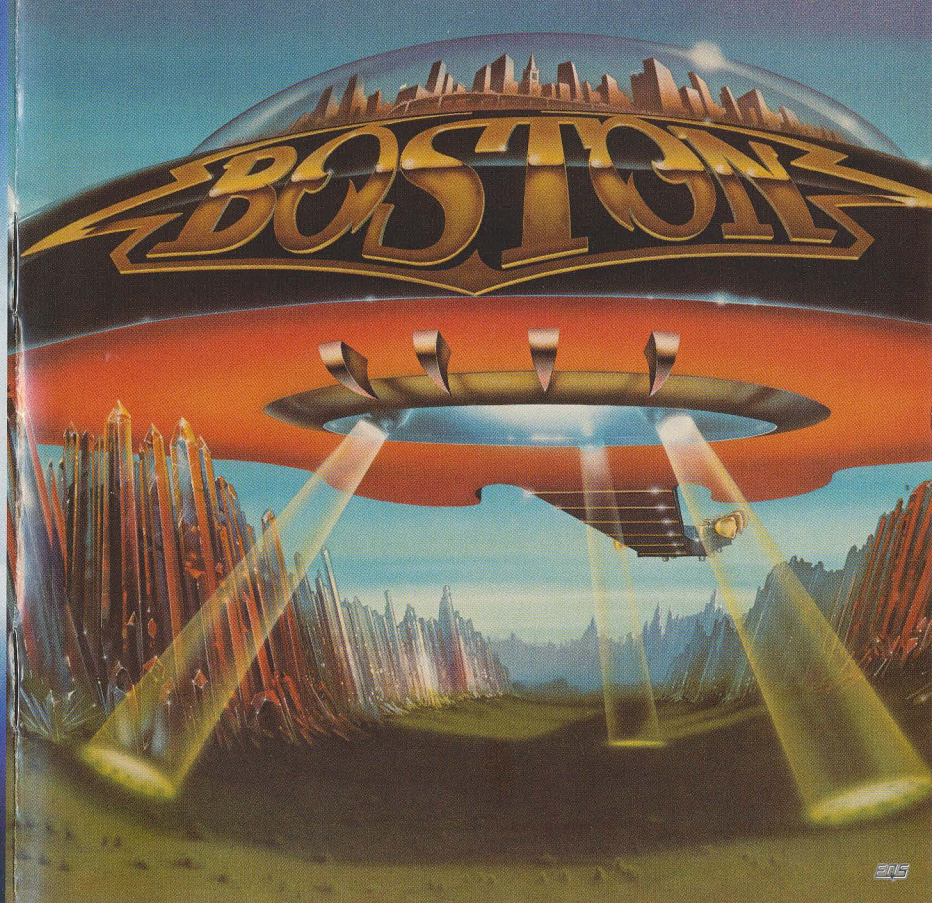




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2015

1. Don't Look Back

(T. Scholz)

2. The Journey

(T. Scholz)

3. It's Easy

(T. Scholz)

4. A Man I'll Never Be

(T. Scholz)

5. Feelin' Satisfied

(T. Scholz)

6. Party

(T. Scholz-B. Delp)

7. Used To Bad News

(B. Delp)

8. Don't Be Afraid

(T. Scholz)

Previously Unreleased Bonus Track:

9. Help Me (Live)

(T. Scholz)

Recorded live December 18, 1976 by

King Biscuit Flower Hour at

The Spectrum in Philadelphia, PA

Produced by Boston

Mixed in 2006 by Niko Bolas

Tracks 1-8 originally released as Epic 35050

Produced by Tom Scholz

Recorded 1977-1978



voltage mix of musical déjà vu and just enough of the shock of the new. Like the *Boston* album, *Don't Look Back* kicked off with a beautiful bamburner in the proud tradition of Boston's classic "More Than A Feeling," followed by an instrumental bridge to another pop-rocking gem - this time, it was the searching "The Journey" into the joyously carefree "It's Easy," as opposed to *Boston's* "Foreplay" into "Long Time."

After this suitably rousing start, *Don't Look Back* takes an interesting and slightly darker turn. Whereas *Boston* had spoken almost mythically to the hearts and minds of teenagers with its sunny and celebratory spirit, "A Man I'll Never Be" was a slow-burning power ballad reflecting real grown-up concerns and lived-in reality. That said, by the end, it really rocks. In his *Rolling Stone* review, Emerson even compared the seven-minute song to another extended masterpiece, Led Zeppelin's "Stairway To Heaven" - as high as high praise gets in the realm of rock & roll.

Boston's high-flying vocalist Brad Delp contributed a similarly adult song to *Don't Look Back* in the form of the subtly fab-tastic "Used To Bad News" - another stunner that makes one wish we had heard more songs from Delp's pen over the years. This is not to say that it was all somber - in fact, Delp also co-wrote another song with Scholz here, the more characteristically upbeat anthem "Party."

By some accounts, Scholz may have some mixed feelings regarding *Don't Look Back* - feeling rushed by the record company, he may

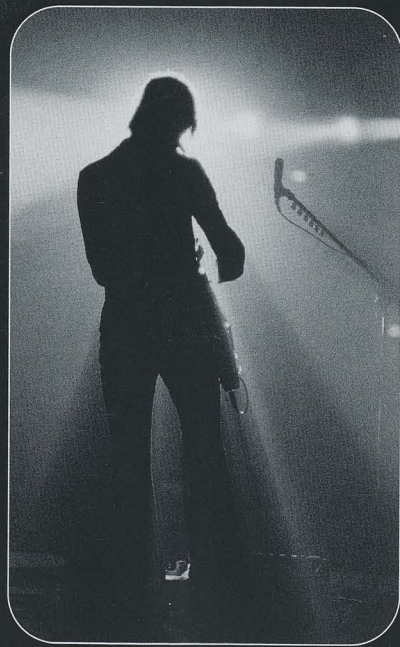
have not finished the album to his own exceedingly high standards. In the end, the album went all the way to #1 on the *Billboard* album charts - something even *Boston* didn't accomplish - though it ultimately sold fewer millions of copies. Considering that *Boston* remains one of the most popular albums of all-time, that remains an impossible standard.

Still, for assorted legal and creative reasons, this would be the last new Boston studio album for Epic Records, and the last album Boston would release at all for another eight years, by which time guitarist Barry Goudreau, drummer Sib Hashian and bassist Fran Sheehan were no longer in the lineup. And while I am not a musical genius like Tom Scholz, let me say that more than a quarter century later, *Don't Look Back* still sounds damn good to my ears - a sonic blast from the past that leaves me feelin' satisfied. An album this good is never really, to borrow a phrase from "Don't Look Back" itself, far away and left behind.

* * *

One final technical note for the detail-oriented: as a young Boston fan growing up in New Jersey, I remember studying the *Don't Look Back* album cover and sleeve notes closely and somehow being impressed that despite the truly state of the art sound, Boston made a point of letting the listener know that there were "no synthesizers used" and "no computers used." Taking a cue from this proclamation, I think it only right that I let the world know that although I did use a computer, absolutely no synthesizers were used in writing these liner notes.





ORIGINAL LP CREDITS

TOM SCHOLZ - lead guitar, acoustic and electric rhythm guitar, 12 string guitar, bass, piano, organs, special effects guitar

BRAD DELP - vocals

BARRY GOUDREAU - lead and slide guitar, percussion

SIB HASHIAN - drums, percussion

FRAN SHEEHAN - bass, percussion

Cindy, Gloria, Rob and Tom - hands and cans

No Synthesizers Used • No Computers Used

PRODUCED, ENGINEERED AND ARRANGED
BY TOM SCHOLZ

Assistant Engineers: Rob Rosati, Dennis Coscia and
Eric Carr

Mastered at Capitol Studios by Wally Traugott

All songs recorded and mixed at Tom Scholz'
Hideaway Studio, except piano on
"A Man I'll Never Be" recorded at Northern Studio,
Maynard Mass., and engineered by Dave Butler.

Special Thanks to Cindy whose unflinching support
made this album possible, to John Boylan and
Putney for their expert advice, to everyone who
helped assemble and bail out the Hideaway Studio,
and to everyone at Epic for being so patient.

Art Direction: Tony Lane
Cover Concept: Tom Scholz
Cover Artist: Gary Norman

Original LP Photographs: © 1978 Ron Pownall
Management: Paul Ahern, Left Lane, Inc.



REISSUE CREDITS

Produced for Reissue by Bruce Dickinson
Mastered by Mark Wilder at Sony Music Studios,
New York

Legacy A&R: Steve Berkowitz

Project Direction: John Jackson
A&R Coordination: Darren Salmieri, Jeremy Holiday
and Stacey Boyle

Art Direction: Howard Fritzsion
Design: Joel Zimmerman
Photography: Ron Pownall
Photo Page 3: Micheal Ochs Archive
Thanks to Andrew Dawson

Other titles available by Boston:
Boston (Expanded Edition)
Greatest Hits

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www.sonybmg.com

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call our Quality Management Department at 1-800-255-7514. New
Jersey residents should call 856-722-8224.

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