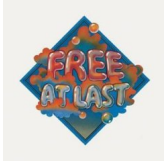


Free - Free At Last (1972)

Written by bluesever

Thursday, 30 January 2014 16:55 - Last Updated Sunday, 11 March 2018 14:56

Free - Free At Last (1972)



1 *Catch A Train* 3:12 2 *Soldier Boy* 2:51 3 *Magic Ship* 5:23 4 *Sail On* 3:06 5 *Travellin' Man* 3:23 6 *Little Bit Of Love* 2:35 7 *Guardian Of The Universe* 5:32 8 *Child* 5:19 9 *Goodbye* 5:15 + 10 *Burnin' (Molten Gold) (Alternate Take)* 5:57 11 *Honky Tonk Women* 3:14 12 *Magic Ship (Alternate Mix)* 5:28 13 *Little Bit Of Love (Alternate Mix)* 2:37 14 *Guardian Of The Universe (Paul Rodgers Solo Version)* 6:07 15 *Child (Early Version)* 5:20
Musicians: Paul Rodgers – vocals, piano Paul Kossoff – guitar Andy Fraser – bass guitar Simon Kirke – drums

Following Paul Rodgers' unsuccessful project titled Peace and Andy Fraser's ill-fated Toby, Free rebuilt themselves and released *At Last* in the summer of 1972. The band went right back to what they know best, with Rodgers bearing his blues-rock soul to Kossoff's moody electric guitar. Tracks like "Sail On," "Soldier Boy," and "Travelling Man" come out on top as some of the band's most emotive material, proving that their breakup in 1971 had no real effect on their chemistry. "Little Bit of Love" was released in the U.K., peaking at number 13, while the album itself broke the Top Ten there, stalling at number 69 in the U.S. The band's mixture of laid-back blues and gritty, bare-boned rock & roll is as poignant and as expressive as it was on *Tons of Sobs* or *Fire and Water*, even though Paul Kossoff's problems with drugs were beginning to be more and more evident. Eventually, Kossoff's addiction affected the entire band, hindering Free's ability to go on tour to promote the album. After *At Last*, Andy Fraser left the group and created the band Sharks along with Chris Spedding, while Kossoff was busy with his own *Back Street Crawler* project. After Kossoff's death in 1976, John Bundrick re-joined along with Tetsu Yamauchi for 1973's *Heartbreaker*...Free's final release. ---Mike DeGagne, allmusic

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