Blood, Sweat and Tears - Greatest Hits (1972)



- 01. You've Made Me So Very Happy
- 02. I Can't Quit Her
- 03. Go Down Gamblin'
- 04. Hi-De-Ho That Old Sweet Roll
- 05. Sometimes In Winter
- 06. & When I Die
- 07. Spinning Wheel
- 08. Lisa, Listen To Me
- 09. I Love You More Than You'll Ever Know
- 10. Lucretia Macevil
- 11. God Bless The Child

Personnel: Dave Bargeron - trombone, tuba, bass trombone, baritone horn, acoustic bass Randy Brecker - trumpet, flugelhorn David Clayton-Thomas - lead vocals except as noted, guitar on "Go Down Gamblin" Bobby Colomby - drums, percussion, vocals Jim Fielder -Dick Halligan - organ, piano, electric piano, harpsichord, celeste, trombone, flute, alto flute, baritone horn, vocals Jerry Hyman - trombone, bass trombone, recorder Steve Katz - electric guitar, acoustic guitar, harmonica, mandolin, vocals, lead vocals on "Sometimes In Winter" Fred Lipsius - alto saxophone, piano, organ, clarinet, vocals Lew Soloff - trumpet, flugelhorn, piccolo trumpet Jerry Weiss - trumpet, flugelhorn, vocals Al Kooper - Piano, Organ, lead vocals on "I Can't Quit Chuck Winfield - trumpet, flugelhorn " I Love You More Than You'll Ever Know" Her" and

Sometimes, a greatest-hits set is timed perfectly to gather together a group's most successful and familiar performances just at the point when that group has passed the point of their maximum exposure to the public, but before the public memory has had a chance to fade. That was the case when Columbia Records assembled this compilation for release in early 1972. At that point, Blood, Sweat & Tears had released four albums and scored six Top 40 hits, each of which is heard here. But lead singer David Clayton-Thomas had just quit the group, so that the unit that recorded songs like "You've Made Me So Very Happy" was not working together

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anymore. And even when Clayton-Thomas returned, the band would continue to decline commercially. As such, BS&T's Greatest Hits captures the band's peak in 11 selections--seven singles chart entries, plus two album tracks from the celebrated debut album when Al Kooper helmed the group, and two more from the Grammy-winning multi-platinum second album. Using the short singles edits of songs like "And When I Die" emphasizes their radio-ready punch over the more extended suitelike arrangements on the albums, but this selection gains in focus what it lacks in ambition. For the millions who learned to love BS&T in 1969 when they were all over AM radio, this is the ideal selection of their most accessible material. (A later CD reissue of Blood, Sweat & Tears' Greatest Hits replaced each singles edit with the original full-length version.) ---William Ruhlmann, allmusic.com

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