

# Let's Talk Dusty!

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

## Songs about forgetting

<http://www.dustyspringfield.org.uk/forum/viewtopic.php?f=7&t=422>

### Songs about forgetting

by **daydreamer**

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Posted: **Fri Feb 05, 2010 11:31 am**

From this mornings Guardian newspaper.....

Turns out there are far more songs about remembering than there are about forgetting. It makes some sense; with so much of popular music being about love, you would be undermining your own message if you were to forget who was the object of your affection. On the other hand, songwriters are such an unkempt, slovenly and - not to put too fine a point on it - raddled bunch that it's surely not wrong to have expected a few more mental lacunae in song form.

Perhaps the truth is that to admit to forgetting requires an honesty not often associated either with lovers or rockers. Elton John, however, transcends such failings and his standard makes this list for its final verse alone. He undercuts his earlier verses with a passage of sudden self-doubt when he tries to remember his lover's eyes: "So excuse me forgetting but these things I do/ You see I've forgotten if they're green or they're blue." Those lines typify the scatty charm of Your Song, but also its tenderness. They are the words of someone working hard to please.

There is a similar sentiment to Dusty Springfield's Give Me Time, at least on the surface. "If you'll only give me time/ I'll forget I even knew his name," she sings over an orchestral swell. She wants to make it work with her new "darling", but perhaps she's too honest; she reveals how much her old love meant and that "when I'm sure I need him no more/ That's when I'll reach out for your hand". Forgetting, it seems, is conditional.

Imagine if Gene Vincent had been Dusty's old lover. And that Am I That Easy to Forget was his response to her. "How could you leave without regret?" he asks, before following in with the kicker: "Before you leave be sure you find/ You want his love much more than mine/ Because I'll just say we've never met/ If I'm that easy to forget". Ouch. No wonder she's vacillating.

Philip Glass's collaboration with Laurie Anderson describes the process of waking up and the fleeting moments in which dreams pass from the mind. It's all done in a tone that could be described as ecclesiastical; a high vocal register, chords from a church organ. The final verse is a simple list of human qualities and implies that the forgetting of the title could be one of the things that make us human.

Elbow have a different take on the whole humanity thing, dealing with the very human urge to get wasted. Guy Garvey stands in Piccadilly in Manchester at the onset of a Friday night, intending to ease his broken heart by going and forgetting himself in alcohol. The great thing about the song is that the final two verses show Garvey noting behaviour later at night with an eye too keen for someone seven sheets to the wind.

Leonard Cohen is on a journey of recollection, though he can't remember why. Soft Cell describe a cavalcade of tat (snowstorms, keychains) by which they remember moments of their lives. The thing is: no key chain, no memory. Royksopp forget what it's like to feel at home. As for Dre, well nobody with any sense should forget about him.

The Beautiful South make only their second RR appearance, with their most famous song. It is, of course, an acerbic take on the cynicism of the love singer, which handily takes us back to the top.

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Do we have other Dusty songs about forgetting?

### **Re: Songs about forgetting**

by **Carole R.**

Posted: **Fri Feb 05, 2010 12:01 pm**

The most obvious Dusty one is:

[Don't Forget About Me.](#)

Oh, hey, don't forget about me now, baby

Baby, please, don't forget about me now, baby....

CR xx

### **Re: Songs about forgetting**

by **ErgoFergo**

Posted: **Fri Feb 05, 2010 2:32 pm**

The Colour of Your Eyes...?

This is from the Guardian's Readers Recommend in the Music section, isn't it, Carole? As the title suggests, every week readers recommend songs according the theme of the week. I used to frequent it quite regularly trying to get Dusty a mention, and lots of other 'recommenders' used to suggest her songs too.

I particularly remember Breakfast in Bed getting into the top 10 sexy songs:

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2008/feb/15/1>

You can see the full list of songs that have been recommended here:

[http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/musicbl ... dtheazofal](http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/musicbl...dtheazofal)

For ease, here are Dusty's - Spooky; Goin' Back; Just A Little Lovin'; I Just Don't Know What To Do With Myself; Breakfast In Bed

I think most of these appeared back when Dorian Lynskey used to oversee it. He was clearly a fan. I seem to remember when he moved on, one of the regular recommenders wrote a poem for him which mentioned Dusty. I'll see if I can find it...

### **Re: Songs about forgetting**

by **ErgoFergo**

Posted: **Fri Feb 05, 2010 2:49 pm**

Found it (what would we do without Google?). It's written Private Eye stylee.

And so, farewell

Dorian Lynskey,  
Or should I say  
Our Guru?

Your blog, a flagship of musical taste  
and people with funny names, sails slowly into the sunset.

It seems you like Dusty Springfield  
And Panda Bear  
And can't stand Springsteen or Steely Dan.

My mum loves Elvis.

R.J. Thribb (E.J's brother)

## Re: Songs about forgetting

by **daydreamer**

Posted: **Fri Feb 05, 2010 9:27 pm**

Thanks for filling in the details there Vicky, I should have been more explicit in what it was I was copying from 😊 I have seen some of those Guardian lists before and it's always a thrill to see Dusty included. I'm struggling to think of songs where Dusty is trying to forget her lover, she's usually pleading for their return 🙏 but I think "I'm Gonna Leave You" probably slips into the, "on yer bike", I'm trying to forget you category 🙏

## Re: Songs about forgetting

by **jeffery**

Posted: **Fri Feb 05, 2010 11:02 pm**

🌹🙏🌹 I used to remember the names, and circumstance of every one of my love affairs. Now as time slips away I feel a little regret if I forget even the lesser of those. 😞 Does anyone really ever "forget".

## Re: Songs about forgetting

by **mnmcv1**

Posted: **Wed Feb 10, 2010 4:34 am**

"Forget the dough and think about me..."

after "Dont Forget About Me" and the line in "Give Me Time", that's all I've got.

## Re: Songs about forgetting

by **Carole R.**

Posted: **Wed Feb 10, 2010 9:02 pm**

*Forget for just one moment*

*Who we are tonight ...Old Habits Die Hard ....Very Fine Love.*

*'Pictures On My Mind stand out so clear' "All I See Is You...I guess this trying to forget(unsuccesfully)..*

CR xx

## Re: Songs about forgetting

by **Brian**

Posted: **Wed Feb 10, 2010 9:42 pm**

'Am I that easy to forget' - Judy Boucher (also inferior version by Englebert Humperdinck)

Brian

## Re: Songs about forgetting

by **jeffery**

Posted: **Wed Feb 10, 2010 11:02 pm**

💡 " Never, never, never, gonna love again." If that ain't forgetting....I don't know what is!  
! 🌹

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