

SIR 326 I Wanna Be Like You

Singing Call MS-53

Original artist: Louis Prima

vocal recorded by: [Paul Bristow](#)

Release Date: (vinyl) 2002 / 09 (MP3) 2004 / 05

Hanhurst's Best Seller listing
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ORIGINAL MUSIC DETAILS: WRITERS: Richard M Sherman, Robert B Sherman
PUBLISHERS: Wonderland Music Co. Inc.

The Sherman brothers wrote this song for the Walt Disney film “The Jungle Book”; as you may know this was the last film upon which Walt Disney himself was actually involved in the production. Louis Prima who hailed from the earliest days of “swing” and was regarded as one of the best provided the voice for “King Louie”.

Recording this tune was no easy matter; it seemed to take forever (which on studio time is not that long) but we finally got what we wanted. We then had the task of trying to persuade Disney to “make good” on their promise to issue us with a license; it took eleven months – but they kept their word! On the Vocal, Paul used some lyrics that were written by The Sherman brothers together with some that Kenny Ball and his Jazzmen used in their version of the song; the end result? – a GREAT piece of music – one for the fun lovers and the young at heart!

Additional Lyrics:

Now I'm the king of the swingers - Oh, the jungle VIP
I've reached the top and had to stop - And that's what botherin' me
I wan'na be a man, mancub - And stroll right into town
And be just like the other men - I'm tired of monkeyin' around!

Oh, oobee doo - I wan'na be like you
I wan'na walk like you - Talk like you, too
You'll see it's true - An ape like me
Can learn to be human too

You'll see it's true - Someone like me
Can learn to be - Like someone like you!

I'll ape your mannerisms - We'll be a set of twins
And no one will know where the mancub ends - and the Orang Utan begins
And when I peel Bananas - I won't peel them with my feet
I'll learn some Man, mannerisms - and then some man etiquette
(*Note: the last word is deliberately mispronounced “ett ee keet”*)

Where, When and Who produced the music:

This was part of the sixth group of releases on Sting that were recorded in Nashville. A total of thirteen songs were recorded during this session, which was the first to be arranged and produced by Paul Bristow, following his purchase of the company. Also present on this session was Associate Producer: James Wyatt.

Recorded in July 2001, the music still featured the top session musicians in Nashville. Although the line-up would change occasionally, it would normally include: Gregg Galbraith – who acts as band leader - on guitars, Terry McMillan on Harmonica and percussion, Doug Jernigan on Steel and Dobro, Jerry Kroon on Drums, Roger Smith on Piano and keyboards with Rob Hojacos on fiddle, David Smith on Bass Guitar and Bruce Watkins on Rhythm Guitar / Banjo / Mandolin. Also worthy of special mention is our engineer on these sessions – also the studio owner – Kevin McManus.

Acknowledgement to Royal Records:

We are indebted to Jerry Story and Tony Oxendine who introduced us to the studio in Nashville and invited us to use the top-of-the-line professional session musicians that they had assembled, to play for Royal Records.