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Antonio Andrade

Lucky in Love

Featuring Mark Stuart,
Ordinary Elephant, & others

Life Shakes Records CD-520

Lucky In Love is the sixth full length release by Antonio Andrade, his third since 2014, when he concluded 38 years of full-time human service work. The eleven songs span seven decades of music history from writers as diverse as Gregg Allman, Karla Bonoff, and Tom Waits. The root of this project comes from Antonio's dramatic interpretation of "Ask A Man," by his friend, Robert Bobby, upon the singer-writer's untimely passing in 2018. Robert's death was among several losses in Antonio's year. By the start of 2019 Antonio had recorded nine more covers of songs that have been part of his live sets through the years. Almost all of them are about love or loss. Antonio had an idea from a decade ago, a song almost completed, that would be the perfect song to tie everything together. Antonio and "Steel Rails" composer Louisa Branscomb finished it together, and "Lucky In Love" became the title track.

Derek Euston engineers his 4th album with Antonio at his Green Room Recording Studio in Harrisburg PA. His bass and guitar skills provide an integral part of this project. He co-produced some tracks. Mark Stuart (of Stacey Earle and Mark Stuart) returns for his third recording with Andrade. Stuart, whose bio includes touring and recording with Steve Earle, Freddie Fender, Joan Baez, and Steve Forbert, plays assorted guitar parts on six songs.

The old-time influenced sound of Ordinary Elephant, Crystal Hariu-Damore and Pete Damore, brings a powerful dynamic to the two oldest songs on the record. Drummer Ed Lesser, back for his third outing with Andrade, supplies the beat for two tracks. Amma Johnson adds her angelic harmonies and backing vocals for a second of Antonio's releases. Tim Latshaw plays bass on three tracks and adding harmonies on two.



A passionate entertainer, **Antonio Andrade** delivers a distinctive, spirited brand of rocking folk that captivates audiences. The Pennsylvania-based singer-songwriter and guitarist believes that "singing and playing, presenting songs, and connecting with an audience are more fun than anything else I can imagine."

Radio promotion: Art Menius Radio
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- 1 LUCKY IN LOVE 3:53
- 2 ASK A MAN 4:48
- 3 WHIPPING POST 3:58
- 4 WALK AWAY RENEE 3:51
- 5 AND SHE WAS 3:52
- 6 STEVE FORBERT'S MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S TOAST 3:01
- 7 YOU GOT LUCKY 3:45
- 8 ONE HEADLIGHT 4:42
- 9 LOSE AGAIN 4:07
- 10 ICE CREAM MAN 2:32
- 11 WHERE HAVE ALL THE FLOWERS GONE 4:12

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Lucky In Love by Antonio Andrade - The Songs

All songs FCC compliant

1 - Lucky In Love

Is it better to love and lose or to never love? This co-write with Louisa Branscomb finds its characters in times gone by, a time of immigrants. Around the start of the 20th century, some love stories started on boats to the “new country”.

2 - Ask A Man

I met Robert Bobby at a Folk Alliance Conference in Memphis in 2008. I had known of Robert from local press in Pennsylvania. I heard Robert sing this song at least twice a year for the next ten years, requesting it myself enough times that he started dedicating it to me. “How do you live with a broken heart?” Robert’s death in 2018 was such a loss. Now we know.

3 - Whipping Post

Gregg Allman did this enduring anthem in 11/8 time with the Allman Brother’s Band sometime before Cher was an ex-wife. I keep it in 4/4, and I believe the tom toms deliver the torment. The guitar and drums in the instrumental bridge make me think of Steven Stills in a Civil War photo shoot.

4 - Walk Away Renee

The list of those who have covered it might be bigger than those who have not. Joe Walsh performing a solo acoustic reggae version live on the Howard Stern Radio Show in the late ‘80s got my attention. So did Jimmy LaFave. I found a way to play the chords in DADGAG and adopted this song when Jimmy died in 2017. Pete Damore (banjo) and Crystal Hariu-Damore (harmony vocals) of Ordinary Elephant provide the haunting banjo and harmony.

5 - And She Was

Here’s another happy one from David Byrne and Talking Heads. It’s a delightful story of a girl with a tacky transcendence. I used two guitars, one in DADGAG and one in standard, to get the 12-string sound.

6 - Steve Forbert’s Midsummer Night’s Toast

I’m singing this one since my sister gave me a copy of *Alive On Arrival* in 1978. I have listened to Steve’s music ever since. Getting this song on a record is a tribute to the influence that Steve has been on my singing and playing. Two of Steve’s cronies are playing on this track. Mark Stuart (guitar) toured with Steve several times, and Mark Dann (bass) played with Steve during New York City days.

7 - You Got Lucky

How could I have an album of covers called “Lucky In Love” and not include my cover of You Got Lucky? Sometimes priorities change. Let’s not waste anybody’s time here. It’s like a Tom Petty “Walk Away Renee.”

8 - One Headlight

This features a very hope-filled and encouraging chorus. I love the imagery and the pleading; the standing up to the challenges, to the dying, and to the dreams. We’ll be alright. I love delivering the words of this song.

9 - Lose Again

I loved Linda Ronstadt’s album *Hasten Down the Wind*, and I knew the name Karla Bonoff from reading liner notes. I was in a record store in Pittsburgh and “Lose Again” came on, and it wasn’t Linda. Wow! It was Karla! I’ve been singing this one since back then.

10 - Ice Cream Man

I started listening to and singing Tom Waits’ songs when his second record, *The Heart Of Saturday Night*, came out in 1974. Then I got his first record, *Closing Time*, with “Ice Cream Man” on it. Tom has been a significant influence. It makes me happy to pay a bit of tribute by putting this on a recording.

11 - Where Have All the Flowers Gone

I started singing this one when Pete Seeger died in January 2014. Ordinary Elephant had their mobile home road headquarters at my place for a week in 2017 and were kind enough to join me in the studio, you know, to pass an afternoon. I added Pete’s banjo and Crystal’s vocals to a track I had started with Mark Stuart a couple of years earlier. The song remains the same!

