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- You Set My Dreams To Music
- a very fine love.

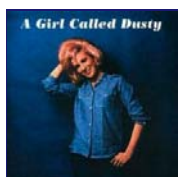
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Author

Topic

Cardiff Bluesgirl

I'll try anything



United Kingdom
1809 Posts

Posted - 23/07/2009 : 11:19:29

1995 saw me galloping out to buy the new album by my all time favourite singer Miss Dusty Springfield. after all the middle years where her return to stardom had been stop start and cheerio, apart from the wonderful Pet ShopBoys collabs. well did I love this new album, I hear you ask? oh yes I did. 😊

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- 2 A very fine love.
- 3 Wherever would I be
- 4 Go easy on me
- 5 You are the storm
- 6 I cant help the way
- 7 All I have to offer
- 8 Lovin' proof
- 9 old habits die hard
- 10 Where is a woman to go.

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"you are the storm"
"I'm haunted by your troubled soul, that rages so out of control, but I had to let you go. I tried to love you , I tried to keep you from harm, but I might as well be holding the wind in my arms, Oh I cant give you shelter when you are the storm."

If you look at the songs she put together on here I think you have to see that she was through her own personal storm and if illness hadnt come back at her I feel certain she would have had great success again.

an album like this, with a great cover, great songs, good support, Daryl Hall, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Dianne Warren, The girl was back folks. 😊

Dusty's "thankyous" on this album tell you that she enjoyed it and was pleased with the result.

"making this music in Nashville was an incredible experience for me and my love and thanks go to many people, among them, the wonderful Daryl Hall, K.T.Oslin and Mary Chapin Carpenter,who made our session together such a thing of joy. To all the musicians and singers who played and sang their tails off for me and brought me such pleasure. Pat Rhodes for fearlessly smoothing the way,Debbie Dannel for tarting me up way beyond the call of duty and Simon Bell for the added oooohs. My neighbour Jill for putting up with my cat Nicholas,PLEASE send me the bill for the rug! Most of all to Kip Kronos for having the idea and believing in me and Paul Burger for his support. Big hugs to you both."

I love this album and I treasure her voice as it was the last we would have of her. I think it will always be one of her best because of the timing of it all and the obvious pleasure and enjoyment she gained from recording it.

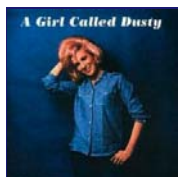
Can her vocals and interpretation ever be better than they were o " Go easy on me".

I dont think so and I wish the music World had appreciated her more when they had the chance and had perhaps "gone easy on her"

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

liz.

Cardiff Bluesgirl
I'll try anything
★★



United Kingdom
1809 Posts

Posted - 23/07/2009 : 11:24:02

looking forward to the responses to this review. 😊

quote:

Originally posted by Cardiff Bluesgirl

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

liz.

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

liz.



Tim
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 23/07/2009 : 11:53:12



A very fine review, Liz!



United Kingdom
3422 Posts

After the electro-froth of the PSB material, this album came as something of a surprise to me - at the time of its release I wasn't impressed by its country connections (not my bag) - or the cover artwork (somebody once mentioned it looks like she's wearing a gumshield). So I didn't get round to buying it at the time!

I became a proper Dusty fan a few years later and collected everything I had missed - and I had missed a LOT.

I love this album - its very subtlety makes it a grower - and like a (very) fine wine - it only seems to improve with repeated listening.

Dusty as we know had health issues to contend with and her voice lacks its old power at times, but boy does she compensate with technique - its a masterclass in phrasing and control. I also feel that we are often getting the real person shining through - it feels like a very personal journey shared with us, something of an epiphany.

Although Dusty was up against it and apparently having to record in short bursts, she seems generally confident and as you say enjoying the collaborative experiences. The material is often nothing special in itself - its what she DOES with it that is stunning.

Having mauled 'Living Without Your Love', I have to say that maybe the material here isn't a lot stronger but unlike on that album where she sounds like she's fulfilling an obligation, here Dusty INHABITS it and takes it to somewhere very deep emotionally.

Interviews at the time show her seemingly a lot more relaxed in her own skin - and her live performance of 'Where is A Woman To Go' on later is - as you all will verify - just terrific - she rocks out in a real jam with the band. I just WISH she done that more often in her career - if she could only have conquered her nerves, stop playing the diva and reminded the world of her immense skill as a singer.

I also have happy LTD memories attached to VFL - singing along in

Jason & Neil's car on the way to Henley - and it being the soundtrack when Kathy & Pam came to stay. I know Kathy's very fond of it too.

It seems to hold her presence more than her other albums. Just terrific and one of my Dusty favourites. I just LUV it. x



Clive
I'll try anything
★★



1455 Posts

Posted - 23/07/2009 : 13:34:22 

thanks for starting this thread Liz, I think it is one that will run a long time.

Like Tim I did not buy this album at the time of release. I knew the single *Wherever Would I Be* from the radio.

I was not that impressed although I was a fan of Daryl Hall as well as Dusty.

I am not crazy about Diane Warren as a songwriter, I just find her 'rock ballads' a bit too formulaic and predictable.

Anyway when I eventually got round to getting the album I have to admit my first reaction was "can these *really* be the best 10 songs she was offered?"-I just thought they were dreary.

Now my opinion has changed , maybe that is because the album is a grower or due to the fact that I think I have become less objective towards Dusty in recent years, looking for and finding something good in nearly everything she recorded.

I do think Dusty struggles vocally on several of the tracks, knowing now of her illness at the time I feel bad mentioning this.

Production-wise I think the album is a bit unimaginative and generic and sucks the life from some songs. I wish they hadn't put that drum machine on *Roll Away*-as a song I think it lends itself to amuch more gospel-ly arrangement.

AVFL has turned out to be one of the Dusty albums that when I play it, and I do play it frequently, I play the whole thing. It does sound good as an entity and certainly gives me a sense of Dusty at peace with herself and gives me the same sense when I listen to it.

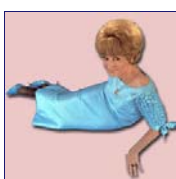
My favourite track is *I Can't Help The Way I Don't Feel*. I love its country feel and would have been happy for Dusty to explore more of that style.

In terms of its commercial performance Dusty seems not to have taken her new PSB era fans with her, but she seemed very pleased with the album and at that time I don't think she felt too disappointed, she realised there was more to her life.

Incidentally I think even if Dusty was still with us AVFL might still be her current album!



humboldt
I'll try anything
★★



United Kingdom
1704 Posts

Posted - 23/07/2009 : 18:02:15  

Well, I bought the album back in the day. My first reaction was to get a hold of Dusty and ask her what the hell she was playing at recording another album of second rate MOR type songs. I mean TWO songs by the queen of naff power pop - grrr! Surely these were not the best songs that she was offered? Anyway I ignored it for a few weeks then played it again. Whilst not a masterpiece I took comfort in hearing Dusty singing once again and her live TV appearances were impressive enough to get me to play the album a few more times. There was one classic track and that of course was 'Where Is A Woman To Go' which with hindsight was a magnificent finale to Dusty's life.

That takes us up to today and this thread (thanks Liz). I've just

finished playing it for the first time in about 10 years. Dusty's voice has a depth & warmth that I'd not noticed before but then I'm older now too and I know that my tastes & senses have changed. I still can't stand 'Roll Away', 'You Are The Storm', 'All I Have To Offer You Is Love' & 'Lovin' Proof' which are very mediocre and I'd be happy never to hear again. The one track that I now like that I used to hate is 'Wherever Would I Be' although I prefer Dusty's solo version. I just wish that there had been more songs of the calibre of 'Where Is A Woman To Go' which I think was tailor made for Dusty. It should have been released as the first single as I'm sure that it would have helped the album achieve a better fate than one week at #43!

I had hoped that if Dusty had lived that she would have given us just one more album and got it right song wise. However I think that I have to agree with Clive that come what may this was always going to be Dusty's swansong.

So if she had to go then I'm glad that she went like this as this is how I would have wanted to remember her. 😊

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UQ_omzpxBd4



Humboldt



dancer8595

Little by little



Posted - 23/07/2009 : 19:15:49



United Kingdom
690 Posts

Fascinating posts so far – Clive, I also hope that this thread will run and run. Tim – I absolutely agree that while the material is sometimes of a mediocre standard, she inhabits it completely and takes it to somewhere very deep emotionally.

'A Very Fine Love' provokes an intense emotional response in me like 'Longing' does, but for different reasons. Given her illness it's remarkable and very fortunate that we have this album at all; if the timing of the recording sessions had been different it may well have been the case that it would have existed in an incomplete and fragmented form, or that it would never have been recorded at all. I remember reading an article recently about how the novelist Iris Murdoch found her final book an immense struggle to complete because – and she didn't know this at the time – she was suffering from the early symptoms of Alzheimer's. It's very moving to think of her being absolutely determined to get to the end of the novel when it was such a struggle for her, and she didn't know why; similarly, 'A Very Fine Love' is deeply moving to listen to because it's the sound of somebody who is very ill, but doesn't know it, and is struggling to do her best because she has to finish what she's started.

I think I'm right in saying that the consensus among fans and critics is that Dusty's voice was diminished quite substantially by this stage of her career, and that it's obvious on this album that she was finding it difficult to sing. There's no question that she'd lost much of the power and facility in her chest belt voice (although this had been the case for ten years or so), or that her reduced lung capacity (from smoking) meant that she was no longer able to sustain a long legato line requiring serious breath control (as in the chorus of 'You Don't Have To Say You Love Me', and numerous other examples). This was, however, a woman in her mid-fifties; she wasn't going to sound the same as she did in the 60s anyway, and I think that while the years of smoking and drinking and substance abusing undoubtedly damaged her voice, they also added something to it: her husky, sandpapery, smoky tones on this album are just utterly gorgeous. She may not have been able to belt an octave above middle C or hold a note for half an hour anymore, but her abilities as an interpreter – her longing, her aching, her pleading – are, at certain moments, at their finest here. How many other singers could lose so much of their range and power and breath control, and still sound so absolutely divine?

I agree that some of the production is dated, and that the material is sometimes middle-of-the-road, and that Diane Warren is not the songwriter I'd like to have seen her collaborating with, but I think 'A Very Fine Love' is about bigger things than all that. It's about the ad-libbed 'oh's at the very end of 'You Are The Storm'. It's about how after she lets go of a note at the end of a line, the husky breathiness lasts for just a fraction longer. It's about the beautifully restrained but acutely painful agony of 'Go Easy On Me'. It's about the fact that Dusty was about to leave us too soon, but that she managed to leave something precious behind before she did.

And I agree with you John about 'Where Is A Woman To Go'. It's simply a superb reading of a superb song, and the gospel-soul flavour is just perfect for Dusty: I could write a novel about 'do dah, do dah, do dah, do dah day' alone, especially the very last one. It may not necessarily be the last song she ever recorded, but it's the last one on her last album and the last one she ever performed live, so it's now seen as a touching, poignant, fitting, immaculately rendered end of a career and, heartbreakingly, of a life.

Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."



memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



Posted - 23/07/2009 : 19:26:55



Well done Liz! 😊😊 and thank you very much for this thread. And for what you say.



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

I remember coming upon this at a jewellers store in Victoria, London. The store had a box of CDs outside and I used to rummage through them for bargains. This one was brand new and cost £9 (it still has the sticker on it) so it wasn't a bargain. I bought it just because it was Dusty. I include all this because it shows that I was maybe not aware the album had even come out, or, that I wasn't that bothered about it if I did know.

Like Tim and Clive I wasn't impressed by the album. I had got into what was called New Country and I could even value old country by then as I'd been educated by films like 'Sweet Dreams' and 'Coalminer's Daughter' and by artists such as Elvis Costello. AVFL was very formulaic to my ears, very processed and synthetic and it was full of factory fodder songs even if they were written by the likes of Diane Warren. I still wonder why Dusty didn't go for a Mary Chapin-Carpenter song - something really up to date that would have really made me listen. I thought Dusty's Voice was a ruin and she sounded very nasal. It was a shock to hear it. So I put the album aside. I can, however, remember making a point of being home in time to watch Dusty on Jools Holland but Where Is A Woman To Go was not my favourite track. I didn't like it that much because it was too honky tonky country. 'Go Easy On Me' was my favourite and it still is.

After Dusty passed away the album took on a new meaning. The very gradually built up, even circumspect, regard I had for Dusty changed into a devotion that I know I'll have for the rest of my life but this would still take another year or so. This album would become more and more special to me.

Around April/May last year, after my first Dusty Day, I put this album on again. I'll use Tim's word. It was like an epiphany. I played it over and over. Every song seemed new and had special meaning. And now the whole album is one of my favourites. There's a lot of joy, fun and wisdom on this record. There's the very fitting almost magical return to Nashville where she had recorded with the Springfields and then got to hear The Exciters on the way back - a perfect final chapter. There's Dusty still trying for hit singles but getting it wrong. [Daryl Hall was getting past his sell by date at this time so he wouldn't have been my first choice for a duet but I know Dusty loved Daryl]. Despite her underlying illness, as well as the cold she had while recording, there is that old energy back and there is That Voice. On Go Easy On Me it's

like she's right back in Memphis making me listen once again to every word, every inflection, every breath.

I listen to this album with my heart not just my ears and with the knowledge of Dusty's journey too. This is what turns the album from a rather run of the mill pop album to something profounder and richer – to be treasured because we'll never see or hear the likes of this fascinating woman and artist again.

I love each and every track now and I play the album in its entirety most times. It makes me smile and it makes me sad. I can, as usual, hear some biography in my favourite songs: Roll Away; Go Easy On Me; You Are The Storm and the wonderful Where Is A Woman To Go. Lovin' Proof always makes me crack into a big smile and Wherever Would I be is a lovely uplifting song.

I'm so glad she got to record this album just the way she wanted to; that she got back into the recording studio and enjoyed herself one last time. She looks happy on the front sleeve and there's that single iconic 'Dusty' on the label and in the booklet . It's like she left us a letter to remind us who she was, who she will always be and she's telling us not to be too sad because it's only time and the river; we must keep rolling on and we'll be OK. For me this album represents a very fine ending. This album makes me grateful for Dusty's life and grateful for noticing her during her life-time even if I never fully appreciated her until she was gone. For very subjective and very emotional reasons I place this album up there with Dusty in Memphis.

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 23/07/2009 20:20:24



memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



Posted - 23/07/2009 : 19:36:59



Just seen Rosie's post and I agree of course and with Tim and Clive too. And Humboldt's take is like mine back in the day when I could still take Dusty for granted. I've a feeling this is going to be a classic thread!

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 23/07/2009 19:40:38



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

dancer8595

Little by little



Posted - 23/07/2009 : 19:53:43



Memphis, that was a stunner.

I think I've always heard this album the way you heard it after your first Dusty Day. To a certain degree it's immune to criticism, because it was her last album, and because it was recorded while she was ill. I can't really include it in any of my considerations of which are my favourite Dusty albums and which ones I don't like as much; it's really above all that.

I love the tracks you mention as well; the piano on 'Roll Away' is just gorgeous.

Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."



Brian

Where am I going?



Posted - 23/07/2009 : 20:10:07



I was lucky for at the time I was still working in the record shop. I got hold of various 'promo's from the CBS rep, including a 5 track 'mini-album' (from the album)XPCD641, and a single play cd of 'Wherever would I be', posters and promotional material including a stand up cardboard 2ft cover of the album! All this, three weeks before actual



United Kingdom
2058 Posts

release...so you could say I was one of the first to get the album!
I liked it straight away, and I STILL like it...not love it.
CBS made a grave mistake when they didn't issue 'Where is a woman to go' as the first single, as it is one of the BEST things Dusty ever recorded (IMO). It will always be the standout track for me.
Like John, I cannot say 'Roll away' does much for me, or 'Wherever would I be' for that matter - the rest is 'ok'

Brian



memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Posted - 23/07/2009 : 20:34:01

Hey Rosie! This will be an interesting thread because for some of us the album is loaded with Dusty luggage and biography that wasn't there at the time of release and some of us can still be objective (like I can, when I try hard, on IBA and LWYL).

John mentions 'All I Have To Offer You Is Love' & 'Lovin' Proof' and says they are mediocre which is true. They made me switch off first time around. Now they make me smile because I think 'Dusty what were you thinking of?!' but she trips them off so happily that I think 'Well, if they made you happy then they make me happy too!'. Then I turn them up!

Memphis

Ever since we met...



boztiggs

Where am I going?



United Kingdom
3367 Posts

Posted - 23/07/2009 : 22:32:09

Its my favourite album, I love it, its my most played

neil

" Here in the gloom, of my lonely room, i hold his photograph and pray ill see him soon oh-oh"



daydreamer

Moderator



United Kingdom
5404 Posts

Posted - 23/07/2009 : 22:51:05

I disagree about All I Have to Offer You is Love. I don't think there is anything mediocre about it, or with anything else on the album. I've listened to this album many, many times because I love it....I don't just like it, I love it. Go Easy On Me, I Can't Help The Way, Where is a Woman to Go, to me they're all wonderful songs. And the upbeat Lovin Proof and Old Habits stop the album from being too downbeat. Roll Away (thought I don't like the musical intro) has a special place for being Dusty's final video and for having words that more than likely meant a lot to her. I was not disappointed for one minute with this album, although I know it wasn't to everyone's taste, but it was Dusty at a particular time in her life and it suited her well. I spent four days in Ireland staying at Cregg Castle after she died and we travelled around with only this album playing. We videoed the trip and without my asking, a friend set the video to the music from AVFL, I can't separate the two things now.

Carole x

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



Clive

I'll try anything



Posted - 24/07/2009 : 09:13:41

quote:

Originally posted by Cardiff Bluesgirl



1455 Posts

First you have Nashville so maybe it should have been called Dusty in Nashville. perhaps this would have fired up the imaginations of the influential people in the music world. again.

liz.

Just going back to a point Liz made above in her review and I think it could have made a lot of difference.

I think Kip Krones said the original idea of the album was as a companion piece to *Dusty in Memphis* 25 years on so, the title *Dusty in Nashville* would have had a lot of resonance and value.

Also although Dusty said something to the effect that she couldn't be a country singer, I think she most definitely could, she had that R&B inflection I like in a lot of country music and she could express the feelings of life experience with her voice which is such a part of country music.

I think the production could have been a bit *more* country than it was and maybe then the album could taken off via country radio stations in the US.



daydreamer

Moderator



United Kingdom
5404 Posts

Posted - 24/07/2009 : 09:22:56

I think she definitely could sing country, she was probably just being her usual self-effacing self when she said that. Self belief was never her strong point. I always liked the idea of the album being called "Dusty In Nashville" but I wonder if it wouldn't have made it **sound** like a country album and maybe the powers that be didn't want that. AVFL wasn't the best song on the album by a long way and not a very catchy title, perhaps "Go Easy on Me" would have been a good choice 😊

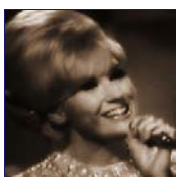
Carole x

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



trek007

I'll try anything



United Kingdom
1100 Posts

Posted - 24/07/2009 : 18:43:30

Going back to Nashville all those years after she was there with The Springfields must have been quite nostalgic for her and gave her the chance to see how Nashville had changed..this was meant to be.

I think this album and the songs on it were right for this time in her life and career.

If I criticise anything on this album its the arrangements..I'm not too keen on the guitars and keyboard playing.

A good many of the songs are sung at the same pace and we now know why she was unable to bring in more power on occasions.

Trek.

often called Carole.

Edited by - trek007 on 24/07/2009 18:44:37



memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



Posted - 24/07/2009 : 20:43:34

I've been boppin' to Lovin' Proof and Old Habits Die Hard today. I love these tracks! 😊 I like the title 'a very fine Love'. That's what Dusty will always have with her fans....shining like a diamond. It's a lovely affirmative title.



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

I like 'Dusty in Nashville' too but it would've turned some people off because it would've raised expectations of a pure country album which AVFL is not (IMHO).

Memphis
Ever since we met...



dancer8595

Little by little



United Kingdom
690 Posts

Posted - 24/07/2009 : 21:08:19

Because of this thread I was listening to AVFL on my iPod while doing my supermarket shopping today, and very definitely not keeping still during the uptempo tracks. There may even have been some (fairly) quiet singing along. I probably got the odd strange look. Do I care? No!

It's interesting to note that this is arguably her most American-sounding album, not just because of the country-inflected flavour on certain tracks, but because of the accent she uses. Although she was influenced by an American sound for much of her career, I think she still maintained a certain English coolness on certain US-recorded albums, especially DIM. If you played AVFL to somebody who was completely unfamiliar with Dusty's output (poor soul!) they'd never believe she wasn't an American country-pop singer (as you say Memphis, in the early days of your awareness of Dusty you assumed she was American, as I'm sure many people did. When I've used her music in my dance classes the kids have largely assumed she was American, and black).

Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."



boztiggs

Where am I going?



United Kingdom
3367 Posts

Posted - 24/07/2009 : 21:12:57

Lovin proof is just so danceable, i absolutely love it and cant sit still when its playing, which very often happens after alcohol LOL

neil x

" Here in the gloom, of my lonely room, i hold his photograph and pray ill see him soon oh-oh"



memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Posted - 24/07/2009 : 22:00:27

And Rosie, your students are right. They hear Dusty purely like she was heard back in the earlier 60s. They have no luggage. You can't tell that she's a British Irish/Scottish singer. She sounds very American on a lot of her songs and then she uses a English accent on other songs like on If You Go Away. She seemed to morph and transform depending on her environment and what she was channelling; her identity shifts. Back in the 60s some Americans thought she was an African American male soul singer. She probably was for a little while! On AVFL she's definitely American. But by this time she was trans-Atlantic in any case.

I'm proud Dusty was British but I still don't hear her even today as purely British and I don't think she ever was from the time she heard the Exciters and got into soul music and her love affair with the USA.

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 24/07/2009 23:40:34



wally

Little by little



Posted - 24/07/2009 : 23:11:20

It will always be special to me as it was the last Album that Dusty



855 Posts

Sara
I'll try anything
★★

recorded and all the tracks were perfect for that particular time in her career.

Wally x



Posted - 24/07/2009 : 23:39:04

It's not her best, but it's special to me too.
'I Can't Help The Way I Don't Feel' is my favourite.

Sara x

Something inside has died and I can't hide, and I just can't fake it



1163 Posts

Carole R.
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 24/07/2009 : 23:56:02

I don't agree with the Dusty In Nashville idea.
It definitely would have sounded too Country.
As Dusty Fans we can't find fault with this album.
She had alot of guts to complete it, in my view.
My favourite song on the album is 'Go Easy On Me'.
Dusty gave the lyrics her 'magic touch' and owns the song completely.
So in brief, and in my opinion, its a good album, which we were very lucky to get...and it should be treasured by all of us.

CR xx



2242 Posts

humboldt
I'll try anything
★★

Posted - 25/07/2009 : 00:43:42

Carole, I do treasure it but I don't love it if that makes sense?



Humboldt

United Kingdom
1704 Posts

allherfaces
Administrator
★★★★★

Posted - 25/07/2009 : 00:54:28

I treasure all your comments, a pleasure to read.

Tim, I share those happy memories with Jason and Neil (and Freddeh- where did she go)? The night you had the party in Bournemouth that year too, you were playing it. I remember Stephen (?), your wigmaster friend, commenting that her voice in "Go Easy On Me" conveyed a whole lifetime of hurt.

x N

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



USA
14235 Posts

Tim
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 25/07/2009 : 00:59:13

Yes it was Stephen - sigh - not so long ago but plenty happened since then. Hope you'll be staying again one day. x

'I still like Daffy Duck. Can't think of anyone I like better. Actually that's who I'm having an affair with. Difficult but rewarding!'



United Kingdom
3422 Posts

Chrispld
I'll try anything
★★



Posted - 25/07/2009 : 23:32:39

Just caught up with this thread. I feel very poignant about 'A Very Fine Love' as it was Dusty's final album. Outstanding tracks for me are 'Where Is A Woman To Go' 'Roll Away' 'Go Easy on Me' and 'Wherever Would I Be Without You'. Dusty sounds so world-weary as a mature woman reliving life's experiences. Rosie I was delighted to read about you singing along with Dusty in the supermarket. If I did that with my voice I would quickly be escorted off the premises by the security guards!!

Chris



United Kingdom
1075 Posts

Clive
I'll try anything
★★



Posted - 26/07/2009 : 10:12:08

I wonder did Dusty and Daryl Hall consider duetting on *Old Habits Die Hard* as well.

Daryl Hall & John Oates had already recorded the song in 1990. Their version was re-titled *Give It Up*. Apparently Daryl Hall did not like the original lyrics and re-wrote them for his version.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UluDPCfpY-g>



1455 Posts

memphisinlondon
Where am I going?
★★★



Posted - 26/07/2009 : 11:14:56

I didn't know Hall & Oates had recorded this track. How do you know all these things, Clive? 😊😊

Thanks very much for today's Dusty nugget. 😊

Memphis
Ever since we met...



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

humboldt
I'll try anything
★★



Posted - 26/07/2009 : 12:32:47

Thanks for that new info Clive. Gosh it's always great when I learn something new. I think that it's odd that Hall took someone else's song lyrics (Lyle & Britten) and changed them! BTW I prefer Dusty's version.



Humboldt



United Kingdom
1704 Posts

Sue
Little by little
★



Posted - 26/07/2009 : 23:36:49

Excellent thread, Liz. For me this album is beautiful and heartbreaking in more ways than one, it has a dreamy, comfortable, and relaxing feel to it, but there's a lot of warmth and passion too. The superbly lazy, rolling orchestration on 'Roll Away', the helpless tension of 'You Are The Storm', the gentle and haunting plea in 'Go Easy On Me', I love all the tracks and I agree with Trek, this album and the songs were about right for her at this time in her life and career.

As you know, I'm a fairly new Dusty fan, and I got this album fairly early on into the collection at about the same time as I was reading her life story, it made me very sad then, and even now when I play the album it brings a lump to my throat, it makes me realise what an amazing woman she was, as Carole R says, we are lucky to have it and should treasure it, and I do because the whole thing strikes me as a massively brave and determined effort, like Rosie says, she left something

precious behind for us before she left.

Sue xx



dancer8595

Little by little



United Kingdom
690 Posts

Posted - 27/07/2009 : 09:55:27

quote:

Originally posted by Sue

Excellent thread, Liz. For me this album is beautiful and heartbreaking in more ways than one, it has a dreamy, comfortable, and relaxing feel to it, but there's a lot of warmth and passion too. The superbly lazy, rolling orchestration on 'Roll Away', the helpless tension of 'You Are The Storm', the gentle and haunting plea in 'Go Easy On Me', i love all the tracks and i agree with Trek, this album and the songs were about right for her at this time in her life and career.

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Sue xx

Sue, that was lovely. 😊

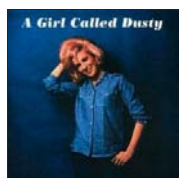
Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."



Cardiff Bluesgirl

I'll try anything



United Kingdom
1809 Posts

Posted - 27/07/2009 : 22:56:19

yes as I said we treasure it for many reasons ,but the most important was that for her last album I think she did a pretty good job. when you think of all her troubles and yet she could produce this for us. we all know that some of her abilities had diminished bit I still think noone "aches" like she did, just

"go easy on me" is worth the price of the album alone and then "where is a woman to go" so wonderful.

I loved her doing that on Jools Holland show for all her weary struggles she sang that like the true star she was and always will be.

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

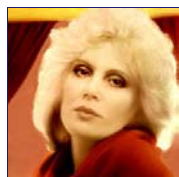
liz.

Edited by - Cardiff Bluesgirl on 27/07/2009 22:57:42



Tim

Where am I going?



United Kingdom
3422 Posts

Posted - 28/07/2009 : 00:02:32

Yes Liz - I think WIAWTG on Later was her most polished TV performance since 'Coming Home Again' - an amazing achievement. It's hard to believe stories that she was nervous - she seems so in control and enjoying herself.

'I still like Daffy Duck. Can't think of anyone I like better. Actually that's who I'm having an affair with. Difficult but rewarding!'



paula

Moderator



Posted - 28/07/2009 : 02:56:38

I also think that performance (WIAWTG) was up there as one of her best. It actually took me up a level in how I felt about this song. If I was Sinead or Allison I would have been soooo into singing back up for Dusty..I certainly would have acknowledged her presence more than



they could muster.
paula x



USA
5012 Posts

MissDustyFanatic

Where am I going?



Posted - 28/07/2009 : 06:29:59   

Maybe they were intimidated by her.



"When do I get to be near you?"



USA
2606 Posts

dancer8595

Little by little



Posted - 28/07/2009 : 08:03:00 

Taylor - I agree with you. If I'd been either one of those two and I'd been singing backing vocals for Dusty Springfield, it would've taken every ounce of strength (I love it when I reference Dusty songs by accident) just to remember the words and be able to sing. The 'apparent snub' that Alison Moyet gives Dusty isn't a snub at all; I reckon she's just thinking, 'oh my gaaaaaad, look who I'm with and look where I am!' Both of them were probably very nervous and very keen to do a good job, and that accounts for the way they appeared a little distant and aloof.

Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."



Cardiff Bluesgirl

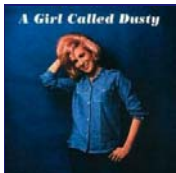
I'll try anything



Posted - 28/07/2009 : 10:26:17 

yes I agree with you Rosie and Taylor, I think both of them have far too much respect for Dusty to have been not watching her every move and making sure they didnt mess up. I am sure they all knew how insecure and nervous she was doing this, but they also knew how fab she was. I bet they were big fans of her as they know true artistry. I would have been far too nervous to have backed her up especially when they all knew her medical situation. this was such a wonderful recording, I love it ,love it ,love it. 🤩

United Kingdom
1809 Posts



quote:

Originally posted by dancer8595

Taylor - I agree with you. If I'd been either one of those two and I'd been singing backing vocals for Dusty Springfield, it would've taken every ounce of strength (I love it when I reference Dusty songs by accident) just to remember the words and be able to sing. The 'apparent snub' that Alison Moyet gives Dusty isn't a snub at all; I reckon she's just thinking, 'oh my gaaaaaad, look who I'm with and look where I am!' Both of them were probably very nervous and very keen to do a good job, and that accounts for the way they appeared a little distant and aloof.

Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."

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

liz.



Clive

I'll try anything



Posted - 28/07/2009 : 17:46:51 

I agree on Dusty's performance of WIAWTG, definitely one of her



1455 Posts

greatest, despite her celebrity backing vocalists.

To me Alison Moyet looks uncomfortable and Sinead O'Connor looks like she wishes she was somewhere else.

Why this could be I don't know, as Dusty had said positive things about both of them in interviews.

I do kind of wince every time I see the clip and Dusty looks to make eye contact with Alison and gets nothing in return.

Anyway I am so glad that Dusty's own performance was this good on her last live TV appearance.

**boztiggs**

Where am I going?



Posted - 28/07/2009 : 21:09:40

United Kingdom
3367 Posts

I thought Alison's timing was off, and I like to think that as singers, they were totally in awe of the woman they were backing, and if they weren't, then they should have been

Neil 😊

"Here in the gloom, of my lonely room, I hold his photograph and pray I'll see him soon oh-oh"

**brokenblossom**

Little by little



Posted - 28/07/2009 : 21:19:16

United Kingdom
587 Posts

I'm sure they were, how could they not have been. This performance is just pure perfection, definitely my favourite. I love this album, this is certainly the one I listen to more than any other. "You are the storm" I think is magnificent, still gives me goosebumps when I listen to it.

Clare
X

**Clive**

I'll try anything



Posted - 28/07/2009 : 22:03:49



1455 Posts

One thing I found interesting about the UK single releases from AVFL is that for the CD singles Columbia records leased tracks from Dusty's previous record labels Phonogram and EMI to include as bonus tracks.

It is very unusual for a record company to go to the trouble and expense of leasing tracks unless it is essential to complete a greatest hits album.

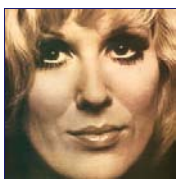
The tracks they chose (Baby Blue, Your Love Still Brings Me To My Knees, What's It Gonna Be, a remix of Daydreaming etc) were all selected as they were hard to find and would be of interest to Dusty collectors.

**memphisinlondon**

Where am I going?



Posted - 28/07/2009 : 22:48:53

United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Clive - Do you think there were plans for a special edition at some point - if the album had been successful? Or was Sony just willing to try anything they could to create a buzz and a couple of hit singles. Would this indicate that they didn't think the album tracks were strong enough by themselves in the current market or that Dusty's profile was too low and people needed to be triggered into remembering, and, Dusty collectors needed to be captured (as you say). I think I may have answered my own questions here but I'd be pleased to hear more from you on this.

It's a marketing ploy I've seen elsewhere but I always think it means there aren't enough decent album tracks to make a compelling single.

A long shot is that Dusty might have said she wanted those tracks released for her fans. That would be a lovely explanation.

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 01/08/2009 09:03:50



Clive
I'll try anything
★★



1455 Posts

Posted - 28/07/2009 : 22:57:48

I'm not sure Memphis, possibly it was the work of a knowledgeable Dusty fan working at Columbia who suggested the idea and convinced the powers that be that the rare tracks would help the singles become hits.

Although again this would seem to be targetting Dusty's already loyal core fan base rather than trying to win over new ones.

With the first single *Wherever Would I Be* I would say Columbia were confident of the song being a hit on its own strength but with *Roll Away* they knew they needed the core fans.



MissDustyFanatic
Where am I going?
★★★



USA
2606 Posts

Posted - 28/07/2009 : 23:15:29

Interestingly enough, the 'Roll Away' CD single is the only place outside of the original vinyl to find the 7" mix of 'Baby Blue'.

"When do I get to be near you?"



memphisinlondon
Where am I going?
★★★



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

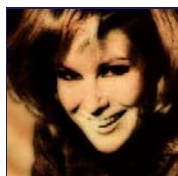
Posted - 29/07/2009 : 01:49:46

It's a good job I've got the 7" single then. I bought it brand new for about 65p. I'm sure I've seen the 7" version on CD. I'd better check. I would bet that you're right seeing as you are Taylor 😊

Memphis
Ever since we met...



Michael Muccino
Little by little
★



USA
634 Posts

Posted - 30/07/2009 : 02:32:55

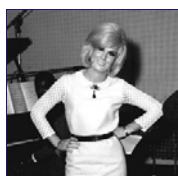
**That was a great clip, John - Thank You!
And Liz - Thanks for this great thread - I'll definitely track down the album and get it!**

Michael

"Ever since we met you had a hold on me."



Carole R.
Where am I going?
★★★



Posted - 30/07/2009 : 09:04:43

Talking of the backing Singers on the Jules Holland show..
Do we know who the black girl is?..

I thought she seemed to be extremely chuffed to be backing Dusty, I do agree that Alison and Sinead, were either overly nervous about singing with an Icon or, they are just plain arrogant.

Who knows? 😞

2242 Posts

However, like everyone else, I thought Dusty's performance was brilliant. 🌱

Carole R xx



Michael Muccino

Little by little



Posted - 31/07/2009 : 14:01:33



"The Dusty Springfield Story" 2CD collection includes Dusty singing solo on "Where Ever Would I Be". Interested in what you think: Which do you like better - That one or her duet with Darryl Hall?

Michael

"Ever since we met you had a hold on me."



USA
634 Posts

MissDustyFanatic

Where am I going?



Posted - 31/07/2009 : 22:20:16



I think I gave you the 7" version on CD, Memphis, at Dusty Day.

"When do I get to be near you?"



USA
2606 Posts

MissDustyFanatic

Where am I going?



Posted - 31/07/2009 : 22:21:43



I prefer the solo version hands down, Michael. Also, I prefer the British album mix rather than the mix of WWIB that appeared on the US version of AVFL.

"When do I get to be near you?"



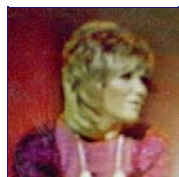
USA
2606 Posts

Sara

I'll try anything



Posted - 31/07/2009 : 23:29:46



Definitely the solo version

Sara x

Something inside has died and I can't hide, and I just can't fake it



1163 Posts

dustylover

Little by little



Posted - 02/08/2009 : 16:27:34

USA
480 Posts

I just wish I could find a copy of this song so I could have it. It would be a joy to hear Where Is A Girl To Go in my car!!!

Larry Launstein Jr.

The only one who could ever reach me was a son of a preacher man - Dusty Springfield



MissDustyFanatic

Where am I going?



Posted - 03/08/2009 : 03:03:27



quote:

Originally posted by dustylover



USA
2606 Posts

I just wish I could find a copy of this song so I could have it. It would be a joy to hear Where Is A Girl To Go in my car!!!

Larry Launstein Jr.

The only one who could ever reach me was a son of a preacher man - Dusty Springfield

A copy of which song, Larry?

"When do I get to be near you?"



dustylover
Little by little
★

USA
480 Posts

Posted - 03/08/2009 : 14:05:28

quote:

Originally posted by MissDustyFanatic

quote:

Originally posted by dustylover

I just wish I could find a copy of this song so I could have it. It would be a joy to hear Where Is A Girl To Go in my car!!!

Larry Launstein Jr.

The only one who could ever reach me was a son of a preacher man - Dusty Springfield

A copy of which song, Larry?

"When do I get to be near you?"

The whole album "A Very Fine Love".

Larry Launstein Jr.

The only one who could ever reach me was a son of a preacher man - Dusty Springfield



memphisinlondon
Where am I going?
★★★



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Posted - 03/08/2009 : 19:19:09

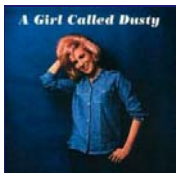
Larry, you can get it on Amazon.com for next to nuthin'

http://www.amazon.com/gp/offer-listing/B000002B2N/ref=sr_1_olp_1?ie=UTF8&s=music&qid=1249323426&sr=1-1

Memphis
Ever since we met...



Cardiff Bluesgirl
I'll try anything
★★



United Kingdom
1809 Posts

Posted - 08/08/2009 : 17:50:00

roll away its only time and the river,roll away da da da da da. I have been playing this today and its fab. 😊😊

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

liz.



Clive
I'll try anything
★★

Posted - 09/08/2009 : 11:24:27



1455 Posts

Interesting to hear this song that was offered to Dusty for AVFL

-extract from article on Michael Bayly's website

"when Neil [Tennant] was told she was looking for songs for an album she was recording in Nashville, he sent her an old country song of his, "Betrayed" which later appeared in a very different form as an extra track on the first "Se A Vida E" single. (She didn't record it). He was subsequently told that, although she was recording in Nashville, she wasn't making a country album."

<http://www.cpinternet.com/mbayly/atkh3.htm>

Here's the song in that very different form by the Pet Shop Boys, if you can imagine it with a country arrangement instead that is what would have been submitted to Dusty.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kQ_GPsgHP-c

Edited by - Clive on 09/08/2009 11:25:48



memphisinlondon
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 09/08/2009 : 13:18:21



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Thanks Clive. 😊 I'd better read Michael's very excellent site again. I wasn't aware of this PSB link. It's good to know how Dusty saw her album and it's interesting that this track was turned down by Dusty (rightly I think) and only ended up on a PSB 'B'-side. Thanks for the links.

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 09/08/2009 15:08:23



Isparks18
Little by little
★

Posted - 11/08/2009 : 10:18:12



USA
132 Posts

I always thought it ironic that Dusty wound up with this Nashville sound at the end of her career. It is too bad she did not go to Nashville in the years she was languishing in California. I know she had her standards, but she would have been big in this genre. It would have made her a household name, which she really is not here in U. S. It is funny, you say Dusty Springfield and many people are puzzled until you hum a few bars of Son of a.... Then they know. She could have done all the cross over stuff while she was recording in Nashville. She certainly would have had a lot more money and a lot more Grammys.

Linda



Topic

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