

Dylan: More Blood, More Tracks

As the old master hasn't released any new material of his own for a long time, I guess Columbia Records had to dig something out from the past. And so we've been offered 'More Blood, More Tracks', a comprehensive collection of the original takes to the album 'Blood On The Tracks'.

For years some of us had been waiting for the reappearance of 'the old Dylan' from the late 60's, but he never came. And then in 1975 a Dylan album was released called 'Blood On The Tracks'. It was not 'the old Dylan', whatever that was supposed to mean, but it was something just as good. Dylan was back!

The de luxe box set, 'More Blood More Tracks', is beyond luxuriousness. Two hardcover books with footage printed on heavy paper plus six CD's with commentaries. It is expensive but for a Dylan freak like myself it's value for money. The pictures I could mostly do without, I like those best where we see him concentrate on performing.

Listening to the original recordings, take for take, is more than interesting. Funny too, when he loses his voice, hits a wrong chord or forgets the lyrics.

There are two outtakes from 'Blood On The Tracks'. One is 'Up To Me'; see about that later. The other is 'Call Letter Blues' being 'Meet Me In The Morning' with a different set of lyrics.

Disc 1.

A & R Studios, New York, September 16, 1974

Disc 1 is purely acoustic and contains among others a version of the song 'Up To Me'. The lyrics to that song are heartbreaking ([see the lyrics here](#)) and it would have been worth while to include it in the final album, if it wasn't because the tune is almost identical to 'Tangled Up In Blue'. He had to choose and he chose the latter.

Listen to '[If You See Her, Say Hello](#)' (Take 1), and '[You're A Big Girl Now](#)' (Take 2). They are both so called lyric videos, meaning that you are shown pages from Dylan's notebook during the playback.

A third lyric video is 'Simple Twist Of Fate' (Take 1). [Listen to it here](#).

OVERVIEW DISC 1

01. If You See Her, Say Hello (Take 1) - solo
02. If You See Her, Say Hello (Take 2) - solo
03. You're A Big Girl Now (Take 1) - solo
04. You're A Big Girl Now (Take 2) - solo
05. Simple Twist Of Fate (Take 1) - solo
06. Simple Twist Of Fate (Take 2) - solo
07. You're A Big Girl Now (Take 3) - solo
08. Up To Me (Rehearsal) - solo

09. Up To Me (Take 1) - solo
10. Lily, Rosemary And The Jack Of Hearts (Take 1) - solo
11. Lily, Rosemary And The Jack Of Hearts (Take 2) - solo

Disc 2.

A & R Studios, New York, September 16, 1974

A band called *Deliverance* is added but it never really works out. On some of the takes the band is getting increasingly disoriented and Dylan eventually discards them.

The bass, Tony Brown, keeps accompanying him on most of the rest of the recordings, though. On disc 2 we're presented for another song that wasn't released on the final album, 'Call Letter Blues'. It is largely the same tune as 'Meet Me In The Morning' but with another set of lyrics.

Listen to ['You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go'](#) on YouTube.

OVERVIEW DISC 2

01. Simple Twist Of Fate (Take 1A) - with band
02. Simple Twist Of Fate (Take 2A) - with band
03. Simple Twist Of Fate (Take 3A) - with band
04. Call Letter Blues (Take 1) - with band
05. Meet Me In The Morning (Take 1) - with band
06. Call Letter Blues (Take 2) - with band
07. Idiot Wind (Take 1) - with bass
08. Idiot Wind (Take 1, Remake) - with bass
09. Idiot Wind (Take 3 With Insert) - with bass
10. Idiot Wind (Take 5) - with bass
11. Idiot Wind (Take 6) - with bass
12. You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go (Rehearsal And Take 1) - with band
13. You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go (Take 2) - with band
14. You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go (Take 3) - with band
15. You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go (Take 4) - with band
16. You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go (Take 5) - with band
17. You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go (Take 6) - with band
18. You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go (Take 6, Remake) - with band
19. You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go (Take 7) - with band
20. You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go (Take 8) - with band

Disc 3.

A & R Studios, New York, September 16, 1974

Billy Griffin on organ and piano is added. We remember Griffin from the 1965 albums 'Bringing It All Back Home' and 'Highway 61 Revisited' plus 'Blonde On Blonde' from 1966, where he delivered a remarkable effort on organ and piano. But this time it just doesn't swing. Griffin is discarded from

the rest of the recordings as well and Dylan is mainly just accompanied with Brown on bass. 'You're A Big Girl Now' (Take 2, Remake) adds steel guitar.

OVERVIEW DISC 3

01. Tangled Up In Blue (Take 1) - with bass
02. You're A Big Girl Now (Take 1, Remake) - with bass and organ
03. You're A Big Girl Now (Take 2, Remake) - with bass, organ and steel guitar
04. Tangled Up In Blue (Rehearsal) - with bass and organ
05. Tangled Up In Blue (Take 2, Remake) - with bass and organ
06. Spanish Is The Loving Tongue (Take 1) - with bass and piano
07. Call Letter Blues (Rehearsal) - with bass and piano
08. You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go (Take 1, Remake) - with bass and piano
09. Shelter From The Storm (Take 1) - with bass and piano
10. Buckets Of Rain (Take 1) - with bass
11. Tangled Up In Blue (Take 3, Remake) - with bass
12. Buckets Of Rain (Take 2) - with bass
13. Shelter From The Storm (Take 2) - with bass
14. Shelter From The Storm (Take 3) - with bass
15. Shelter From The Storm (Take 4) - with bass

Disc 4.

A & R Studios, New York, September 17-19, 1974

The final day of recording in the New York A & R Studios. After a few solo takes Brown joins in for the rest of the takes and he manages with perfection.

OVERVIEW DISC 4

01. You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go (Take 1, Remake 2) - with bass
02. You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go (Take 2, Remake 2) - with bass
03. Buckets Of Rain (Take 1, Remake) - solo
04. Buckets Of Rain (Take 2, Remake) - solo
05. Buckets Of Rain (Take 3, Remake) - solo
06. Buckets Of Rain (Take 4, Remake) - solo
07. Up To Me (Take 1, Remake) - with bass
08. Up To Me (Take 2, Remake) - with bass
09. Buckets Of Rain (Take 1, Remake 2) - with bass
10. Buckets Of Rain (Take 2, Remake 2) - with bass
11. Buckets Of Rain (Take 3, Remake 2) - with bass
12. Buckets Of Rain (Take 4, Remake 2) - with bass
13. If You See Her, Say Hello (Take 1, Remake) - with bass
14. Up To Me (Take 1, Remake 2) - with bass
15. Up To Me (Take 2, Remake 2) - with bass
16. Up To Me (Take 3, Remake 2) - with bass
17. Buckets Of Rain (Rehearsal) - with bass
18. Meet Me In The Morning (Take 1, Remake) - with bass
19. Meet Me In The Morning (Take 2, Remake) - with bass

20. Buckets Of Rain (Take 5, Remake 2) - with bass

Disc 5.

A & R Studios, New York, September 19, 1974

Dylan and Brown are working themselves through the takes with focus and dogged energy. The songs are really taking shape now; we're close to having the job done. A funny episode occurs when Mick Jagger dropped by:

Used to the freewheeling, rollicking sessions The Rolling Stones were famous for, Jagger was eager to have some fun. When Jagger suggests Dylan should try playing "Meet Me in the Morning" using a slide, Dylan, an adept slide player, mischievously flubs the part to prove his point, and remains tightly focused on the task at hand.

'Idiot Wind' is executed with much passion and rather slowly. Organ overdub which is removed in the final cut. The lyrics are much different from the album version. [See the alternate lyrics here.](#)

OVERVIEW DISC 5

01. Tangled Up In Blue (Rehearsal & Take 1, Remake 2) - with bass
02. Tangled Up In Blue (Take 2, Remake 2) - with bass
03. Tangled Up In Blue (Take 3, Remake 2) - with bass
04. Simple Twist Of Fate (Take 2, Remake) - with bass
05. Simple Twist Of Fate (Take 3, Remake) - with bass
06. Up To Me (Rehearsal & Take 1, Remake 3) - with bass
07. Up To Me (Take 2, Remake 3) - with bass
08. Idiot Wind (Rehearsal & Takes 1-3, Remake) - with bass
09. Idiot Wind (Take 4, Remake) - with bass
10. Idiot Wind (Take 4, Remake) - with organ overdub
11. You're A Big Girl Now (Take 1, Remake 2) - with bass
12. Meet Me In The Morning (Take 1, Remake 2) - with bass
13. Meet Me In The Morning (Takes 2-3, Remake 2) - with bass

Disc 6.

A & R Studios, New York, September 19, 1974

The first three tracks are still recorded in the A & R Studios, Dylan and Brown refining 'You're A Big Girl Now' and are ending up with a perfect recording of 'Tangled Up In Blue'.

Disc 6.

Sound 80 Studio, Minneapolis, MN, December 30, 1974

Then the scene changes to Sound 80 Studio in Minneapolis and we go from September to December, 1974 and something extraordinary happens.

The acetate, the master record, to the final album was already made when Dylan had a second thought about the project and he decided to recut some of the songs for the album with local musicians, resulting in a much richer sound.

Concurrently he changes the lyrics to 'Tangled Up In Blue', originally partly in third person but now in first person all the way through. [Se the alternate lyrics here](#) and [listen to a shortened version of the song on YouTube](#).

'Idiot Wind' is executed in a faster, more dynamic way, and he lets his anger shine clearly through.

Several deeply passionate attempts at 'You're A Big Girl Now' (Takes 3-6, Remake 2). You can hear Dylan's commentaries during the takes. Not much comes out of it; Dylan likely knows that he's already captures a master take, and he moves on.

Unfortunately, all we've got from the Minneapolis sessions are the multi-track masters which constitute the last five cuts on disc 6. Organ is added on most of the tracks, but somehow it seems the sensitivity in his voice, which was obvious in so many of the rehearsal takes, has been replaced with a sharper, more energetic execution.

OVERVIEW DISC 6

01. You're A Big Girl Now (Takes 3-6, Remake 2) - with bass
02. Tangled Up In Blue (Rehearsal & Takes 1-2, Remake 3) - with bass
03. Tangled Up In Blue (Take 3, Remake 3) - with bass
04. Idiot Wind - with band, album version
05. You're A Big Girl Now - with band, album version
06. Tangled Up In Blue - with band, album version
07. Lily, Rosemary And The Jack Of Hearts - with band
08. If You See Her, Say Hello - with band, album version