

Lee Morgan - Indeed! (1957)

Written by bluesever

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1 *Roccus* 8:15 2 *Reggie Of Chester* 4:51 3 *The Lady* 6:44 4 *Little T (a.k.a. The New Message)* 8:20 5 *Gaza Strip* 3:52 6 *Stand By* 5:48 7 *Little T (Alternate Take)* 8:07 Alto Saxophone – Clarence Sharpe Bass – Wilbur Ware Drums – "Philly" Joe Jones Piano – Horace Silver Trumpet – Lee Morgan Originally Recorded on November 4, 1956 at the Van Gelder Studio, Hackensack, New Jersey Originally issued in 1956 as Blue Note BLP 1538

Lee Morgan hadn't even celebrated his 20th birthday when he ventured into Rudy Van Gelder's recording studio at Hackensack, New Jersey, on 29 September 1957, to record *The Cooker*. Originally from Philadelphia, Morgan (1938-1972) was a wunderkind trumpeter who idolised Clifford Brown (the groundbreaking hard bop horn blower who had perished in a car accident in 1956) and served his musical apprenticeship playing in the horn section of a short-lived big band led by another notable trumpeter – a puff-cheeked wind machine who went by the name of Dizzy Gillespie. That was in 1956, when Morgan was just 18.

Later the same year, he was offered a recording contract by New York's Blue Note Records, then the leading jazz indie label, and recorded his inaugural LP for them, *Lee Morgan Indeed!*. There followed a spate of intense recording activity that saw the young trumpet prodigy record five more LPs within a period of ten and a half months. But as well as leading his own projects, news of Morgan's prodigious, preternatural talent spread fast and he found himself recording as the trumpet foil to tenor saxophonist Hank Mobley, who was also signed to Blue Note. And, perhaps more significantly, just four days before he went to record what became *The Cooker*, Morgan was in Van Gelder Studio playing alongside rising tenor star and fellow Philadelphian John Coltrane, featuring on what is universally acknowledged as the saxophonist's first truly great album, *Blue Train*. ---Charles Waring, udiscovermusic.com

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