

Paula West – Temptation (1997)

Written by bluesever

Thursday, 21 April 2011 19:02 - Last Updated Thursday, 12 March 2015 17:03

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01. *Temptation* 06:05.25
02. *There's No You* 05:17.72
03. *You Came a Long Way from St. Louis* 03:36.40 [play](#)
04. *You'll See* 06:11.70
05. *Mountain Greenery* 04:36.28
06. *Don't Explain* 05:34.25
07. *Nice and Easy* 03:48.72 [play](#)
08. *If I Only Had a Brain* 05:50.43
09. *Always True to You In My Fashion* 04:19.57
10. *You're My Thrill* 07:33.50
11. *Tired* 04:42.03
12. *Peel Me a Grape* 03:45.35
13. *Skylark* 05:58.12
14. *Comes Love* 03:19.40
15. *A Kiss to Build a Dream On* 05:26.58

Paula West - Vocals Ken Muir - Piano Brad Bueth - Guitar Dave Tidball - Clarinet, Saxophone Bill Douglass - Bass Al Obidinski - Bass Tom Duckworth - Drums

Many professional singers have some musical spark in their backgrounds that initially fired their interest in a career in the music business. Many started out in the church choir. Others worked in regional musical theater. But for jazz singer Paula West, there was nothing in her background to indicate early on that she would end up where she is today: making albums and performing live at such swanky venues as the Oak Room in New York's Algonquin Hotel and the Ritz Carlton in San Francisco.

A native of San Diego and the daughter of a Marine, West was one of three children. Although she learned to play the clarinet during her childhood, jazz wasn't something that her parents

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frequently listened to around the house. Instead, her dad preferred classical music. It wasn't until she entered college that West began to dig deeper into the jazz tradition. Her own interest drove her on, independent of course work or other influences, and she sought out the recordings of Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, Dinah Washington, Julie London, Maxine Sullivan, Peggy Lee, and Sarah Vaughan. Upon her graduation she relocated to San Francisco, not knowing what her life's path would turn out to be, but sure that she had to pursue something in a creative vein. West set her sights on a career as a singer. She scoured old shops and thrift stores, hoping to find recordings of some jazz standards. West learned the older jazz classics and enrolled in voice classes. After building up her confidence, she risked participation at open-mike nights. During one such night she made the acquaintance of Ken Muir, a piano player who liked what he heard so much that he became her accompanist.

West continued to study the recordings made by jazz legends, as well as training with Faith Winthrop. Throughout this decade-long education, West supported herself by waiting tables. She made her recording debut in 1995 with Temptation. ~ Linda Seida, Rovi

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