

The story of Foreigner's "I Want To Know What Love Is"

- Off the 1984 album "Agent Provocateur"
- Written by Mick Jones of Foreigner
- Started out based on Mick's frustration with not finding a perfect relationship
- failed relationships
- still searching
- at 3:00 AM one morning, it took a life of its own, when he realized it was a universal feeling
- he adjusted it
- he said, "Sometimes, you feel like you had nothing to do with it really. I consider it a gift that was sent through me. Something bigger than me behind it – entirely written by a higher force."
- During the recording he decided to add the NJ Mass choir as backing vocals
- The lead singer was Lou Gramm
- also singing back up was Jennifer Holiday
- after 2-3 takes it was ok, but then they "got in a circle, held hands and prayed the Lord's Prayer. It seemed to inspire them –
- after the next take I was in tears, he Mick said
- it has since become, according to Rolling Stone magazine the greatest song of all time
- one of the best known & most enduring radio hits
- It was Foreigners biggest hit
- It has been recorded by 40 different artists
- it is a record for charting in the top 25 hits for multiple years
- It first reached #1 in February of 1985
- It was first aired 5.28.82
- Mick later said it almost became a spiritual song, a gospel song
- It has been labeled the best power ballad ever written

Works Cited

Smoothradio.com; 7.25.2018

Wikipedia – I Want to Know What Love Is; song information

Rolling Stone Magazine, 2004