SJB SELECTION

REVIEW · BLUES

Life Is Beautiful | Keb’ Mo’

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Saying life is beautiful when everything is going well? Easy. The blues gets interesting when you can say it in spite of everything else.

Keb’ Mo’ doesn’t try to convince us that the problems are gone. No magic. No great revelation.

He simply suggests, for a few minutes, leaving them outside the door.

Dance. Move. Be together. Breathe.

Is that all?

In a sense, yes. And that is precisely the point.

“Life Is Beautiful” works because it doesn’t confuse gratitude with naivety. Behind the lightness there is still someone who knows the blues perfectly well and knows that life is not a tidy sequence of beautiful days.

The acoustic instrumentation keeps everything close to the skin. The groove sways naturally and Keb’ Mo’s voice moves with the stride of someone who no longer needs to prove he knows where he’s going.

The result is a **restless serenity**.

The sound has a warm, almost homely flavour. It’s like opening a window after a heavy day and noticing that outside, incredibly, there is still air.

The blues stays.

So do the problems.

But for a few minutes they are not in charge.

> ***“Life Is Beautiful” doesn’t disown the blues. It pulls up a chair beside it and says: fine, stay. But today I also want to live.***

LISTEN

Life Is Beautiful — Keb’ Mo’ — is in our playlist Acoustic Blues, Roots & Dust.

Keb’ Mo’. Updated every Friday. Selected by ear.

LISTEN FIRST. SELECT SECOND.