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Chasin' That Devil's Music, Searching For The Blues



Synopsis

(Book). Chasin' That Devil Music Searching for the Blues presents the results of extensive research by a blues scholar who has researched the artists on old 78 RPM records to uncover their stories. Includes rare interviews and the actual songs which available online using the unique code printed inside each book.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Gayle Dean Wardlow has compiled this excellent collection from many of his articles and essays of first-hand research, originally written for monthly publications such as 78 Quarterly and Blues Unlimited. In the early 1960's, collectors like himself had just started to introduce this fabulous music (Afro-American country blues) to a wider audience. The book specifies that as Wardlow was growing up in Mississippi, he admired the music of country singer Roy Acuff; as a result, he began to collect "race-music" country blues 78's only for the purpose of trading them for other country and hillbilly 78's. His job as an exterminator at the time, allowed him to canvas the neighbourhoods in Mississippi where he was working for rare blues and country records. Not surprisingly, his interest in country blues records that had been issued in the 20's and 30's, was heightened considerably as he began to trade with other collectors. Wardlow was able to interview many friends, relatives, and acquaintances of some of the early blues greats like Charley Patton, Son House, Willie Brown, Bukka White, Tommy Johnson, and of course, Robert Johnson. While these artists are certainly the better known ones, the author drills deep into the history of the blues and finds out much about some of the lesser known, but no less interesting ones like, King Solomon Hill (Joe Holmes), Garfield Akers,

the Huff Brothers, and Blind Joe Reynolds to name a few. Along the way, Wardlow also managed to locate and interview H.C. Speir, the guy who discovered many of the artists, acted as their agent, and got them into a recording studio.

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