Lee Rocker - Black Cat Bone (2007)

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01. Gone [0:03:56.16] 02. Crazy When She Drinks [0:03:06.70] 03. One More Night [0:02:51.45] 04. Black Cat Bone [0:03:31.64] 05. Lost Highway [0:02:37.62] 06. Rebel [0:03:27.52] 07. Sold Us Down The River [0:04:52.37] 08. What I Don't Know [0:02:51.43] 09. String Bass, Guitar & A Drum [0:03:27.47] 10. The Wall Of Death [0:03:23.32] 11. Sometimes You Win [0:03:15.48] 12. The Highway Is My Home [0:03:13.70] 13. Free Bass [0:01:28.07] Jimmy Sage - Drums Buzz Campbell - Guitar Brophy Dale - Guitar, Slide Guitar, Vocals Lee Rocker - Bass (Upright), Composer, Guitar (Acoustic), Vocals

History teaches us that unless you're Paul McCartney or Sting, if you play bass in a well-known rock band you generally can't count on a spectacular solo career after they break up, and in typical fashion Brian Setzer was the man from the Stray Cats who went on to score the hits after the rockabilly revivalists finally called it guits. But if bassist Lee Rocker's solo work hasn't connected with as large an audience, he's quietly made a handful of fine albums, and Black Cat Bone is as strong and confident a set as anything Setzer has recorded since 1996. Rocker's songwriting is in fine form on this set, ranging from the lonesome wail of "Gone" and the busted romance of "What I Don't Know" to the subtle but clear antiwar stance of "Sold Us Down the River" and the love/hate paean to touring of "The Highway Is My Home" (and if "Rebel" is made up of wall-to-wall clichés, at least Rocker seems to slyly acknowledge it). Rocker also has a strong, masculine voice to go along with his tunes, and he's got a cookin' band, with guitarist Buzz Campbell, slide man Brophy Dale and drummer Jimmy Sage laying out some fine rockabilly with flashes of blues, country and old-school pop. There's plenty on Black Cat Bone to appeal to rockabilly purists, but Rocker and company offer more than enough variety to keep this set lively throughout, and this is roots-friendly rock & roll with muscle, sass and something to say that should come as a pleasant surprise to anyone who still thinks of Rocker as second bass fiddle to Brian Setzer. ---Mark Deming, allmusic.com

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