The Rough Guide To Bottleneck Blues (Reborn And Remastered) [2016]

1 –Blind Willie Johnson It's Nobody's Fault But Mine 3:09 2 –Weaver & Beasley Bottleneck Blues 2:52 3 –Bukka White Bukka's Jitterbug Swing 2:36 4 –Curley Weaver No No Blues 3:07 5 –Casey Bill Weldon Has My Girl Been Here 2:31 6 –Barbecue Bob It's Just Too Bad 3:11 7 –Darby And Tarlton Sweet Sarah Blues 2:57 8 –Gus Cannon Poor Boy, Long Ways From Home 3:09 9 –Gitfiddle Jim Paddlin' Blues 2:57 10 –Bayless Rose Frisco Blues 3:17 11 –Oscar Woods Don't Sell It - Don't Give It Away 2:55 12 –Leadbelly C.C. Rider 2:57 13 –Jim And Bob (The Genial Hawaiians) The Hula Blues 2:30 14 –Rev. Edward W. Clayborn You Never Will Know Who Is Your Friend 2:44 15 –Tampa Red The Dirty Dozen No. 2 3:13 16 –Son House Dry Spell Blues - Part 1 3:06 17 –Lemuel Turner Jake Bottle Blues 3:10 18 –King Solomon Hill Tell Me Baby 3:22 19 –Black Ace You Gonna Need My Help Some Day 2:33 20 –Bo Weavil Jackson You Can't Keep No Brown 3:08 21 –Blind Willie Davis When The Saints Go Marching In 1:54 22 –Furry Lewis John Henry (The Steel Driving Man) - Part 1 2:51 23 –Blind Willie (Joe) Reynolds Married Man Blues 3:14 24 –Charley Patton Prayer Of Death - Part 1 3:02 25 –Bobby Grant Lonesome Atlanta Blues 2:57

The eerie sound of the bottleneck guitar -- an acoustic guitar played with a glass or metal slide worn over one of the fingers of the left hand -- is closely identified with Delta blues, the rawer, folkier cousin of the louder, more electric, and horn-heavy Chicago school. It's a sound steeped in poverty and humidity, and some of the spookiest and most frightening blues songs in history were written to be played on bottleneck guitar. This collection offers a good cross-section of old and modern bottleneck blues songs by an admirably diverse selection of artists including early masters of the genre (Robert Johnson, Blind Willie McTell, Bukka White) as well as current students of the masters (Bob Brozman, Stefan Grossman, Martin Simpson). Unfortunately, not all of these artists are represented by their finest work; it's hard to imagine that this rough recording of "Jack O'Diamonds" was the best Pete Harris performance available (though the slide playing itself is impressive), or that the compilers couldn't have come up with a better example of Charley Patton's work than the lackluster rendition of "A Spoonful Blues" presented here. But just about everything else borders on the definitive, whether it's Bukka White's amazing "Sic 'Em Dogs On"; Blind Willie Johnson's hair-raising "God Moves on the Water"; or

the jaunty, jazzy "You Just as Well Let Her Go" by Casey Bill Weldon. Recommended. ---Rick Anderson, allmusic.com

By imitating the cries and moans of the human voice, the haunting sound of the bottleneck has become synonymous with the blues. This Rough Guide shows how in the hands of many of the great early bluesmen it became the ultimate mode of musical expression. ---worldmusic.net

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