

SONG FACTS

Yesterday

Album: Help! **Date:** 1965

This is the most covered pop song of all time, over 3,000 versions recorded according to *The Guinness Book Of World Records*. For years, it was also the song with the most radio plays, but in 1999 BMI music publishing reported that "You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling" had passed it.

McCartney is the only Beatle to play on this. It was the first time a Beatle recorded without the others.

A string quartet was brought in to play on this. In addition to the strings, this is notable as one of the first Pop songs to use elements of Classical Music.

This was the first Beatles song that could not be reproduced live without additional musicians. When they played it live, including their famous Shea Stadium concert, it was just McCartney with a guitar.

While touring in Paris, McCartney claims he tumbled out of bed and the tune was in his head. He thought he had heard it somewhere before.

This was the first Beatles song to capture a mass adult market. Most of their fans were young people until then. It also became one of their "Muzak" classics, as companies recorded instrumental versions as soothing background noise for shopping centers and elevators. Another Beatles song that lived on in this form is "Here Comes The Sun."

When The Beatles **Anthology** album was released, McCartney asked that the writing credit on this read "McCartney/Lennon," since he wrote it. Yoko refused, and it was listed as "Lennon/McCartney," which is how they usually credited songs written by either Beatle (between **Please Please Me** and **With The Beatles**, the song credits turned from McCartney/Lennon to Lennon/McCartney). In 2003, McCartney switched the writing credit for the first time when he listed 19 Beatles songs on his **Back In The US** album as "Paul McCartney and John Lennon." Paul claims he and John made an informal agreement in 1962 regarding the credits, but he had every right to switch it if he chose. Yoko disagreed.

Adapted from www.songfacts.com

