Written by bluesever Sunday, 25 March 2012 16:46 - Last Updated Wednesday, 10 March 2021 10:32

John Lee Hooker – Real Blues (1979)



1. Go Back To School 2. It Serves You Right To Suffer 3. Roll Your Daddy Right 4. Jesse James Blues 5. Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive 6. Boogie Chillun 7. Dead Wagon Blues

Yes, this cd is short at under 40 minutes, BUT what a GREAT PREFORMANCE!!! I find no serious issues with either sound or recording quality. No info as to muscians on the band numbers, that always bugs me! All we know is this was recorded live in Houston in 1979, no date or venue info provided! Well, what can you say? All that's a little exasperating. HOWEVER, as the liner notes by Drew Kent mention, by this time Hooker was fading into obscurity/hibernation where he would await the future success of THE HEALER a decade on. As one reviewer mentions, I believe this is the latest live performance we have during this time frame. That, in itself, should be enough for any Hooker fan to want to check this out! 'Nuf said! --- Lonnie P. Fredette (PLATTSBURGH, NY, US)

The late '70s were not a particularly creative period for John Lee Hooker. This live album contains several notable cuts, in particular long, mesmerizing versions of "Dead Wagon Blues" and "Never Get out of These Blues Alive," but it's really only an album that Hooker fanatics will find essential, even though it emerges as one of the best records of this period of his career. --- Thomas Ward, allmusic.com

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