Howlin' Wolf – Ain't Gonna Be Your Dog (1994)



CD1

- 1 Look-A-Here Baby
- 2 California Blues # 1
- 3 Worried All The Time
- 4 Everybody's In The Mood
- 5 Color And Kind
- 6 Dorothy Mae
- 7 Sweet Woman
- 8 Decoration Day play
- 9 Oh Red
- 10 I'm Not Joking
- 11 Highway My Friend
- 12 Hold Your Money
- 13 California Blues # 2
- 14 Stay Here Til My Baby Comes Back
- 15 Come To Me Baby
- 16 So Glad
- 17 Bluebird
- 18 My Life
- 19 You Ought To Know
- 20 Nature (Alternate Take)
- 21 Walk To Camp Hall
- 22 Poor Boy (Alternate Take)

CD2

- 1 My Baby Told Me (Alternate Take)
- 2 Midnight Blues (Alternate Take To "Moaning For My Baby")
- 3 You Can't Put Me Out
- 4 Getting Late
- 5 Wolf In The Mood
- 6 My People's Gone
- 7 Mama's Baby
- 8 Tail Dragger (Alternate Take)
- 9 Long Green Stuff

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Written by bluesever

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- 10 Joy To My Soul
- 11 Poor Wind That Never Change
- 12 Pop It To Me
- 13 I Had A Dream
- 14 The Big House
- 15 Tired Of Crying
- 16 Rollin' And Tumblin' (Acoustic Fragment)
- 17 More Howlin' Wolf Talks
- 18 I Ain't Gonna Be Your Dog Anymore (Acoustic) play
- 19 Woke Up This Morning (Acoustic)
- 20 Ain't Going Down That Dirt Road (2nd Acoustic Take)

Bass – Alfred Elkins Bass – Unknown Artist Drums – Willie Steele Drums – Earl Phillips Guitar – Willie Johnson, Smokey Smothers Guitar – Hubert Sumlin, Jody Williams Harmonica – James Cotton Piano – Albert Williams Piano – L.C. Hubert Piano – Henry Gray, Hosea Lee Kennard Tenor Saxophone – Adolph "Billy" Duncan Tenor Saxophone – Charles Taylor Tenor Saxophone – Unknown Artist Trombone – Walter "Tang" Smith Vocals, Harmonica – Howlin' Wolf

This double-disc set features 42 rare and unissued performances, effectively cleaning out the Chess vaults of all but alternate takes of alternate takes. But these are no bottom-of-the-barrel scrapings here, quite the opposite. The first 14 tunes collect up the remainder of his Memphis recordings for Sam Phillips while the rest does the bootleggers one better, compiling masters that were previously only available on bad-sounding '70s vinyl albums. There's another snippet from his 1968 interview along with four more acoustic numbers from that same session (done, it turns out, as a promotional piece of sorts to preview his "soon-to-be-released psychedelic album," which Wolf always dismissed as "birds**t"), sadly the only time Chess ever tried to record him as a solo artist. A wonderful companion piece to any other Wolf collection you might own.---Cub Koda, allmusic.com

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