Jonny Lang – Lie To Me (1997)



- 1: Lie to Me (4:14)
- 2: Darker Side (5:10)
- 3: Good Morning Little Schoolgirl (4:15)
- 4: Still Wonder (3:45)
- 5: Matchbox (3:30)
- 6: Back for a Taste of Your Love (3:54)
- 7: A Quitter Never Wins (5:57)
- 8: Hit the Ground Running (3:31)
- 9: Rack 'Em Up (4:08)
- 10: When I Come to You (4:59)
- 11: There's Gotta Be a Change (4:11)
- 12: Missing Your Love (3:54)

Jonny Lang - vocals, lead guitar Bruce McCabe - piano, clavinet, backing vocals

Bekka Bramlett - backing vocals Billy Franze - rhythm guitar Dennis Morgan - acoustic
guitar Doug Bartenfeld - rhythm guitar Rob Stupka - drums David Smith - bass guitar

Like his peers Kenny Wayne Shepherd and Chris Duarte, Jonny Lang is a technically gifted blues guitarist, capable of spitting out accomplished licks and riffs at an astonishingly rapid rate. That doesn't necessarily mean the album has much emotional weight -- Lang can deliver the style, but not the substance, simply because he still needs to grow as a musician. Lang does boast an impressive array of licks and instrumental technique, but he needs something more to make Lie to Me a substantive record. --- Stephen Thomas Erlewine, allmusic.com

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Jonny Lang cut his debut album in Memphis when he was just 15, and, upon its release in 1996, the guitar prodigy from Minneapolis instantly became one of the leading lights of modern blues. He's a fast and flashy player whose approach rests equally on technical assurance and musical intelligence. Sizing up a dozen songs, he gets a pleasing, razor-sharp sound out of his ax while building excitement in his lead lines--thankfully, he steers clear of cliché and bombast. As a fledging singer, he acts out the lyrics of Ike Turner's age-old shuffle "Matchbox" and his own romantic ballad "Missing Your Love" with surprising poise and believability. Kudos to producer David Z for surrounding Lang with alert, first-rate sidemen and for helping select good material from Turner, Sonny Boy Williamson, Tinsley Ellis, and others. ---Frank-John Hadley, amazon.com

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