Written by bluelover Thursday, 04 August 2016 08:54 -

Brenda Lee – This Is... Brenda (1960)



A1 When My Dreamboat Comes Home 2:11 A2 I Want To Be Wanted 3:00 A3 Just A Little 2:23 A4 Pretend 2:50 A5 Love And Learn 2:06 A6 Teach Me Tonight 2:58 B1 Hallelujah I Love Him So 2:20 B2 Walkin' To New Orleans 2:30 B3 Blueberry Hill 2:27 B4 We Three (My Echo, My Shadow And Me) 3:29 B5 Build A Big Fence 2:23 B6 If I Didn't Care 2:40 Brenda Lee - Vocals Floyd Cramer – Piano Grady Martin - Guitar Bob Moore - Bass Boots Randolph - Sax (Tenor) The Anita Kerr Singers Bob Moore Bass

Brenda Lee's third album was significantly above the average for a pop/rock LP of the era. The orchestrated Nashville production was lush but tasteful, Lee's singing unfailingly committed, and the material pretty strong, even if there was nothing else on the album as strong as its big hit, "I Want to Be Wanted." The record did lean more toward pop than rock, but it was clearly not either Nashville country or straight adult pop, even if by this time in her career she was taking her shots at (and doing quite well with) standards like "Teach Me Tonight." The rock & roll side of her sound was represented by "Love and Learn" and covers of Ray Charles' "Hallelujah, I Love Her So" and Fats Domino's "Blueberry Hill" and "Walking to New Orleans," though she really did better with the ballads. And some of the ballads here are among her stronger material that you won't find on typical Lee greatest-hits collections, à la "If I Didn't Care," "Pretend," and "We Three (My Echo, My Shadow and Me)." It was certainly among the most commercially successful of her albums, reaching number four in the LP charts. --- Richie Unterberger, Rovi

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