

WHISPERING

John Schoenberger & Richard Coburn, Lyrics; 1920 Vincent Rose, Music; 1920

"Whispering" first recorded on August 23, 1920 by Paul Whiteman and his Ambassador Orchestra for Victor as 18690-A. Denver-born ex-army bandleader Whiteman was dubbed "King of Jazz", an appellation supported largely by a long series of hits beginning in 1920 with his release of *"Whispering"*, an eleven-week U.S. No. 1 hit, which stayed 20 weeks in the charts and sold in excess of two million copies.

The song charted twice in the sixties. In 1963, Irish singers The Bachelors had a hit with it and then the next year American singers and brother and sister act Nino Tempo and April Stevens had a follow-up hit to Deep Purple with the song. According to AllMusic site, there have been over 700 releases of the song. The Pasadena Roof Orchestra has covered the song on at least one album (The Best of the Pasadena Roof Orchestra in 1973). Harry Belafonte recorded the song during the first year of his recording career, in December 1949.

"Whispering" has remained so popular that an internet search yielded 161 results of recordings with the title *"Whispering"*, but based on the harmonic structure of the original song, *"Whispering"*. Notable artists included Miles Davis, Sonny Rollins, Benny Goodman, Tommy Dorsey, Frank Sinatra, Les Paul, Mary Ford, and Oscar Peterson.



~Tull