

Loretta Lynn: Songs of Inspiration

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INTERNET SITE: www.mpihomevideo.com

ZAP2IT RATING: ★

MPI Home Video's DVD compilation, "Loretta Lynn: Songs of Inspiration," is simply a collection of performance clips featuring the country music icon with no additional features or frills.

There is an opening title page, and then the option to either scan through the clips via the menu, or watch them in succession. All of the footage is taken from Lynn's long stint of appearances on "The Wilburn Brothers Show," a legendary country TV variety program that launched many careers during the 1960s and '70s, and was one of the first shows within the genre to be shown in color.

Described as one of the "classic country singers" by Country Music Television, Lynn's career spans decades and this DVD does do a good job of showcasing her vocal talents and treatment of 20 inspirational country and gospel tunes. The lack of any interview footage or extras is a little disappointing, but the dedicated fan of Lynn will certainly enjoy viewing the performances themselves.

The clips also highlight the top-notch session players who accompanied Lynn during all of the songs, and some ensemble vocal performances with the Wilburn Brothers themselves, as well as other guest singers. Often forgotten in the potential hokeyness of mainstream country music are the gifted and versatile backing musicians who bring so much color and charm to relatively simplistic songs.