

## VICTIM OF LOVE

*This Eagles rocker features lead vocals from Don Henley, lead guitar from Don Felder and slide guitar from Joe Walsh. This means that the song "Victim of Love" was played live in the studio by all five Eagles playing together. Henley said "Having Don Felder sing lead vocal on.*

It all bleeds together in a wash of synthesizers, strings and thwomping bass lines. I enjoyed it, [but] it was self-indulgent. And so I wrote 16 or 17 song ideas, kind of in a more rock and roll direction, and 'Victim of Love' was one of those songs. Could it possibly go downhill from there? The only thing that wasn't played in a live session was the lead vocal and harmony on the choruses. Souther helped write this song. To distract Felder, the band's manager Irving Azoff took him out for a meal while Henley put down his tracks. According to Don Henley, they let record the vocal, but it didn't meet the band's standards. He was approached by an old friend, Pete Bellotte, who had become a producer working with electronic music icon Giorgio Moroder. And they are sung by a pop star who sounds more concerned with where his next toot of blow will come from than with acquitting himself with skill or verve. Soulless disco? Bellotte assembled a crew of collaborators and studio musicians to write and record the backing, then informed John that he was ready for the singer, who recorded his vocals in a single eight-hour session, then seemed to forget the album ever existed. They lack Donna Summer 's soul and power, ABBA 's classic pop smarts or the grit that other rockers were adding to their attempts at the genre. Their engineer, Bill Szymczyk, did the engraving. Everything else was recorded live. No songs by John and Bernie Taupin? He remembers being promised a lead vocal on the Hotel California album, and thought this would be the one. I remember we went in the studio and we recorded it live with five guys playing. I felt like Don was taking that song from me," Felder said. The band confirmed this in liner notes to their Very Best of The Eagles compilation. Since the Eagles were accused of being so staid and lifeless in the studio, they decided to play live in the studio and then let people know they had done it. Bellotte raised the suggestion of collaborating with John on a disco record in ; John was interested, but only if Bellotte assembled the songs and backing tracksâ€”Elton would only appear as a singer. The lead vocals were a source of contention, as Felder came up with the idea for the song and wanted to sing it. It's simply a terrible collection of forgettable songs that happen to be disco.