

## John Lee Hooker – The Healer (1989)

Written by bluesever

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*Tracks: 01. The Healer 02. I'm in the Mood 03. Baby Lee 04. Cuttin' Out 05. Think Twice Before You Go 06. Sally Mae 07. That's Alright 08. Rockin' Chair 09. My Dream 10. No Substitute*

John Lee Hooker – vocals, guitar, steel guitar   Carlos Santana – guitar  
Chepito Areas – timbales   Armando Peraza – congas   Ndugu Chanler – drums  
Chester Thompson – keyboards, synthesizers   Bonnie Raitt – vocals, slide guitar   Roy Rogers – guitar, slide guitar   Scott Mathews – drums   Robert Cray – guitar   Richard Cousins – bass   Henry Vestine – guitar   Larry Taylor – bass   Fito de la Parra – drums  
Charlie Musselwhite – harmonica   Cesar Rosas – guitar   David Hidalgo – guitar, accordion  
Louie Pérez – drums   Conrad Lozano – bass   Steve Berlin – saxophone   George Thorogood – guitar   Steve Ehrmann – bass

The Healer was a major comeback for John Lee Hooker. Featuring a wide array of guest stars, including Bonnie Raitt, Johnnie Johnson, and Los Lobos, The Healer captured widespread media attention because of all the superstar musicians involved in its production. Unfortunately, that long guest list is what makes the album a fairly unengaging listen. Certainly there are moments where it clicks, but that's usually when the music doesn't greatly expand on his stripped-down boogie. The other moments are professional, but not exciting. It's a pleasant listen, but never quite an engaging one. ---Thom Owens, AMG

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