

## Eddie Harris - The Tender Storm (1966)

Written by bluesever

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*A1 When A Man Loves A Woman 6:10 A2 My Funny Valentine 6:50 A3 The Tender Storm 5:30 B1 On A Clear Day (You Can See Forever) 7:15 B2 A Nightingale Sang In Berkeley Square 4:25 B3 If Ever I Would Leave You 7:57* Bass – Ron Carter Drums – Billy Higgins (tracks: B2), Bobby Thomas Piano – Cedar Walton Saxophone [Amplified Sax] – Eddie Harris Tenor Saxophone – Eddie Harris (tracks: A2)

In a sense, this LP was really the calm before the storm, the album where Eddie Harris unveiled some new wrinkles in his act that would explode on the very next album *Electrifying*, while hewing tightly to a standard acoustic quartet format. Here he starts to use the Varitone amplified saxophone, albeit very discreetly, as he sticks mostly to the doubled octave effects for a suave tone that allows for some slippery swinging. While Harris' soon-to-be-distinctive funk mode is in full bloom on the opening track, "When a Man Loves a Woman," his lovely ballad form from the VeeJay days remains intact on "Berkeley Square." The support couldn't be more professional -- Cedar Walton (piano), Ron Carter (bass), Billy Higgins or Bobby Thomas (drums) -- nor the selections more conventional (contemporary and past standards, plus Harris' title track), which ought to make this a candidate for reissue in our conservative jazz climate. ---Richard S. Ginell, AllMusic Review

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