

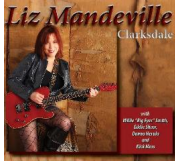
## Liz Mandeville - Clarksdale (2012)

Written by bluesever

Thursday, 13 April 2017 15:04 - Last Updated Thursday, 08 April 2021 15:04

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## Liz Mandeville - Clarksdale (2012)



01. *Roadside Produce Stand* (feat. Willie "Big Eyes" Smith) 02. *Mama & Daddy Blues* (feat. Willie "Big Eyes" Smith) 03. *No Fear / Everything* 04. *Walking & Talking With You* (feat. Willie "Big Eyes" Smith) 05. *A Soldiers Wife* (feat. Donna Herula) 06. *Clarksdale/Riverside Hotel Blues* (feat. Willie "Big Eyes" Smith) 07. *Bye Bye Blues* (feat. Donna Herula ) 08. *8. Sweet Potatoe Pie* (feat. Willie "Big Eyes" Smith & Eddie Shaw) 09. *4:20 Blues* 10. *Sand Baggin* (feat. Donna Herula) 11. *My Mama Wears Combat Boots* (feat. Nick Moss) Liz Mandeville – guitar, vocals Nick Moss – guitar Donna Herula – slide guitar Darryl Wright – bass Willie "Big Eyes" Smith - drums

Liz Mandeville was destined to be an entertainer. Her father taught her to paint and sing. Her mother carried Liz to countless plays and concerts, insisting her daughter get music and dance lessons. The family stereo was turned up and tuned in to a variety from Stravinsky to Ledbelly to Hank Williams. Liz soaked it all in, getting her first guitar at 16 and was playing professionally shortly thereafter.

Her most recent CD, *Clarksdale*, found her traveling south from her Chicago home. "I had my original love of blues re-ignited," she said. "when I took a post-surgery step back from my own trail long enough to breathe in the deep Southern influence of Clarksdale and its environs."

To get her delta mojo on she stayed at the Ratliff family's *Riverside Hotel*. It's famous for providing lodging for such blues artists as Sonny Boy Williamson II, Ike Turner, and Robert Nighthawk. It was previously the G.T. Thomas Hospital in which Bessie Smith died in 1937. *Clarksdale* is a great CD, filled with blues harp, steele guitars, grand piano, tenor sax and Liz's sultry growl. Her good friend Willie "Big Eyes" Smith stayed around long enough to lay down some great drum work. Willie died last September.

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"But in the true spirit of the blues," Liz said. "I carried on." She covers all the bases -- "No Fear/Everything Is Going to Be Alright," an acappella gospel wonder, "Sweet Potato Pie," a sultry come on and my personal favorite "4:20 Blues," a rant about what the government does and doesn't do.

Acoustic blues just doesn't get any better. --- Jim Clark, amazon.com

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