

## Ricky Nelson – 25 Greatest Hits (1998)

Written by bluelover

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1. Hello Mary Lou
2. Travelin' Man
3. Milk Cow Blues
4. Be-Bop Baby
5. Stood Up
6. Believe What You Say
7. My Buckets Got A Hole In It
8. Poor Little Fool
9. Lonesome Town
10. I Got A Feeling
11. It's Late
12. There's Good Rockin' Tonight
13. Shirley Lee
14. Boppin' The Blues
15. Down The Line
16. Whole Lotta Shakin' Going On
17. Tryin' To Get To You
18. If You Can't Rock Me
19. My Babe
20. I'm In Love Again
21. Summertime
22. Lucky Star
23. Congratulations
24. You Are the Only One
25. It's All In The Game

From 1957 to 1962, RICKY NELSON charted thirty Top 40 hits, more than any other artist at the time except Elvis Presley. Thirty Top 40 chart hits in a six year run is very impressive, considering that some recording artists racked up a possible two dozen hits over a couple decades' time span[if not more] during the Rock Era.[These thirty Top 40 hits does not include the dozens of other "45's" Nelson charted on the lower 60 chart positions throughout the remainder of his almost thirty year career, which was cut short by his untimely death in a plane crash while on one of his music tours in 1985.] Many of Ricky's early records[vinyl 45's] where double hits with both the "A" side and the "B" side placing/peaking a position on the Billboard and Cashbox Magazine Hot 100 Singles charts, plus receiving massive radio station airplay during each single's[recording] respective heyday.

While Nelson preferred uptempo rockers like "Hello Mary Lou", "It's Late", "Stood Up" and "Be-Bop Baby", his smooth, calm voice made him a natural to sing ballads. He had major success with "Travelin' Man", "Poor Little Fool", "Young World", "Lonesome Town", "Never Be Anyone Else", and "Teenage Idol", which clearly could have been about Ricky himself at the time. 1964's "For You" would be his last Top 40 hit until 1970 when he recorded Bob Dylan's "She Belongs To Me" with the Stone Canyon Band. In 1972, he would chart into the Top 40 one final time with his enduring Top 10 hit, "Garden Party".

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25 GREATEST HITS compiles Ricky Nelson's impressive initial chart hits[1957-62] in their original alluring versions for his multi-generation fan base to enjoy in remastered sound. Nelson is also credited with being the original and very first Teen Idol, a title he occasionally shunned, and preferred to be recognised as a musician, which he ultimately was. Despite the promotional aspects of his career, it is clear that Nelson knew and loved music and was a credible performer before he became a Teen Idol, largely due to his parents' musical background. Both Ozzie and Harriet Nelson were Big Band musicians/singers during the early years of their careers throughout the 1930's and 1940's - he was the younger son of Ozzie Nelson, the leader of a big band, and Harriet Hilliard Nelson, the band's singer.

Along with brother David Nelson, the family starred in the long-running radio and television series "The Adventures of Ozzie & Harriet" from 1944 to 1966; with Ricky's singing[career] often featured in the show's weekly themes and gaining him national exposure to his unique musical attributes. His record sales skyrocketed into the millions, and is credited with selling close to 70 million of his own recordings. I can recall seeing him on his parent's TV show reruns when I was a child, and proudly became his fan at age 7. Many of the songs on "25 GREATEST HITS" have become staples of modern day Oldies/Classic Pop-Rock oriented radio stations. RICKY NELSON remains the most enduring, interesting and gifted of all the Teen Idols, the ultimate musician among them all and he will never be forgotten. --- Hugo (HOUSTON, TEXAS United States)

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