

SIR 103 It Only Rains on Me

vocal by: Stefan Sidholm

Release Date: (vinyl) 1988 / 07 (MP3) – 2003 / 10

Singing Call MS-41

Original artist: Don Williams

Hanhurst's Best Seller listing
(July 1988) – unplaced

ORIGINAL MUSIC DETAILS: WRITER: Bob McDill
PUBLISHERS: Universal-Polygram International Pub Inc.

There are few American classics these days, but Don Williams is certainly one of them. With a warm hickory baritone that balances strength with a gentle concern, he draws his listener into the intimate world of an old friend, someone who cares deeply about you and the quality of your life... and who will always offer a hand when you need it; Don has been singing professionally and enjoying great success since 1964. This song is indicative of Don's style and is regarded by many as one of his finest.

This song actually features a quite different style from any of the other Sting tunes. It follows a very simple arrangement, which is representative of the Don Williams' original, whilst – at the same time – provides a steady “walking” beat to which the dancers can move. It tells a simple story about the way that life can sometimes be unfair – as is suggested by the title – but the overall effect is not so much a “sad” song as an “honest” and “solid” one. A good middle-evening, slower tune!

Additional Lyrics:

I know all about black clouds, there's one that follows me around
It may sound funny but somehow, it only rains on me
It follows me almost everywhere, and it seems its hardly fair
People will stop and people stare, but it only rains on me

Broken dreams and drowned parades, lovers who just slip away
Guess I learn to live that way, it only rains on me
Seems to me there was a time, it used to rain on friends of mine
Now I look around and find, it only rains on me

I'll bet this won't hurt you much, you'll find someone soon enough
I'm the one that loses in love, it only rains on me
It's time we said goodbye and so, I'll just take my cloud and go
Don't worry you'll forget I know, it only rains on me.

Where, When and Who produced the music:

Stefan and Ingvar, together with Robert Björk, were very fortunate to locate a studio in Kumla, Sweden – by the name of the Music Mill - who were prepared to take on the task of helping us to produce music for Square Dancing.

In 1986, Bengt “Bula” Ericsson, from Katrineholm in Sweden, joined the Sting team. Ingvar Pettersson and Stefan Sidholm asked Bula to assist them with the production of the second batch of tunes and he remained an essential part of the Sting and Snow production-process for many years; this tune was recorded, as part of the third batch created in Sweden.

Using the players of a first rate Swedish Country band, called “Country Roads”, we set about creating new Square Dance music. All the players were of the highest standard, amongst these were Thomas Haglund, (on Fiddle and Mandolin); Thomas has often been referred to as the finest Fiddle Player – outside the U.S.

Over the years Sting and Snow spent quite a lot of time in the studio. This particular tune was recorded around the mid-point of our association with the Music Mill.