

Etta James – Love's Been Rough On Me (1997)

Written by bluesever

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01. *Rock, The* 03:33 02. *Cry Like a Rainy Day* 05:21 03. *Love's Been Rough on Me* 03:09
[play](#) 04. *Love It or Leave It Alone* 05:28 05. *Don't Touch Me* 03:57 06. *Hold Me (Just a Little Longer Tonight)* 03:47 07. *If I Had Any Pride Left at All* 03:49 08. *I Can Give You Everything* 03:15
[play](#) 09. *I've Been Loving You Too Long* 04:20 10. *Done in the Dark* 04:19
Etta James- (Vocals); Don Potter- (Acoustic Guitar); Dann Huff, Josh Sklair, Brent Rowan- (Electric Guitar); Paul Franklin- (Steel Guitar); Joe McGlohon, Jim Horn, Sam Levine, Chris McDonald, Mike Haynes- (Horns); Barry Beckett, Steve Nathan- (Keyboards); Eddie Bayers- (Drums); Terry McMillan- (Percussion); Curtis Young, Dennis Wilson, Donna McElroy, John Wesley Ryles, Vicki Hampton, Louis Dean Nunley, Yvonne Hodges- (Background Vocals).

Etta James was one of the greatest blues, jazz and soul singers of the 50s and 60s. At the age of 17 she made her breakthrough when "The Wallflower" topped the R&B chart. She had more success after signing to Chess Records: "All I Could Do Was Cry" was a minor hit, before "At Last" reached No.2 on the R&B chart and No.22 in the pop chart. It went on to become her signature tune and has been covered by many of the greatest soul and jazz singers, including Stevie Wonder, Nat King Cole and Ella Fitzgerald. More R&B hits followed, such as "Trust in Me", "Something's Got a Hold on Me" and "Stop the Wedding". In 1967, "Tell Mama" was a crossover success (reaching No.23 in the pop charts), and "Security" also did well.

"Love's Been Rough on Me" is a terrific latter-day album from Etta James, capturing her at the peak of her powers. James' voice has diminished only slightly over the course of her career, and she knows how to make such warhorses as "I've Been Loving You Too Long" sound fresh. She also invests contemporary music, including John Berry's contemporary country hit "If I Had Any Pride Left at All," with real soul. The result is a record that delivers the real goods with grace and style. ---Leo Stanley, AllMusic Review

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