Cass Elliot – Dream A Little Dream (1968/2005)

01. Dream A Little Dream Of Me (Wilbur Schwandt, Fabian Andre, Gus Kahn) - 3:41 02. California Earthquake (John Hartford) - 2:41 03. The Room Nobody Lives In (John Sebastian) - 3:10 04. Talkin' To Your Toothbrush (John Simon) - 2:22 play 05. Blues For Breakfast (Richard Manuel) - 2:55 06. You Know Who I Am (Leonard Cohen) - 4:00 07. Rubber Band (Cyrus Faryar) - 3:29 08. Long Time Loving You (Stuart Scharf) - 1:57 09. Jane, The Insane Dog Lady (John Simon) - 2:02
play
10. What Was I Thinking Of (Leah Cohen) - 4:02 11. Burn Your Hatred (Graham Nash) - 2:03 12. Sweet Believer (Cyrus Faryar) - 4:56 13. Darling Be Home Soon (John Sebastian) - 3:03 14. Sisotowbell Jane (Joni Mitchell) – 3:28
Personnel: - Cass Elliot - lead vocals - Hal Blaine (01), Jim Gordon - drums - Harvey Brooks, Joe Osborn (01) - bass - James Burton - guitar, dobro - Cyrus Faryar - guitar, ukulele - John Sebastian - guitar, harmonica - Stephen Stills - guitar, vocals - Renais Faryar - vocals (03), voice (07) - Paul Harris - organ, piano - Larry Knechtel - keyboards (01) - Brenda Holloway - backing vocals (06) - Danny Doherty, Jill Gibson, John Phillips, Michelle Phillips, Scott McKenzie - backing vocals (01) - The Blossoms - backing vocals (05,06) - Plass Johnson - saxophone - John Simon - piano, arrangements, producer

Dream a Little Dream was the first solo album by singer Cass Elliot immediately after the break-up of The Mamas & the Papas. Capitalizing on the success of her first solo song as the album's title, the record was released on October 19, 1968 by Dunhill Records. The album was re-released by MCA Japan in 2001.

Elliot's original title for the album was going to be “In the Words of My Friends” which came from the fact that nearly all the songs she chose were written by friends and family.

The album, itself, is very much of a concept album. While working with The Mamas & the Papas, Elliot felt severely limited in her desire to try different musical styles and took this album as that opportunity. The album contains touches of country, blues, rock, jazz, gospel and even a bluegrass song. When interviewed about the split, she told the Los Angeles Free Press, “I have a lot of things inside me to sing and I can’t expect the others to wait around until I have got things out of my system. It’s not that I wanted to leave the group, it’s just that I wanted to do some things on my own.”

The album was recorded in no more than ten days at Wally Heider’s studio in Los Angeles. Instead of spending countless hours doing retakes, like she had done with The Mamas & the Papas, almost every song was recorded live. With the help of Simon, Elliot was also keen to try some experimental things such as adding sound effects to most of the songs. “Dream a Little Dream of Me” was introduced at the beginning of the album with the sound of rain and a thunderstorm and then with the static of someone changing a radio station. At the end of the song, a radio DJ announces that an ensuing earthquake has hit Los Angeles as “California Earthquake” begins. Several other songs on the album lead into the next song to create the feeling that the same song is still playing.

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