. The weekend was one long nightmarish stag and hen party; the air reeked of sunburnt flesh and spilt Carlsberg. And it was sort of gleeful. I found myself contemplating what the millionaires over the river must be thinking, and also what the popstars on stage were going through. I imagined the lead singer of China Crisis surveying the hillside mansions, thinking "this could have been mine. I could have been George Harrison!" Never has a music festival caused me to reflect so much on the haves and have nots. How very eighties indeed.

But Henley's lasting musical connection for me is altogether more profound, spiritual even. I never visit the town without a little pilgrimage to the parish church of St Mary to pay my respects to a certain someone. For here lies a legend. Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife (or at least from the braying county vowels) a little gravestone marks out an unassuming woman with an unmistakable, unmatched gift.

Dusty Springfield was a very English pop star, which is a funny thing to say about an Irish Catholic soul singer who whiled away a good deal of her life in California. Or perhaps it's not a funny thing at all; her very unlikeliness was part of the deal. Where Aretha and Etta nursed their instruments in the gospel church, Dusty found hers in the convent school and on the BBC. Those early black and white variety shows for the Beeb are so part of the iconography of the English sixties – cappuccino chrome and beehives – that it's easy to mistake them for cosy Carnaby-lite. To do so would be a gross oversight. Not only do they contain some of the most spine-tingling musical footage of the era; they also offer a priceless glimpse into the art and life of the singer. Dusty chose the material herself, and often had a hand in inviting particular guests (a quick internet search will yield clips of Woody Allen and Jimi Hendrix on her show, amongst others). She used her influence to introduce the British to the sounds of Stax, Motown and Atlantic, and proffered her own fantastic cover versions into the bargain. Check out her jubilant take on Martha Reeves and the Vandellas' 'Nowhere to run': it's such wondrous release, and epitomises just why the bubbling pop culture of the 1960s was so important to England, offering a way out into America, and a way in to the soul.

Those were Dusty's horizons – the beckoning Atlantic and the bruised heart. It was this inside-outside duality that made her into a truly singular musician, gifting her a dynamic range far beyond that of many of her contemporaries. Listening to a classic Springfield record is like watching a fragile star in her dressing room talking herself into performance, then emerging from the wings into the glaring light. We're given the privilege of eavesdropping on her transformation. It's not something that happens as regularly as you might think in soul music; Aretha could certainly show vulnerability, but the sheer throttle of her voice always underscored it, whereas Dusty worked up to the climax, rather than down from it. 'I close my eyes and count to ten' is a perfect example of this. We hear her move from apprehensive understudy to smoky chanteuse to tragic Motown queen; with any other singer, it would seem like donning masks or flitting between roles, but with Dusty every single voice is the real deal, and entirely consistent with the others. And in every song she's living what it is to be an English soul diva; to conquer an inbuilt reticence or self-consciousness, to discover that there can be strength in holding back before holding forth.

This can be tremulously sensual. As the redoubtable Greil Marcus put it, Dusty in Memphis is 'a cool, smart, sexually distracted' album, and it certainly resituates the loins somewhere near the ears. 'Son of a preacher man' is quite possibly the sexiest three minutes ever committed to disc by a British female singer. Aretha's later version is technically perfect but considerably inferior; she keeps her coat on while Dusty's unbuttoning her blouse. So many of the other tracks are just pinnacles of interpretation: from the overflowing country-soul of 'So much love' to the post-coital, mussed-up, lip-smudged 'Breakfast in bed' and the pre-coital anticipation of 'Just a little lovin'', this is an album that never falls below bed temperature. It's all even more miraculous when you think that Dusty couldn't bear to sing a note at the original Memphis sessions and had to be overdubbed in New York afterwards. Ego is utterly absent: it's almost a cliché to talk of a singer losing themselves in a song, but Dusty really did, and we are all the better for it.

It's very hard for me to choose a track in this instance. The first line of 'I'd rather leave while I'm in love' is one of the greatest five seconds in pop music (though the song suffers from a windy sax solo); Dusty's live TV version of 'A house is not a home' could have made the cut, but this blog's about the recorded track, not the song. And so I've gone back to the first one that ever melted my spine to liquid. 'I just don't know what to do with myself' is one of those fabulous sixties recordings in which all the disparate threads of the era are woven into one seamless strand. The cleverest of songwriters, Burt Bacharach, bumps into Dusty. They take each others' hands and walk straight up to the Wall of Sound, only to discover that together they can vault clean over it and leap into pop Elysium. The timpani boom, the violins swirl, and Dusty's soul is all but consumed in the heat of the rising melody.

'I just don't know what to do with myself' makes me deliriously happy, which seems ill-fitting; it's a song of nail-biting, almost self-harming sadness (and it's difficult not to factor what we know of Springfield's own life into this). But whenever Dusty takes on a Bacharach and David song, the listening experience for me is unmatched; it's like Janet Baker's Purcell or Regine Crespin's Berlioz. There simply is no other way to do it. I can't listen to Dionne Warwick slinking through 'The look of love' or Gene Pitney caterwauling through 'Twenty four hours from Tulsa' (or, for that matter, Cilla Black crooning 'Anyone who had a heart'). These songs are only Dusty songs. There is no such thing as a 'version' in her universe. Song and singer are the same.

As the end of 'I just don't know' makes apparent, she simply didn't know what else to do. It was natural that such a shy girl should make that amazing sound once the orchestra crescendo took flight; it was, perhaps, the only thing that truly made sense in her life. Everything else seems like a dream – her instrumental role in getting Led Zeppelin to sign to Atlantic, her legendary reputation for food fights, her refusal to sing to a segregated audience in apartheid South Africa. Even that little grave in Henley is a phantasmic vision; a trick of the light in a town of smooth veneers. Close your eyes, though, and the reality of musical perfection drowns out the unreality of the cars and pushchairs and pleasure boats. Dig down deep, and there is soul in the soil.

There's a part of you, that's a part of me...

Carole x



[daydreamer](#)

Moderator



Posts: 3667

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:17 am

Location: Cheshire, England

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Rob](#) » Fri Jul 11, 2014 8:41 pm

More than "good enough" Carole this is exactly the right thread.

I love the words, i love their sentiment

Thanks

R B



[Rob](#)

Moderator




Posts: 2821
Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:17 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [trek007](#) » Fri Jul 11, 2014 8:43 pm

One word from me.....Wonderful 

Thanks Carole for finding this
[Trekx](#). Often called Carole.

Ev'rything's coming up Dusty.



[trek007](#)

Can I get a witness


Posts: 4227
Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:32 am
Location: England

[Top](#)

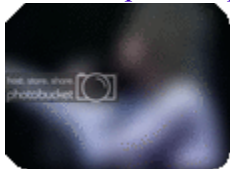
[Re: New biography](#)

by [LilCajunGirl](#) » Fri Jul 11, 2014 8:48 pm


That was SO AWESOME!!! Love it! Maybe we could get whomever wrote this to write a decent book about Dusty!

[JoAnn](#)
(Lil Cajun Girl)
xxoo

"...So I'm packin up my bags, gonna make my getaway..."



[LilCajunGirl](#)

I'll try anything


Posts: 240
Joined: Sun Jan 12, 2014 7:37 am
Location: New Orleans, Louisiana USA

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Cecelia](#) » Fri Jul 11, 2014 9:30 pm

What a fantastic piece of work and a fitting tribute to the one and only!



[Cecelia](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1056

Joined: Thu Oct 10, 2013 9:57 pm

Location: Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [pat.dunham](#) » Fri Jul 11, 2014 9:48 pm

Thanks so much Carole, what a wonderful article. I wonder who it is ?
I'd rather see the world the way it used to be.....
..I'm goin' back.

Pat x



[pat.dunham](#)

Can I get a witness



Posts: 4601

Joined: Wed Jun 06, 2012 6:41 pm

Location: Hertfordshire UK

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Brenda king](#) » Sat Jul 12, 2014 12:02 am

Thanks for sharing this Carole. She truly was so gifted!

[Brenda king](#)

Little by little



Posts: 50

Joined: Mon Feb 17, 2014 7:59 pm

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [fobakawa](#) » Sat Jul 12, 2014 5:54 am

Thank you for posting that Carole. It was a pleasure to read 😊
Evelyn



[fobakawa](#)

Where am I going?





Posts: 577
Joined: Tue Jan 31, 2012 5:20 am
Location: Western Nevada

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [darren2722](#) » Sat Jul 12, 2014 7:10 am

Lovely 'anonymous' tribute.  Thanks for posting Carole. 
I Couldn't Ask For More



[darren2722](#)

Someone who cares





Posts: 7912
Joined: Sat Jun 16, 2012 6:12 pm
Location: Sittingbourne Kent

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [karen](#) » Sat Jul 12, 2014 8:44 am

Yes thanks for posting Carole ..more of what we like to hear..  



[karen](#)

I only want to be with you



Posts: 18107
Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 6:48 pm

[Top](#)

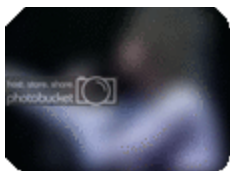
[Re: New biography](#)

by [dusty nut](#) » Sat Jul 12, 2014 9:19 am

How wonderful to read this after all the disappointment over the book. Thanks Carole.
Lynn x

Nothing turns the day on, when the world is yawning





[dusty nut](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 5618

Joined: Thu Apr 04, 2013 12:17 pm

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Corinna](#) » Sat Jul 12, 2014 9:23 am

What a great read! Now if this person could write some tenthousand more words like that, I'd throw away the other biographies...



Cor xx

Dusty Springfield, that's a pretty name

Pretty as a pearl

What a pretty girl!



[Corinna](#)

Site Admin



Posts: 8252

Joined: Wed Dec 16, 2009 8:52 pm

Location: Stockholm, Sweden

- [Website](#)

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Cas19](#) » Sat Jul 12, 2014 1:00 pm

The writer certainly has a way with words and know what they talking about. Thank you Carole.

Casx

Something in your eyes



[Cas19](#)

All I see is you



Posts: 23272
Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:25 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [boztiggs](#) » Sat Jul 12, 2014 3:54 pm

Oh, how I wish I could have written that, just wonderful

Neil 🙌

[http://i213.photobucket.com/albums/cc16 ... 3f87dd.gif](http://i213.photobucket.com/albums/cc16...3f87dd.gif)



[boztiggs](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1761

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 9:22 am

Location: wales

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [jeffery](#) » Sat Jul 12, 2014 10:09 pm

boztiggs wrote: Thanks all, what i love most is that its so obviously well used, and really personal to Dusty, these things matter!

Neil 😊

👑 I think that's the next most personal item to own besides Einstein her cuddle bear.

Certainly a treasure. 🙌

"The man with the child in his eyes" Jeffery



[jeffery](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 6517

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 11:34 am

Location: Norwalk, Ohio - USA (Great Lakes Region)

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Dotty86](#) » Sat Jul 12, 2014 10:19 pm

Just utterly perfect. Thank you for finding this and posting it Carole, it's wonderful 😊
Georgie x



[Dotty86](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1344

Joined: Sat Jan 05, 2013 9:08 pm

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [trek007](#) » Mon Jul 14, 2014 5:58 pm

THIS AWFUL REVIEW APPEARED IN THE TELEGRAPH ON SATURDAY.

It is negative, negative and the most dreadful assassination of any artist that I have ever read.

In July 1955 a 16-year-old girl from West Hampstead went home for the school holidays as “a librarian... I had awful glasses, unstyled hair and thick ankles”. Six weeks later she came back in a little black dress and high heels. She was learning to use the heavy eye make-up that would become a key component of her iconic look. Although she wouldn’t choose her stage name for a few years, she had begun the holiday as Mary O’Brien and ended it as Dusty Springfield.

But what Mary O’Brien created she also destroyed. Having turned herself into one of the classiest stars of the Sixties, a crippling lack of faith in herself led her to drink it all away. By the Seventies things were so bad that she said her favourite colour was vodka. By the Eighties she would be miming to her old hits in bars for cash. She sobered up for the last eight years of her life, but died of breast cancer aged 59 in 1999.

Norma Tanega, one of several ex-lovers interviewed by Karen Bartlett for this biography, said the problem was that Springfield “wanted to be straight and she wanted to be a good Catholic and she wanted to be black”. And she was none of those things.

Her childhood was pretty dreadful. Dusty said the O’Brien household was “full of ambivalence. Raging ambivalence.” Superficially, things appeared normal. Kay O’Brien kept a spotless house and her husband, OB, had a job in the City. Yet Dusty recalled her mother obsessively smoothing the top of a trifle, before exploding into fury and splattering the whole thing over the kitchen. Savage family food fights were commonplace and Dusty would release tension by throwing tableware about throughout her life.

Dusty said her parents “were trapped into being suburban without having suburban minds”. All the attention was focused on Dusty’s clever brother, Dion, while she was left in her bedroom, clinging to the hot water pipes, needing the scalding heat to convince herself she existed. One of her AA sponsors believes Dusty may have been sexually abused by her father, although the abuse was only ever “implied”.

Dusty’s passion for music began in this turbulent family. Kay took her to musicals and OB played jazz after work. She learnt to listen so carefully that she would drive musicians to distraction throughout her career in her determination to get the precise sound she wanted. But her perfectionism paid off.

She also had a sharp ear for musical trends and ditched the cute, close harmony girl group with whom she started out for the more fashionable folk-pop of her brother’s band, the Springfields, as soon as the tide turned. Although the Springfields made her famous, she dumped them for a solo career once the Beatles made their sound obsolete. While other Sixties stars wore miniskirts, Dusty dressed in floor-length evening gowns. “I was,” she said, “a calculating bastard,” although her biographer prefers “astute, determined and ambitious”.

This focus was counterbalanced by wild explosions. On a tour with Motown artists, Martha Reeves was horrified to find Dusty hurling teapots at her dressing room wall. One of the Temptations handed her a cup of vodka to settle her nerves. Soon she was sending out for bottles.

Dusty was always proud of the way she championed black American artists, touring with them and busting the racism that prevented her black friends finding rooms to rent in London. She would make the front pages in 1964 for her stand against South African apartheid.

But, alas, she was not always so proud of her sexuality. Bartlett argues that the mask of make-up concealed Dusty’s fear that she would be revealed as “a big butch woman”. She told one lover she thought she really looked like Burt Lancaster.

Her romances were a mess of drama, infidelity, violence and self-harm. There were brave moments – such as taking a partner to Rome to proclaim her love in view of the Vatican – but she chased away the people who loved her most. While toying with the idea of “coming out” in the press, she broke down in tears when it came to the crunch.

Younger fans might be surprised to read that the public lost interest in Dusty’s career just as she peaked. Her classic album, Dusty in Memphis, was a commercial flop at the time. Later in her career she would turn down great songs including Killing Me Softly and Nobody Does it Better.

Bartlett interviewed Simon Bell, a former backing singer who cared for Dusty towards the end of her life. Cancer had sent her OCD into overdrive. She expected him to sit on the floor (because all the furniture was covered in dust sheets) and insisted he tore all her rubbish into identically sized pieces. She admitted to him she wished she could “retouch” her entire life. Karen Bartlett’s biography sends you back to the music – to the extraordinary, dusky vulnerability of her voice.

I’m re-touched every time I hear it.

Dusty by Karen Bartlett

Raging windmills of her mind
Portrait of a legend: Dusty Springfield in 1965
Books

Dusty Springfield’s achingly vulnerable voice expressed the agony she felt over her suburban upbringing and her sexuality, says Helen Brown [Trekx](#). [Often called Carole](#).

[Ev’rything’s coming up Dusty](#).



[trek007](#)

Can I get a witness



Posts: 4227

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:32 am

Location: England

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [pat.dunham](#) » Mon Jul 14, 2014 7:03 pm

Trek thanks for the post- what can say, I wept.....
I'd rather see the world the way it used to be.....
..I'm goin' back.

Pat x



[pat.dunham](#)

Can I get a witness



Posts: 4601

Joined: Wed Jun 06, 2012 6:41 pm

Location: Hertfordshire UK

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [donellac](#) » Mon Jul 14, 2014 7:10 pm

Thank you for telling us about this Trek.

It is just another demonstration of the damage that has been done by this Karen Bartlett book!

The book and the reviews just keep adding to this awful image of Dusty that is as far removed from reality as it is possible to be.

But then who was it that said 'there is no such thing as bad publicity'?

Perhaps it will make more people question and then seek out the truth!

Donella x

Yesterday when I was young the taste of life was sweet as rain upon my tongue!



[donellac](#)

Where am I going?



Posts: 704

Joined: Tue Feb 26, 2013 10:58 am

Location: Glasgow, UK

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Corinna](#) » Mon Jul 14, 2014 7:11 pm

I've read it, and I'm surprised they have the nerve to call this mere summary (with some false assumptions thrown in) a "review".
Cor xx



*Dusty Springfield, that's a pretty name
Pretty as a pearl
What a pretty girl*



[Corinna](#)

Site Admin



Posts: 8252

Joined: Wed Dec 16, 2009 8:52 pm

Location: Stockholm, Sweden

- [Website](#)

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [LilCajunGirl](#) » Mon Jul 14, 2014 7:27 pm

OMG. I guess poor Tom is reading this. And poor Pat.
What crap.

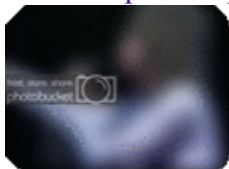
I pray the truth will be known one day. In the meantime I will continue to enjoy that fabulous voice!

JoAnn

(Lil Cajun Girl)

XXOO

"...So I'm packin up my bags, gonna make my getaway..."



[LilCajunGirl](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 240

Joined: Sun Jan 12, 2014 7:37 am

Location: New Orleans, Louisiana USA

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Dottv86](#) » Mon Jul 14, 2014 11:29 pm

This article is beyond pathetic. As Corinna says, it's hardly a 'review' and is actually VERY poorly written. 🙄👉👈

Dusty has ALWAYS been a British icon and I really don't get this dreadful character assassination of her in the British Press. Seriously????!! Bartlett's book has a lot to answer for! Pulling somebody apart is bad enough, but doing it on the basis of a so-called 'biography', when they are no longer here to defend themselves is just beyond bad. It's very cheap. 🙄
Georgie x



[Dotty86](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1344

Joined: Sat Jan 05, 2013 9:08 pm

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [darren2722](#) » Tue Jul 15, 2014 6:50 am

Many Thanks Trek for reproducing the article. 🙄👉👈

trek007 wrote: Karen Bartlett's biography sends you back to the music – to the extraordinary, dusky vulnerability of her voice.

The only two lines I agree with in this "review"
I Couldn't Ask For More



[darren2722](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 7912

Joined: Sat Jun 16, 2012 6:12 pm

Location: Sittingbourne Kent

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [karen](#) » Tue Jul 15, 2014 8:49 am

Thanks trek .. 🙄👉👈 Suppose with all the papers that she writes for , we can expect even more of this unfortunately.. 🙄



[karen](#)

I only want to be with you



Posts: 18107

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 6:48 pm

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Rob](#) » Tue Jul 15, 2014 1:42 pm



R 🤔👉👈 B



[Rob](#)

Moderator



Posts: 2821

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:17 am

[Top](#)

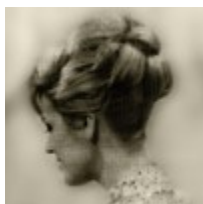
[Re: New biography](#)

by [daydreamer](#) » Tue Jul 15, 2014 2:19 pm

I saw this a couple of days ago and let myself get bothered all over again by it. It's trash writing, the book was bad enough, this makes things sound even worse and in some places even joins the dots wrongly and makes false accusations. And now it's out there for any other bad writer, journalist etc to use as "research".

There's a part of you, that's a part of me...

Carole x



[daydreamer](#)

Moderator



Posts: 3667

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:17 am

Location: Cheshire, England

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [mnmcv1](#) » Tue Jul 15, 2014 2:37 pm

that wasn't a review, it was an assault. 🤔
-markus

Everyday of my life, is fresh as morning dew...



[mnmcv1](#)

Moderator



Posts: 2570

Joined: Tue Jan 12, 2010 12:10 am

Location: Massachusetts

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Brenda king](#) » Tue Jul 15, 2014 3:03 pm

It's too bad some of the "journalists" don't take the high road and celebrate what Dusty brought not only to the UK but to the world. I listened to "what are you doing the rest of your life" and I felt like I was eavesdropping on something personal, because she put so much emotion into the song! Simon said she could make you believe she was living whatever she was singing, and he's right! I wonder how these writers would hold up if their lives were put under the microscope like they do Dusty's?

[Brenda king](#)

Little by little



Posts: 50

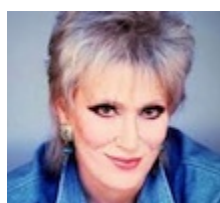
Joined: Mon Feb 17, 2014 7:59 pm

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Cecelia](#) » Tue Jul 15, 2014 4:09 pm

What are you doing the rest of your life is so good it gives me goosebumps.....love that song.



[Cecelia](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1056

Joined: Thu Oct 10, 2013 9:57 pm

Location: Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [JMFabianoRPL](#) » Tue Jul 15, 2014 4:27 pm

Brenda king wrote: It's too bad some of the "journalists" don't take the high road and celebrate what Dusty brought not only to the UK but to the world. I listened to "what are you doing the rest of your life" and I felt like I was eavesdropping on something personal, because she put so much emotion into the song! Simon said she could make you believe she was living whatever she was singing, and he's right! I wonder how these writers would hold up if their lives were put under the microscope like they do Dusty's?

Their lives aren't significant enough to warrant anyone to write about them. They'll come and go (the sooner the better), and no one will care.
Last edited by [JMFabianoRPL](#) on Tue Jul 15, 2014 5:19 pm, edited 1 time in total.

[JMFabianoRPL](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 187



Joined: Thu Oct 13, 2011 2:01 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [fobakawa](#) » Tue Jul 15, 2014 4:45 pm

I have not read Karen Bartlett's book yet. I wasn't going to order it after reading what everyone has said about it but I really wanted to see the pictures. I finally broke down and ordered it and it is on its way. All I can say right now is that it won't make me feel any different about Dusty. Since re-discovering Dusty I have made some wonderful friendships because of her. I have heard songs I didn't even know existed and spent many hours listening to Dusty's incredible voice. I have laughed out loud at her wonderful sense of humor and she (and some of you) have gotten me through some painful experiences. I

don't care who writes what, they can't take away the love that Dusty still inspires in her fans today.  

Evelyn



[fobakawa](#)

Where am I going?



Posts: 577

Joined: Tue Jan 31, 2012 5:20 am

Location: Western Nevada

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [boztiggs](#) » Tue Jul 15, 2014 6:31 pm

Im going to become a Vigilante I think. I need to go and find these people and slap them all over the place and cut their fingers off.



Neil

[http://i213.photobucket.com/albums/cc16 ... 3f87dd.gif](http://i213.photobucket.com/albums/cc16...3f87dd.gif)



[boztiggs](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1761

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 9:22 am

Location: wales

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [JMFabianoRPL](#) » Tue Jul 15, 2014 6:36 pm

boztiggs wrote: Im going to become a Vigilante I think. I need to go and find these people and slap them all over the place and cut their fingers off.



Neil

Better yet, if they want to be famous, I have a suggestion for a movie for them all to star in. John Landis must direct it, however, and at least one scene calls for an actions scene with helicopters.

[JMFabianoRPL](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 187



Joined: Thu Oct 13, 2011 2:01 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [jeffery](#) » Tue Jul 15, 2014 9:16 pm

fobakawa wrote: I have not read Karen Bartlett's book yet. I wasn't going to order it after reading what everyone has said about it but I really wanted to see the pictures. I finally broke down and ordered it and it is on it's way. All I can say right now is that it won't make me feel any different about Dusty. Since re-discovering Dusty I have made some wonderful friendships becasue of her. I have heard songs I didn't even know existed and spent many hours listening to Dusty's incredible voice. I have laughed out loud at her wonderful sense of humor and she (and some of you) have gotten me through some painful experiences. I don't care who writes what, they can't take away

the love that Dusty still inspires in her fans today.  

😬 That pretty much says it for me too Evelyn. 🐼
Except I'm going to wait till the book is available thru our inter-library loan system (free).
People write books, and bios for a number of reasons.

It sounds like Karen Bartlett wrote this book about Dusty for the wrong reasons. 🙄
"The man with the child in his eyes ".... Jeffery



[jeffery](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 6517

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 11:34 am

Location: Norwalk, Ohio - USA (Great Lakes Region)

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [LilCajunGirl](#) » Wed Jul 16, 2014 3:34 am

Well, I just found this review of an album on the Internet.

It was such a refreshing read! Lovely review! Finally about the music and only the music!!!

[http://m.pitchfork.com/reviews/albums/9 ... 1963-1970/](http://m.pitchfork.com/reviews/albums/9...1963-1970/)

(I hope the link works).

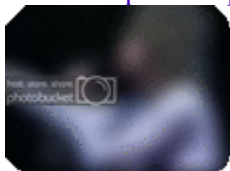
I know you will all be very pleased! I was!

JoAnn

(Lil Cajun Girl)

xxoo

"...So I'm packin up my bags, gonna make my getaway..."



[LilCajunGirl](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 240

Joined: Sun Jan 12, 2014 7:37 am

Location: New Orleans, Louisiana USA

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

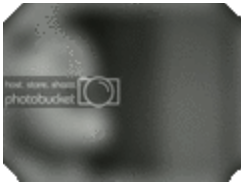
by [dusty nut](#) » Wed Jul 16, 2014 5:59 am

Thank you JoAnn for the link about the only real thing that mattered about Dusty, her

amazing talent. It was so refreshing to read after all the ghastly 'reviews'. 🌟🌸🐼

Lynn x

Nothing turns the day on, when the world is yawning



[dusty nut](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 5618

Joined: Thu Apr 04, 2013 12:17 pm

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [darren2722](#) » Wed Jul 16, 2014 8:03 am

Well said Evelyn 🌹 Like Dancing With Demons, I did read AIPOAML from cover to cover and am sort of glad that I did, it gets it out of the way, and the photos are a Lovely memory of Dusty. ❤️

Thanks JoAnn for the link. 🙌
I Couldn't Ask For More



[darren2722](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 7912

Joined: Sat Jun 16, 2012 6:12 pm

Location: Sittingbourne Kent

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [donellac](#) » Wed Jul 16, 2014 8:29 am

JoAnn,

Yes thank you for posting this review. 😊 😊

It celebrates Dusty's voice and her music with no need to refer to any personal stuff. 🙌 🙌
[Donella x](#)

Yesterday when I was young the taste of life was sweet as rain upon my tongue!



[donellac](#)

Where am I going?



Posts: 704

Joined: Tue Feb 26, 2013 10:58 am

Location: Glasgow, UK

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

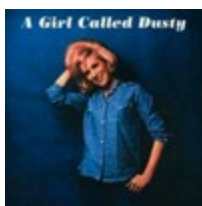
by [Cardiff Bluesgirl](#) » Wed Jul 16, 2014 9:43 am

Nice review and oh so true... give up everyone please on giving air time to this dreadful book and celebrate the artist we all love regardless ...
"every day I find you're in my heart and on my mind"

"she was the very essence of fabness"

" its nice to rest for awhile thank you "

Liz



[Cardiff Bluesgirl](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 6976

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 11:22 am

Location: cardiff

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [donellac](#) » Wed Jul 16, 2014 10:50 am

Oh yes Liz, you are right. This dreadful book has had too much air time.

[Donella](#) x



Yesterday when I was young the taste of life was sweet as rain upon my tongue!



[donellac](#)

Where am I going?



Posts: 704

Joined: Tue Feb 26, 2013 10:58 am

Location: Glasgow, UK

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [trek007](#) » Wed Jul 16, 2014 3:13 pm

I agree that it is time to move on....but I will say this, that a low percentage of the public will buy or look at the book itself. However the so called reviews in daily tabloids are more damaging as they are read by very many more people and they will have this picture of Dusty as portrayed in these trashy articlesthanks to Karen Bartlett and the so called journalists who write for the newspapers!

Hopefully most people will listen to the voice and the music whether it be on the radio, TV or on CD or download and in the end the trash won't matter one iota 😊

Trek playing the B sides 😊
[Trekx](#). Often called Carole.

[Ev'rything's coming up Dusty.](#)



[trek007](#)

Can I get a witness
★★★★★★

Posts: 4227
Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:32 am
Location: England

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [JMFabianoRPL](#) » Wed Jul 16, 2014 5:48 pm

Now an opinion question: I haven't read every bio known to person, but has there been any celebrity screwed over by them worse than Dusty? Maybe Joan Crawford, but who else ??????

[JMFabianoRPL](#)

I'll try anything
★★

Posts: 187
Joined: Thu Oct 13, 2011 2:01 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [boztiggs](#) » Wed Jul 16, 2014 6:23 pm

I spotted a review of a book written by Nina simones daughter, it was in the mail online, which i hate, i never read it and now cant find it, but the description was awful, nina sure had her demons, so i would imagine this to be quite devastating to nina fans

Neil
[http://i213.photobucket.com/albums/cc16 ... 3f87dd.gif](http://i213.photobucket.com/albums/cc16...3f87dd.gif)



[boztiggs](#)

I've got a good thing
★★★★

Posts: 1761
Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 9:22 am
Location: wales

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

■ by [JMFabianoRPL](#) » Wed Jul 16, 2014 6:52 pm

*boztiggs wrote:*I spotted a review of a book written by Nina simones daughter, it was in the mail online, which i hate, i never read it and now cant find it, but the description was awful, nina sure had her demons, so i would imagine this to be quite devastating to nina fans

Neil

But sadly, not surprising, after hearing what she did to Dusty.

[JMFabianoRPL](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 187

Joined: Thu Oct 13, 2011 2:01 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

■ by [A Girl Called Christal](#) » Wed Jul 16, 2014 7:30 pm

*JMFabianoRPL wrote:*Now an opinion question: I haven't read every bio known to person, but has there been any celebrity screwed over by them worse than Dusty? Maybe Joan Crawford, but who else ??????

I'm sure there are quite a few. There are the Hollywood Babylon books... I haven't read them myself, but they have a reputation for containing a lot of speculation, falsehoods, details of all sorts of scandals, photos of death scenes, etc. HB is responsible for a lot of urban legends. "Upon its second release, The New York Times said of it, "If a book such as this can be said to have charm, it lies in the fact that here is a book without one single redeeming merit.""

Off the top of my head, there were quite a few about Elvis that were extremely exploitive and/or false. Albert Goldman's books are notorious for that. Goldman clearly had contempt for some of his subjects and did his best attempt at character assassination in every way possible. Amongst many other falsehoods, Goldman also 'accused' Elvis and John Lennon (in separate biographies) of hiding gay liaisons. He also targeted Elvis' parents. Thankfully, Goldman's books are largely dismissed by the public now. The ridiculousness of Goldman's books even prompted Bono from U2 to condemn Goldman in the song "God Part II":

"Don't believe in Goldman
His type [is] like a curse
Instant Karma's gonna get him
If I don't get him first"

In the end, these sorts of books don't deserve your time or thoughts. 

Christal

[A Girl Called Christal](#)

Little by little



Posts: 82

Joined: Tue Apr 16, 2013 1:16 pm

Location: Vancouver, Canada

- [Website](#)

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

■ by [Cardiff Bluesgirl](#) » Thu Jul 17, 2014 10:36 am

*boztiggs wrote:*I spotted a review of a book written by Nina simones daughter, it was in the mail online, which i hate, i never read it and now cant find it, but the description was awful, nina sure had her demons, so i would imagine this to be quite devastating to nina fans

Neil

yes I saw that Neil, it was inevitable I suppose as her own story was pretty stark too.

I think everyone knows she had a very complicated life and suffered much abuse and instability herself so it doesn't seem as if she would ever have been able to give a child a stable upbringing.

as Dusty said after their unpleasant " meeting" she understood her as she knew Nina was in a bad place.

Although it doesn't change the fact that she was a volatile unpredictable person, she was a brilliant singer and musician, it seems many really talented people have difficulties blending in to mainstream life .

I suppose its why they are unique performers in their chosen field.

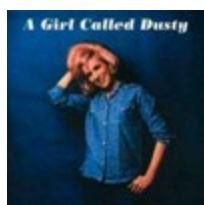
I don't ,however understand why her daughter thinks we all need a book about this and no matter what her upbringing was like ,Nina Simone was her Mother and should be allowed to rest in peace.

"every day I find you're in my heart and on my mind"

"she was the very essence of fabness"

" its nice to rest for awhile thank you "

Liz



[Cardiff Bluesgirl](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 6976

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 11:22 am

Location: cardiff

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [dig123](#) » Thu Jul 17, 2014 2:06 pm

Yes, it seems very talented people have many difficulties. Seems to come with the territory. So many have alcohol/drug problems. Nothing I have read will change my mind about Dusty. I actually think she is appreciated more as time goes by. We are realizing just what a pioneer she was. The only thing I feel sad about is that she just couldn't settle her life in latter years. She wasn't good in relationships but she was a great friend! Too bad she didn't have someone special in her life especially when she became ill. I've wondered about her brother at times. Did he ever get married or have children? You don't hear too much about him. If not, I guess their early years had a lot to do with this.

[dig123](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 273

Joined: Tue Feb 04, 2014 12:28 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [mnmcv1](#) » Thu Jul 17, 2014 4:23 pm

As for poison pen books, the Joan Crawford one is different in a sense because it was written by a family member, and in turn spawned a series of Movie Star kid exposes: Bette Davis, Bing Crosby, Judy Garland, Marlene Dietrich, Loretta Young, the list goes on and on of children who went on to write some pretty rotten stuff about their movie star parents.

In Dusty's case, these have been people she allowed into her life.

One could chalk it up to poor judgment on her part but regardless, the thought that these people chose to open their mouths and tarnish her reputation after her passing totally pisses me off.

I've been adjusting to a time-consuming new addition to my family so I've stopped reading the about halfway through. I wish i had the willpower to abandon it...

-markus

Everyday of my life, is fresh as morning dew...



[mnmcv1](#)

Moderator



Posts: 2570

Joined: Tue Jan 12, 2010 12:10 am

Location: Massachusetts

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

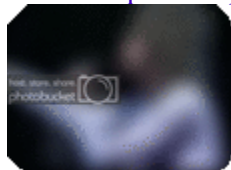
by [LilCajunGirl](#) » Thu Jul 17, 2014 5:35 pm

So true, Markus!!!

But that's ok, we KNOW who the TRUE friends were!!!

JoAnn
(Lil Cajun Girl)
xxoo

"...So I'm packin up my bags, gonna make my getaway..."



[LilCajunGirl](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 240

Joined: Sun Jan 12, 2014 7:37 am

Location: New Orleans, Louisiana USA

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [JMFabianoRPL](#) » Thu Jul 17, 2014 7:06 pm

There aren't many ways I wish my UK friends could emulate us, but all things considered, I've been wishing that their stars get "forgiven" as quick as ours do, for lack of a better word. People like Whitney Houston, Michael Jackson, and others were the butt of jokes and rumors...until they died. Now everyone goes on and on about them being the GOAT's. Almost as if death = instant martyrdom.

[JMFabianoRPL](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 187

Joined: Thu Oct 13, 2011 2:01 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [JMFabianoRPL](#) » Thu Jul 17, 2014 7:18 pm

Cardiff Bluesgirl wrote:

boztiggs wrote: I spotted a review of a book written by Nina simones daughter, it was in the mail online, which i hate, i never read it and now cant find it, but the description was awful, nina sure had her demons, so i would imagine this to be quite devastating to nina fans

Neil

yes I saw that Neil, it was inevitable I suppose as her own story was pretty stark too.

I think everyone knows she had a very complicated life and suffered much abuse and instability herself so it doesn't seem as if she would ever have been able to give a child a stable upbringing.

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Although it doesn't change the fact that she was a volatile unpredictable person, she was a brilliant singer and musician, it seems many really talented people have difficulties blending in to mainstream life .

I suppose its why they are unique performers in their chosen field.

I don't ,however understand why her daughter thinks we all need a book about this and no matter what her upbringing was like ,Nina Simone was her Mother and should be allowed to rest in peace.

My friends told me that she was nasty at one concert, singling them out with slurs against white people. I'm glad Dusty was more understanding, but that shows why I look up to her!

[JMFabianoRPL](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 187

Joined: Thu Oct 13, 2011 2:01 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [boztiggs](#) » Fri Jul 18, 2014 7:14 pm

I dont understand what you mean james. Are you saying that because Nina was nasty about white people and had the encounter with Dusty, that somehow her story isnt equally as sad and heartbreaking, her mental illness wasnt as valid, or that she somehow deserved what was written about her? If so, then you are missing the point entirely.

Neil

[http://i213.photobucket.com/albums/cc16 ... 3f87dd.gif](http://i213.photobucket.com/albums/cc16...3f87dd.gif)



[boztiggs](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1761

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 9:22 am

Location: wales

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [JMFabianoRPL](#) » Fri Jul 18, 2014 7:59 pm

boztiggs wrote: I dont understand what you mean james. Are you saying that because Nina was nasty about white people and had the encounter with Dusty, that somehow her story isnt equally as sad and heartbreaking, her mental illness wasnt as valid, or that she somehow deserved what was written about her? If so, then you are missing the point entirely.

Neil

Well as I don't know said story except for bits and pieces, I can't really comment on that. Just stating what I heard is all, and saying that's why I'm not a fan. Dusty was better than her in all aspects, but then again I AM biased. And of course someone who mistreated her is not A-OK with me. Perhaps I need to know more of the good she did.

Now, would you feel the same way if someone did a Buddy Rich smear book????? ;-)

Also, even in her dark days Dusty still had class in public and was nice to fans. Not like the train wrecks we have today.

[JMFabianoRPL](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 187

Joined: Thu Oct 13, 2011 2:01 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [mnmcv1](#) » Sat Jul 19, 2014 3:05 am

Re: Nina

It's interesting to note their connection extends beyond the drink incident. I recall Nina mentioning Dusty in the late 60s, saying something to the effect of, "she sounds like one of our singers, Aretha Franklin". Apparently Dusty was on Nina's radar in some capacity. I've always wondered If anything else went on behind the scenes, any additional word or comment. Perhaps it unnerved Nina that this British girl was doing this sort of music so well, and convincingly. Pure speculation, of course.

@James- Nina had a very turbulent life. As for the "good" she did, are you familiar with her work. Tossed drinks aside, Nina Simone was quite brilliant.
-markus

Everyday of my life, is fresh as morning dew...



[mnmcv1](#)

Moderator



Posts: 2570

Joined: Tue Jan 12, 2010 12:10 am

Location: Massachusetts

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [mnmcv1](#) » Sat Jul 19, 2014 3:22 am

I know many folks have already moved on from the book, but I'm still reading and the errors in this book are...wow.

Page 154- did you know that Dusty signed with Atlantic in 1966, and her first US single on that label was You Don't Have to Say You Love Me? You didn't know that? Well that's because it DIDN'T HAPPEN. Not only was YDHTSYLM on the Phillips label, after that she released an additional SEVEN singles on Phillips over the next three years.

SOAPM was her first Atlantic single, released near the end of 1968.

Just one of several errors, but I consider that a VERY significant one.

-markus

Everyday of my life, is fresh as morning dew...



[mnmcv1](#)

Moderator



Posts: 2570

Joined: Tue Jan 12, 2010 12:10 am

Location: Massachusetts

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [JMFabianoRPL](#) » Sun Jul 20, 2014 10:48 pm

Yes, suddenly I can forgive the "Dusty wasn't at San Remo" bit by comparison.

[JMFabianoRPL](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 187

Joined: Thu Oct 13, 2011 2:01 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Clive](#) » Sat Jul 26, 2014 11:24 am

I have just been catching up with this thread. I finished reading the book this week. I have to agree with the comments so far and I don't want to repeat what has already been said well.

just a couple of extra points- I was disappointed by the chapter on South Africa . It added nothing new to what we already knew. As Karen Bartlett was a journalist with experience working in South Africa I hoped for new material here.

and a minor point about Don't Go Breaking My Heart with Elton John. Dusty was never envisaged as Elton's duet partner on this song. In a 1999 interview with the song's producer Gus Dudgeon in an Elton fanzine called East End Lights, Gus makes it clear that Elton had a duet with Kiki in mind for the song right from the time he was composing it.



[Clive](#)

Can I get a witness



Posts: 3399

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:45 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

■ by [JMFabianoRPL](#) » Sat Jul 26, 2014 8:01 pm

*mnmcvl wrote:*Re: Nina

It's interesting to note their connection extends beyond the drink incident. I recall Nina mentioning Dusty in the late 60s, saying something to the effect of, "she sounds like one of our singers, Aretha Franklin". Apparently Dusty was on Nina's radar in some capacity. I've always wondered If anything else went on behind the scenes, any additional word or comment. Perhaps it unnerved Nina that this British girl was doing this sort of music so well, and convincingly. Pure speculation, of course.

@James- Nina had a very turbulent life. As for the "good" she did, are you familiar with her work. Tossed drinks aside, Nina Simone was quite brilliant.

I know, but I meant as a person. I mean, and this is an extreme case, but we can say Hitler was a great painter, after all.

[JMFabianoRPL](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 187

Joined: Thu Oct 13, 2011 2:01 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

■ by [LilCajunGirl](#) » Sun Jul 27, 2014 5:34 am

I have begun reading Annie Randall's book. So refreshing!

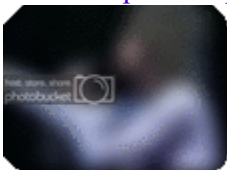
This book is all about the music! As it should be !

JoAnn

(Lil Cajun Girl)

xxoo

"...So I'm packin up my bags, gonna make my getaway..."



[LilCajunGirl](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 240

Joined: Sun Jan 12, 2014 7:37 am

Location: New Orleans, Louisiana USA

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [countrycake](#) » Thu Jul 31, 2014 3:19 pm

Here's a review from The Spectator magazine in the UK:

<http://www.spectator.co.uk/books/9274711/dusty-by-karen-bartlett-review/>
Jim



[countrycake](#)

Where am I going?



Posts: 717

Joined: Sun Mar 27, 2011 9:36 am

Location: Glasgow Scotland

[Top](#)

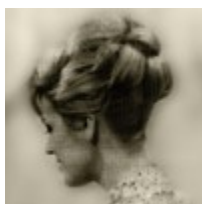
[Re: New biography](#)

by [daydreamer](#) » Thu Jul 31, 2014 3:46 pm

Well, there you go. Practically a whole "review" with no mention of Dusty's music at all. Congratulations Karen Bartlett, job well done. Bloody awful flippant piece of cobbled together quotes, misquotes and bad journalism!

There's a part of you, that's a part of me...

Carole x



[daydreamer](#)

Moderator



Posts: 3667

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:17 am

Location: Cheshire, England

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [allherfaces](#) » Thu Jul 31, 2014 3:53 pm

The flippant tone of the review is sickening as well, starting with the chins.

x

Bosseh

There's something in my soul that will always lead me back to you.



[allherfaces](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 5815
Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:15 am
Location: Boston MA

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [pat.dunham](#) » Thu Jul 31, 2014 4:40 pm

We were all up in arms about DWD, a lot of which was due to the early publication and everyone was still raw with her passing. It appears quite tame in comparison to KB's book and the assassination reviews which are appearing. These articles deeply sadden me, but like all of you we know what/who Dusty was and can only keep her memory alive by making sure she was (is) the greatest female singer these islands has ever produced. Sadly, Dusty knew this would happen, but I cannot imagine she would have thought to this cruel extent.
I'd rather see the world the way it used to be.....
..I'm goin' back.

Pat x



[pat.dunham](#)

Can I get a witness
★★★★★

Posts: 4601
Joined: Wed Jun 06, 2012 6:41 pm
Location: Hertfordshire UK

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [donellac](#) » Thu Jul 31, 2014 5:03 pm

It truly is unbelievable!

I have left a comment for the reviewer. I wonder if he actually read the book. Maybe he was given a synopsis by Karen.
[Donella](#) x

Yesterday when I was young the taste of life was sweet as rain upon my tongue!



[donellac](#)

Where am I going?
★★★

Posts: 704
Joined: Tue Feb 26, 2013 10:58 am
Location: Glasgow, UK

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

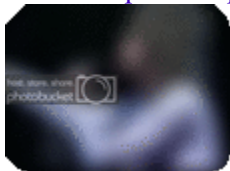
by [LilCajunGirl](#) » Thu Jul 31, 2014 5:42 pm

How offensive! The man is making it up as he goes along!

OMG! What a travesty!

JoAnn
(Lil Cajun Girl)
xxoo

"...So I'm packin up my bags, gonna make my getaway..."



[LilCajunGirl](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 240

Joined: Sun Jan 12, 2014 7:37 am

Location: New Orleans, Louisiana USA

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [trek007](#) » Thu Jul 31, 2014 7:35 pm

The worst of all the so called reviews in the Spectator.

So yes, thanks a bunch Karen Bartlett for this crappy book about one of the greatest SINGERS on the planet.

I don't know whether Karen Bartlett or Roger Lewis or a combination of the 2 are responsible for this "review" but you should both hang your heads in shame.

If this sums up Journalism today then Lord help us.

[Trekx. Often called Carole.](#)

[Ev'rything's coming up Dusty.](#)



[trek007](#)

Can I get a witness



Posts: 4227

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:32 am

Location: England

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Brenda king](#) » Thu Jul 31, 2014 8:38 pm

I don't know what kind of publication the Spectator is but truth must be optional to them. I watched a you tube video posted by edjames of Stanley Dorfman talking about Dusty. He said she was the best singer England ever produced. He is right! This fellow was truly ignorant of his subject matter not once mentioning her amazing musical gifts. Dustys' legacy will live well beyond this guys' writing career!

[Brenda king](#)

Little by little



Posts: 50

Joined: Mon Feb 17, 2014 7:59 pm

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [pat.dunham](#) » Thu Jul 31, 2014 9:28 pm

Believe it or not, Brenda, "The Spectator" is the oldest (first issued 1828) continuously published weekly magazine focused on political and current affairs, in the world. I was aware of it but not one that I read, a bit heavy for me. If all their current issues carry reviews like this, which is a highly regarded publication, then as Trek said, "If this sums up Journalism today then Lord help us".
I'd rather see the world the way it used to be.....
..I'm goin' back.

Pat x



[pat.dunham](#)

Can I get a witness



Posts: 4601

Joined: Wed Jun 06, 2012 6:41 pm

Location: Hertfordshire UK

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Brenda king](#) » Thu Jul 31, 2014 11:15 pm

Thanks for the info Pat. That makes it even more surprising that a long standing publication would allow such trash to be published. It seems his goal was to belittle and demean Dusty. If I were her brother Tom I would be offended.

[Brenda king](#)

Little by little



Posts: 50

Joined: Mon Feb 17, 2014 7:59 pm

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [fobakawa](#) » Fri Aug 01, 2014 5:56 am

I don't think that I have ever read anything as obnoxious in my life as the piece in "The Spectator". He didn't even review the book so how can it be called a book review? The remarks about chins were some of the most offensive I think I have ever read. Who says things like that? What kind of a person writes that kind of bullshit? The whole thing is just plain rude, nasty and very inappropriate in my opinion. I have not yet read the book by Karen Bartlett. After reading all the comments on here I wasn't even going to buy it but my curiosity got the better of me and I also wanted to see the pictures. I got it last week and I did look at the pictures (I thought there would be a lot more) but I just don't have the heart to read the book yet. Maybe I never will. How did KB get so many people to talk to her about Dusty? She must have done a masterful snowjob to accomplish that. Do you think she had any idea of the firestorm her book would cause and how painful it would be for so many people? Does anybody have any idea how many books have been sold? Here in the US I don't think many people will buy the book and almost none will see the reviews but I am sure it is a lot different in the UK where Dusty is and should be a national

treasure. Thank God for the dedicated fans that keep her music and her magic alive. 🌟

Evelyn



[fobakawa](#)

Where am I going?



Posts: 577

Joined: Tue Jan 31, 2012 5:20 am

Location: Western Nevada

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Corinna](#) » Fri Aug 01, 2014 6:42 am

I got a Google alert with the headline "The mad, bad and sad life of Dusty Springfield". That was enough for me to know that I shouldn't bother with reading the actual article, it would only be upsetting. 🙄
Cor xx

*Dusty Springfield, that's a pretty name
Pretty as a pearl
What a pretty girl*



[Corinna](#)

Site Admin



Posts: 8252

Joined: Wed Dec 16, 2009 8:52 pm

Location: Stockholm, Sweden

- [Website](#)

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Rob](#) » Fri Aug 01, 2014 6:52 am

Apologies, i'm taking this thread on a slight diversion; there may be some who haven't read this.

<http://www.amazon.co.uk/product-reviews/B001VCA49I>

R 🙄 B



[Rob](#)

Moderator



Posts: 2821

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:17 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [pat.dunham](#) » Fri Aug 01, 2014 7:55 am

No need to apologise Rob, this puts us back onto an even keel. "Just Dusty" is a great DVD (with the exception of the Tea party bonus).
I'd rather see the world the way it used to be.....
..I'm goin' back.

Pat x



[pat.dunham](#)

Can I get a witness



Posts: 4601

Joined: Wed Jun 06, 2012 6:41 pm

Location: Hertfordshire UK

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

■ by [countrycake](#) » Fri Aug 01, 2014 11:23 am

Pat, it took a little while for me to cotton on to your reference to the tea party bonus. I immediately thought of the Tea Party in US politics and couldn't figure out what you were getting at. Then it dawned on me.
Jim



[countrycake](#)

Where am I going?



Posts: 717

Joined: Sun Mar 27, 2011 9:36 am

Location: Glasgow Scotland

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

■ by [dig123](#) » Fri Aug 01, 2014 6:51 pm

Wow!! What century is this reviewer living in and how old is he? I'm shocked someone could write something like this today!! I agree ...I think here in the US people know Dusty for her music. Not many know about her personal side. I don't think the book will sell here and I've never come across such negative articles about her.

[dig123](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 273

Joined: Tue Feb 04, 2014 12:28 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

■ by [IWannaBeABluesSinger](#) » Fri Aug 01, 2014 7:11 pm

Somebody asked if anyone had ever heard of someone not liking Dusty's music because of the garbage in these books. I think that misses the point.

As this "review" illustrates the books give license to idiots like this to spew out disrespect, ridicule and denigration that Dusty does not deserve.

She wasn't a drink-and-drugs rock & roll casualty. She had an undiagnosed, untreated mental illness for most of her life which led to behaviour that was misinterpreted. Ridiculing someone in that state is disgraceful, unless that someone is a celebrity, in which case it's open season. As long as those books go unchallenged this will continue.

Maggie



[IWannaBeABluesSinger](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1682

Joined: Sun Apr 24, 2011 3:54 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Dottv86](#) » Fri Aug 01, 2014 7:51 pm

I just saw the 'review' posted online and was about to share it here. I think it's disgusting. I still haven't read the book. Really don't know whether to or not. Nothing I read could ever change my opinion of Dusty but I just don't want to feel sad.

Big thumbs up to Karen Bartlett you careless, ignorant, crass human being. 😡😡😡
Georgie x



[Dottv86](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1344

Joined: Sat Jan 05, 2013 9:08 pm

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Dottv86](#) » Fri Aug 01, 2014 8:16 pm

A much more balanced review from 'Out in the City' magazine:

http://www.outmag.co.uk/site/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=759:book-review-dusty-springfield&catid=19&Itemid=135
Georgie x



[Dottv86](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1344

Joined: Sat Jan 05, 2013 9:08 pm

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [st louis blues](#) » Sat Aug 02, 2014 5:00 am

I wonder if some of the negative things being written about Dusty are maybe due to a backlash against her being referred to as the best female singer to have come from the England. I've read some pretty stupid comments about the Beatles in the past year. I figured this was due in part to all the comments about it being their 50th anniversary here in the U.S. One person wrote that their music was for children and only mentioned songs like Yellow Submarine as an example. Or I've read they were terrible musicians and were nothing more than a glorified boy band. I wonder what are the ages of the writers who seem to enjoy bashing her.

Does anyone know if Simon or Pat has read the book and if so what do they think about it. I would especially wonder what Simon thinks of the book.

[st louis blues](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 331

Joined: Wed Jun 23, 2010 1:18 am

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [pat.dunham](#) » Sat Aug 02, 2014 7:39 am

Dottv86 wrote: A much more balanced review from 'Out in the City' magazine:

http://www.outmag.co.uk/site/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=759:book-review-dusty-springfield&catid=19&Itemid=135

Well it is possible, at last, for a journalist to write a balanced review. With no errors - that makes a change.

Just for the record, I think the book and all other reviews are crap. It has put me off reading biographies except if it still in their lifetime like French and Saunders.

Last edited by [pat.dunham](#) on Sat Aug 02, 2014 7:57 am, edited 1 time in total.

I'd rather see the world the way it used to be.....

..I'm goin' back.

Pat x



[pat.dunham](#)

Can I get a witness



Posts: 4601

Joined: Wed Jun 06, 2012 6:41 pm

Location: Hertfordshire UK

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Cardiff Bluesgirl](#) » Sat Aug 02, 2014 7:42 am

Re the spectator...Well obviously a mate of this dreadful Bartlett character and hes just hoping by writing this trash that it will boost sales of this trashy book. It brings to mind the saying " you couldnt make it up"

In this case they both did...😏

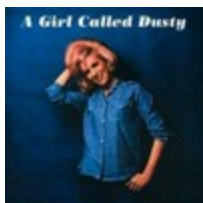
But these two should hold hands and jump into oblivion where they belong,Dusty will remain the star .

"every day I find you're in my heart and on my mind"

"she was the very essence of fabness"

" its nice to rest for awhile thank you "

Liz



[Cardiff Bluesgirl](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 6976

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 11:22 am

Location: cardiff

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [trek007](#) » Sat Aug 02, 2014 9:01 am

The old saying "if you want anything doing, do it yourself" certainly rings true, don't it! 😏

[Trekx](#). Often called Carole.

[Ev'rything's coming up Dusty.](#)



[trek007](#)

Can I get a witness



Posts: 4227

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:32 am

Location: England

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [davdreamer](#) » Sat Aug 02, 2014 9:44 am

One glaring error in that last review - they had Dusty dying in 1995 🙄

There's a part of you, that's a part of me...

Carole x



[davdreamer](#)

Moderator



Posts: 3667

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:17 am

Location: Cheshire, England

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [darren2722](#) » Sat Aug 02, 2014 10:25 am

Thanks Georgie



a bit more about the music and what made Dusty shine in that review. 🙄

I Couldn't Ask For More



[darren2722](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 7912

Joined: Sat Jun 16, 2012 6:12 pm

Location: Sittingbourne Kent

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [darren2722](#) » Thu Aug 14, 2014 12:25 pm

countrycake wrote: Here's a review from The Spectator magazine in the UK:

<http://www.spectator.co.uk/books/9274711/dusty-by-karen-bartlett-review/>

There is some great news on this - John Lennon wrote a song called Instant Karma 🙄 🙄 🙄

<https://www.google.com/url?rct=j&sa=t&u...fnQw9qiRFw>

I Couldn't Ask For More



[darren2722](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 7912

Joined: Sat Jun 16, 2012 6:12 pm

Location: Sittingbourne Kent

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [donellac](#) » Thu Aug 14, 2014 1:33 pm

So glad to hear this.

The review was abysmal!

[Donella](#) x

Yesterday when I was young the taste of life was sweet as rain upon my tongue!



[donellac](#)

Where am I going?



Posts: 704

Joined: Tue Feb 26, 2013 10:58 am

Location: Glasgow, UK

[Top](#)

[Re: New biography](#)

by [Corinna](#) » Thu Aug 14, 2014 1:50 pm

The review came indeed to bite him in the back! 😊

[Cor](#) xx

Dusty Springfield, that's a pretty name

Pretty as a pearl

What a pretty girl



[Corinna](#)

Site Admin



Posts: 8252

Joined: Wed Dec 16, 2009 8:52 pm

Location: Stockholm, Sweden

- [Website](#)

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