

Betty Everett – It's In His Kiss (1965)

Written by bluesever

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01 - *You're No Good* (C. Ballard Jr.) 1963 02 - *Chained To Your Love* (Stauton, Jones) 1963
03 - *The Shoop Shoop Song (It's In His Kiss)* (R. Clark) 1963 04 - *Hands Off* (J. McShann, P. Bowman) 1963
05 - *It Hurts To Be In Love* (Toombs, Dixon) 1963 06 - *Hound Dog* (J. Lieber, M. Stoller) 1963
07 - *Until You Were Gone* (Byers) 1963 08 - *The Prince Of Players* (T. Vann) 1963
09 - *I Need You So* (I. Hunter) 1963 10 - *I Can't Hear You* (G. Goffin, C. King) 1964 11 - *Let It Be Me* (Curtis, BÉcaud, DelanoÉ) 1964
12 - *Love Is Strange* (M. Baker, E. Smith) 1964 13 - *I Can't Stand It* (S. McAllister) 1964
14 - *The Way You Do The Things You Do* (R. Rogers, W. Robinson) 1964 15 - *Getting Mighty Crowded* (V. McCoy) 1964
16 - *Chained To A Memory* (Rogers, Ahlert) 1964 17 - *Down In The Country* (W. Benimon) 1963
18 - *June Night* (A. Baer, C. Friend) 1963 19 - *I'm Gonna Be Ready* (V. McCoy) 1965 20 - *The Real Thing* (V. Simpson, N. Ashford, J. Armstead) 1965
21 - *No Place To Hide* (Atkins, Miller) 1965 22 - *Too Hot To Hold* (V. Simpson, N. Ashford, J. Armstead) 1965
23 - *Trouble Over The Weekend* (J. Singleton, R. Snyder) 1965 24 - *The Shoe Won't Fit* (V. Simpson, N. Ashford, J. Armstead) 1965
25 - *With You I Stand* (N. Artis, J. Williams) 1963 26 - *Ain't That Loving You Baby* (J. Reed) 1964
27 - *Just Be True* (C. Mayfield) 1964 28 - *Smile* (J. Butler, C. Mayfield) 1964 29 - *Your Love Is Important To Me* (Austell, Bland) 1962
30 - *Please Love Me* (Higgins, Boler) 1963

Featuring Everett's breakout mid-'60s hits "You're No Good," "Shoop Shoop Song (It's in His Kiss)," and "Let It Be Me" (a duet with Jerry Butler), Vee-Jay's *The Very Best of Betty Everett* offers a nice overview of the Mississippi native's emotive blend of soul-pop material from 1962 to 1965. With her powerful and at times vulnerable-sounding vocal delivery, Everett also takes in Van McCoy's soul gem "Getting Mighty Crowded," the '50s nostalgia cut "It Hurts to Be in Love," and a few more duets with Butler, including fine covers of "Smile" (originally written by Charlie Chaplin for his movie *Modern Times!*) and Curtis Mayfield's "It's All Right." Showing her versatility (she would go on to cut a few country numbers in the early '70s), Everett even offers up the straight pop ballad "Coming From You" and the big-band swinger "June Night"; considering her tenure in gospel choirs as a kid, time spent in Chicago honing her soul skills, and the almost certain fact that she listened to genre-straddling stars like Dinah Washington and Ray Charles, this seamlessly wide-ranging approach really comes as no surprise. A fine

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collection of songs, all unified by Everett's incredible voice. And even though this collection is not available anymore, most of these numbers (sadly sans the Butler duets) can be found on Collectables' Shoop Shoop Song (It's in His Kiss). --- Stephen Cook, AMG

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