Carpenters - Close To You (1970)

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1. *"We've Only Just Begun" (Roger Nichols, Paul Williams) – 3:04*
2. *"Love Is Surrender" (Carmichael) – 1:59*
3. *"Maybe It's You" (John Bettis, Richard Carpenter) – 3:04*
4. *"Reason to Believe" (Tim Hardin) – 3:03*
5. *"Help!" (Lennon/McCartney) – 3:03*
6. *"(They Long to Be) Close to You" (Burt Bacharach, Hal David) – 4:33*
7. *"Baby It's You" (Burt Bacharach, Mack David, Williams) – 2:56*
8. *"I'll Never Fall in Love Again" (Bacharach, David) – 2:52*   *play*
9. *"Crescent Noon" (Bettis, Carpenter) – 4:09*
10. *"Mr. Guder" (Bettis, Carpenter) – 3:15*
11. *"I Kept On Loving You" (Nichols, Williams) – 2:14*
12. *"Another Song" (Bettis, Carpenter) – 4:23*   *play*

Personnel:
Richard Carpenter (vocals, keyboards);
Karen Carpenter (vocals, drums);
Doug Strawn (woodwinds, keyboards, wind);
Jim Horn, Bob Messenger (woodwinds, wind);
Hal Blaine (drums).
Joe Osborn, Danny Woodhams (bass);

Karen and Richard Carpenter's third album, released in 1970, includes two of their signature songs, Bacharach/David's "(They Long To Be) Close To You" and Paul Williams' "We've Only Just Begun," a tune originally written as a commercial jingle for California's Crocker Banks. The rest of the album continues the siblings' exquisite taste in outside material, returning to Williams for "I Kept On Loving You" and to Bacharach for the Shirelles' "Baby It's You." Also featured here is an appealing version of the classic "I'll Never Fall In Love Again." Other fine covers include Tim Hardin's "Reason To Believe" and an arrestingly mournful version of

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Lennon/McCartney's "Help." The album also includes four Richard Carpenter originals, with "Another Song" and the girl-groupish "Maybe It's You" the highlights. CLOSE TO YOU is one of the Carpenters' most commercially and artistically successful albums.

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