

Vera Lynn – 100 Hits Legend (2010)

Written by bluelover

Tuesday, 13 March 2012 16:55 - Last Updated Wednesday, 20 April 2016 17:14

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Disc 1 01. We'll Meet Again 02. (There'll Be Bluebirds Over) The White Cliffs Of Dover 03. Yours 04. It's A Lovely Day Tomorrow 05. Wishing (Will Make It So) 06. Wish Me Luck As You Wave Me Goodbye 07. There's A Land Of Begin Again 08. A Nightingale Sang In Berkeley Square 09. Be Like The Kettle And Sing [play](#) 10. Who's Taking You Home Tonight? 11. Jealousy 12. More And More 13. The General's Fast Asleep 14. Harbour Lights 15. We Three (My Echo, My Shadow And Me) 16. A Star Fell Out Of Heaven 17. Cinderella Stay In My Arms 18. I'm In The Mood For Love 19. It's A Sin To Tell A Lie 20. Goodnight Children Everywhere

Disc 2 01. When The Lights Go On Again 02. I Shall Be Waiting 03. That Lovely Weekend 04. Only Forever 05. Something To Remember You By 06. The London I Love 07. There's A New World Over The Skyline 08. The Happiest New Year Of All 09. The Love Bug Will Bite You 10. I'm Sending You My Blessings 11. Long Ago (And Far Away) 12. It's Like Old Times 13. The Anniversary Waltz [play](#) 14. I'll Be With You In Apple Blossom Time 15. Do You Ever Dream Of Tomorrow? 16. I'm Beginning To See The Light 17. My Dreams Are Getting Better All The Time 18. I Couldn't Sleep A Wink Last Night 19. Up The Wooden Hill To Bedfordshire 20. Goodnight Wherever You Are

Disc 3

01. When They Sound The Last All Clear 02. Over The Rainbow 03. When You Wish Upon A Star 04. There'll Come Another Day 05. You'll Never Know 06. For Sweethearts Everywhere 07. Please Think Of Me 08. Mexicali Rose 09. Cinderella Sweetheart

[play](#)

10. You Can't Be True Dear 11. Little Sir Echo 12. Smilin' Through 13. Over The Hill 14. Careless 15. I Don't Want To Set The World On Fire 16. Rosalie 17. Little Star (Estrellita) 18. You're Breaking My Heart All Over Again 19. Someone's Rocking My Dreamboat 20. There's A Ship Rolling Home

Disc 4

01. Again 02. Kiss Me (Besame Mucho) 03. Coming Home 04. The Silver Wedding Waltz

[play](#)

05. Alone 06. Two Sleepy People 07. So Many Memories 08. I'm In Love For The Last Time 09. I'll Make Up For Everything 10. My Sister And I 11. You're In My Arms 12. When My Dreamboat Comes Home 13. Where In The World 14. How Green Was My Valley 15. After A While 16. I Paid For The Lie That I Told You 17. In My Little Red Book 18. Memories Live Longer Than Dreams 19. No Regrets 20. I'm Yours Sincerely

Disc 5

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*01. Auf Wiederseh'n Sweetheart 02. If You Love Me (Really Love Me) 03. The Homing Waltz
04. My Son, My Son 05. Forget-Me-Not 06. The Windsor Waltz 07. Who Are We? 08. A
House With Love In It 09. The Faithful Hussar (Don't Cry My Love) 10. When You Hear Big
Ben 11. Travellin' Home 12. Addio Amore*

[*play*](#)

*13. If You Go 14. A House Is A Home 15. Be Anything (But Be Mine) 16. Our Love Story 17.
I Am Loved 18. By The Fireside 19. Trying 20. From The Time You Say Goodbye*

The mere mention of Vera Lynn's name evokes images of London skies filled with barrage balloons, and Britons riding out the German blitz in shelters and underground stations. England's sweetheart during the trying times of World War II, Lynn was still in her twenties when she took on that role. She was born Vera Margaret Welch in London's East Ham, to Bertram and Annie Welch, one year before the close of the First World War. She began singing as a girl of seven, also studying dance as a child. She later took her maternal grandmother's maiden name as her stage name, and her natural, unaffected vocal style and charm brought Lynn early success on the radio. At age 18, she was singing with Joe Loss' orchestra, and she'd also begun recording for the Crown label. By the end of the 1930s, after stints working for Charlie Kunz's and Bert Ambrose's bands, Lynn got her own radio series. This event coincided with the end of what was known as the "Phony War," that period in which men were being conscripted and sent overseas, rearmament rushed, and nightly blackouts imposed, but no shots fired or bombs dropped. The shooting war started in 1940, and it was around that same time that Lynn became the host of the BBC radio program Sincerely Yours; the show became incredibly popular with overseas servicemen who missed their girlfriends, and her regular songs included such hopeful/heartsick ballads as "White Cliffs of Dover," "We'll Meet Again," "Wishing," and "Yours," which were taken to heart by the British public. Her recordings -- now done for Decca Records, which had absorbed the Crown label some years before -- all sold well, and Lynn also made several films during the war years, appeared in a stage revue, and sang for troops in Asia. Her sentimental brand of pop music was regarded as a huge help to morale, and Lynn herself virtually a national treasure.

Within just a few months of the end of the Second World War, Lynn surprised and shocked the public by announcing her retirement. As early as Christmas of 1946 she'd begun a limited return to recording, however, and by the end of 1947 she was working again, touring the variety circuit and gaining another BBC radio program. Decca seized a golden opportunity in 1948 by releasing Vera Lynn material in America during a musicians strike that had crippled the stateside music industry, and Lynn gained a Top Ten hit that year with "You Can't Be True, Dear." And in 1952, she became the first British artist to hit number one on the American charts when "Auf Wiederseh'n Sweetheart" spent nine weeks at the top spot. That same year, Lynn managed an astonishing hat trick back home with the advent of the first singles chart for

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England -- unveiled in New Musical Express in November of that year -- when her records occupied three of the top 12 positions. Her first (and only) British number one came two years later, with "My Son My Son," and she gradually moved from radio/variety work to television spots during the '50s in order to round out her schedule, recording increasingly contemporary material during the 1960s -- when she left Decca for EMI -- and '70s. She received an OBE from the British crown in 1969, and in 1975 was made a Dame Commander of the British Empire. Though she performed sparingly during the 1980s, she did appear at commemorations for the 40th anniversary of D-Day and the 50th anniversary of the beginning of World War II, and continued to do charity work. In 2005, she also spoke on behalf of veterans of World War II on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of VE Day.

And as it turned out, even in the twenty-first century, 70 years after she'd cut her first records, Lynn's career as a top-selling recording artist was not yet over. In September of 2009, the 92-year-old Lynn became the oldest singer ever to top the British album charts, when a new Decca collection of her World War II recordings, *We'll Meet Again: The Very Best of Vera Lynn*, hit the number one spot, a doubly extraordinary achievement in light of the reissue of the entire Beatles catalog that same month. It was an occasion noted by news services around the world, and spoke volumes about the love that the British hold for the singer and her music. --- John Bush & Bruce Eder, *All Music Guide*

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