

Peter, Paul and Mary - Peter, Paul and Mary (1962)

Written by bluelover

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01. *Early In The Morning* (Noel Stookey) - 1:34 [play](#) 02. *500 Miles* (Hedy West) - 2:45 03. *Sorrow* (Peter Yarrow, Noel Stookey) - 2:51 04. *This Train* (Peter Yarrow, Noel Stookey) - 2:08 05. *Bamboo* (Dave Van Ronk) - 2:31 06. *It's Raining* - 4:20 07. *If I Had My Way* (Rev. Gary Davis) - 2:21 08. *Cruel War* (Peter Yarrow, Noel Stookey) - 3:26 09. *Lemon Tree* (Will Holt) - 2:54 10. *If I Had A Hammer* (Pete Seeger, Lee Hays) - 2:08

[play](#)

11. *Autumn To May* (Peter Yarrow, Noel Stookey) - 2:44 12. *Where Have All The Flowers Gone?* (Pete Seeger) - 3:54

Personnel: - Noel "Paul" Stookey - Vocals - Mary Travers - Vocals - Peter Yarrow - Guitar, Vocals

The legendary trio's eponymous 1962 debut produced two classics--"Lemon Tree" and Pete Seeger's "If I Had a Hammer." Because they were always hipper and more political than the Kingston Trio, Peter, Paul & Mary were soon frequently credited as the group that transformed American folk music into '60s pop. It would be another six months before they really exploded with "Puff the Magic Dragon," and then another six before they brought Bob Dylan into the mainstream via their hit covers of "Blowin' in the Wind" and "Don't Think Twice." Which is why 1970's 10 Years Together: The Best of Peter, Paul and Mary remains the essential buy; nevertheless, the debut features their gorgeous covers of "Cruel War" and "Where Have All the Flowers Gone," making this disc mandatory for folk fans. ---Bill Holdship, Editorial Reviews

The debut album by Peter, Paul & Mary is still one of the best albums to come out of the 1960s folk music revival, a beautifully harmonized collection of the best songs that the group knew, stirring in its sensibilities and its haunting melodies, crossing between folk, children's songs, and

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even gospel ("If I Had My Way"), and light-hearted just where it needed to be, with the song "Lemon Tree," which became their first hit single, and earnest where it had to be, particularly on "If I Had a Hammer." Ironically, the trio's version of the latter song, which Pete Seeger and Lee Hayes had written in the early days of the Weavers' history, helped push popular folk music in a more political direction at the time, but it was another song in their repertory, Seeger's "Where Have All the Flowers Gone," that also helped indirectly jump start that movement. The group had performed it in Boston at a concert attended by the Kingston Trio, who immediately returned to New York and cut their own version, which charted as a single early in 1962. Other highlights include "It's Raining" and "500 Miles." Peter, Paul & Mary, which hit the top spot on the album charts as part of a 185-week run, is the purest of the trio's albums, laced with innocent good spirits and an optimism that remains infectious even 40 years later. Along with the rest of the trio's early catalog, the album was remixed for CD from its original three-track master tape by Peter Yarrow in 1989, which resulted in some of the best sound on any Warner Bros. CDs of material dating from the early '60s. --- Bruce Eder, allmusic.com

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