

Act Three Scene Three: Rolls 41-A + 65-B

This is a very interesting moment in the **Don't Let Me Down** rehearsals. The **Beatles** begin to rehearse pieces of the song using increasingly unique one-time arrangements. Some are beautiful; some are very funny, while others are just strange.



Press to Play Rolls 41-A + 64-B + 65-B

Tape Roll	CD Track	Time	Title	Description
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Let It Be Dissected: Volume Four begins here.

40-A + 65-B	1	2:01	Don't Let Me Down (028)	<p>This A+B edited track explores Paul's trailing comment on 'Don't Let Me Down (028)' ("Sort of a... airy... yeah."). They begin focusing on the song's verse, trying a dreamy and romantic arrangement. As the track fades in, Paul and George are discussing parts of on 'Don't Let Me Down', which should be played 'very heavy' and those that should be played with a light touch.</p> <p>Ringo has been lightly keeping time on his kit. Paul adds percussive "chh" sounds and John restarts a verse with "Well you see the quiet bits ought to..." Paul begins playing bass, and is joined by John's fast catch-up singing, "Nobody ever loved me like you do me."</p> <p>While they play, John and George discuss dynamics. Paul jumps in, "Well, maybe this bit, maybe this beat should be (unintelligible)." At 0:27, he restarts a verse. The Beatles repeat the verse, with John and Paul locked into their tight vocal harmony. The verse ends just as B-Cam stops shooting so that the crew can stage their next shot.</p> <p>They keep playing a striped down version of a verse, with both Ringo and Paul (more "chh" sounds) demonstrating the emphasis beat. At 1:06, B-Cam resumes shooting just as the Beatles begin playing repeated dreamy renditions of a verse. On the last rendition, Paul tells George, "So that we can split up, so you're like doing the chords, and I've got (unintelligible)." The track ends with a delightful five-note ascending 'Stairway to the Stars' guitar embellishment.</p>
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Stairway to the Stars

<p>41-A + 65-B</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>1:02</p>	<p>Don't Let Me Down (029)</p>	<div data-bbox="621 201 1203 646" data-label="Image"> <p>Ringo wore the logo well.</p> </div> <p>This edited track begins on Nagra roll 41-A, a few minutes after the completion of 'Don't Let Me Down (028)'. They are wrapping up a loose attempt at playing 'Don't Let Me Down'. Paul interrupts the band, vocalizes the beat and adds, "yeah, like that."</p> <p>He restarts the problem "I'm in love for the first" section, and begins clapping the beat, assisted by Ringo. B-Cam begins shooting at the second clap. George joins Paul and Ringo, and the three make it through to the chorus, which ends when a feedback cascade stops the song in its tracks.</p>
<p>41-A + 65-B</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>1:10</p>	<p>Don't Let Me Down (030)</p>	<p>It starts with an odd sounding fanfare-like introduction. This A+B edited track captures Paul directing the band's attention back to the rhythmic accents in the verses. He starts singing, but it quickly becomes all about his bass and Ringo. George plays accent bits here and there, and John sporadically joins them.</p> <p>Paul remarks, "Much better, but it is good if something is in-between them, or if I start doing..." They repeat the same verse bit, with both Paul and George supplying 'something in-between' fills.</p> <p>Paul restarts a verse singing the first line. Everyone plays Paul's suggested rhythmic accents. John sings in the final full verse with Paul harmonizing. The Don't Let Me Down verse is beginning to sound much as it will end up when they record the perfect take, twenty-two days in the future in their Apple recording studio.</p>
<p>41-A + 65-B</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>2:03</p>	<p>Don't Let Me Down (031)</p>	<p>This edited A+B track is a continuation of Don't Let Me Down (030). They repeat the same verse lines. George begins an unintelligible conversation with someone on the set.</p> <p>When they reach "I'm in love for the first time", they play it in an odd topsy-turvy manner, which quickly breaks down. Paul reflects, "There's a lot, you know like uh, unless we do it on voices or that (he plays a bass note), you'll (referring to George) have to do all the things we do on overdubs. You know, it's a bit like..."</p> <p>Paul (with Ringo) demonstrates his musical point by singing a short descending background vocal. He continues, "We'd have something doing that." George begins to repeat Paul's vocal on guitar.</p> <div data-bbox="1167 1304 1533 1856" data-label="Image"> <p>Paul in his 'manic genius' mode</p> </div>

				They restart "I'm in love for the first time", with George playing Paul's suggested arrangement. They continue through a chorus, in which John and Paul begin singing in falsetto. They barely sing one line of a verse before John interrupts, "Okay girl(s)." Paul takes the track to a conclusion, playing his bass high up on the fret board.
41-A + 65-B	5	0:56	Don't Let Me Down (032)	<p>Paul's idea does not seem to be progressing, even though everyone is engaged in making it work. This edited A+B track (roll 65-B ends at 0:41) begins with John bringing the focus back to George's guitar role, "The point is, we have to concentrate on the guitar for each song, you know, where it's going to play in it."</p> <p>George responds, "If it's 'I'm in love for the first time', and I'm doing..." He completes his thought musically, singing the line, "I'm in love for the first time." Paul follows singing a "La La La La" harmony, which recalls the overdubs example he sang on 'Don't Let Me Down (031)'.</p> <p>John whistles a melodic introduction; Paul and George restart 'I'm in love for the first time'. The passage quickly becomes an instrumental, which takes on a casual stroll-like pacing. It barely makes it to a chorus, which George and John conclude with a custom ending.</p>
41-A	6	0:41	Don't Let Me Down (033)	<p>Next, the Beatles play a short rendition of Don't Let Me Down at a leisurely-paced blues tempo. Time (4:30 PM) is rapidly slipping away, as they are soon to realize.</p>
				
41-A	7	0:32	Conversation (054) "It's twelve days off before we do it"	<p>As Don't Let Me Down (033) ends, George asks, "What's the date today, by the way?" Michael answers, "Today is the sixth, I think so?" Others confirm his answer.</p> <p>George begins to ask, "And what day is the..." Not even waiting for the question, Paul jumps in, "Twelve days, off." Sounding unaware of the current conversation topic, John asks, "What is off?" Paul clarifies where the live-show timeclock stands, "There's twelve days off until we do it."</p> <p>John tries to make up for lost time, and begins an amusing double-time performance of his song. As it ends, Paul reflects, "Okay. You know, we haven't done many yet." George agrees, "We've only run through about four."</p>
				
41-A	8	0:52	Improvisation (020)	Without warning, George starts playing what sounds to be some remembered (and unidentified) R&B/Soul song. The others slowly join in. At 0:28 , Paul tries to reclaim the tune, singing " Don't Let Me Down " to the end of the track.

41-A	9	1:59	Don't Let Me Down (034)	<p>Paul counts in a briskly paced performance of Don't Let Me Down. Both John and Paul's vocals continue to strengthen. When they reach John's "I'm in love for the first time", both George and Paul sing the first two vocal counter-point lines. Paul drops out on line three and George follows him on the last line. Paul's musical gambit sounds to be regressing.</p> <p>At 1:30, the band switches the chorus tempo to a lullaby. They sing it out to the fade of the track, which ends Nagra roll 41-A</p>	
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