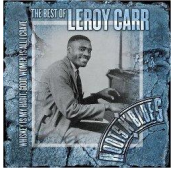


Leroy Carr - Whiskey Is My Habit, Good Women Is All I Crave (2004)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 28 October 2009 21:29 - Last Updated Wednesday, 31 March 2021 16:26

Leroy Carr - Whiskey Is My Habit, Good Women Is All I Crave (2004)



Disc 1: 1 *I Believe I'll Make A Change* 2:57 2 *Don't Start No Stuff* 2:55 3 *Straight Alky Blues Pt. 1* 5:20 4 *Straight Alky Blues Pt. 2* 5:20 5 *Gambler's Blues* 3:06 6 *Sloppy Drunk Blues* 4:15 7 *Papa's On The House Top* 2:55 8 *Midnight Hour Blues* 3:04 9 *Hustler's Blues* 2:35 10 *Hurry Down Sunshine* 5:32 11 *Corn Licker Blues* 3:39 12 *Shady Lane Blues* 5:34 13 *Tight Time Blues* 2:54 14 *Black Wagon Blues* 2:46 15 *I Ain't Got No Money Now* 3:05 16 *Motherless Child* 3:59 17 *My Woman's Gone Wrong* 2:28 18 *Southbound Blues* 2:48 19 *Church House Blues* 2:52 20 *Muddy Water* 2:34 Disc 2: 1 *I Believe I'll Make A Change* 4:17 2 *Don't Start No Stuff* 4:15 3 *Bobo Stomp* 4:11 4 *Big Four Blues* 5:05 5 *Hard Hearted Papa* 4:18 6 *You Left Me Crying* 4:17 7 *Evil Hearted Woman* 5:01 8 *Good Woman Blues* 4:17 9 *Hustler's Blues* 3:55 10 *Eleven Twenty-Nine Blues* 4:16 11 *You Got Me Greiving* 4:18 12 *Bread Baker* 5:00 13 *Tight Time Blues* 4:14 14 *Black Wagon Blues* 4:06 15 *Shinin' Pistol* 4:15 16 *It's Too Short* 4:14 17 *My Good For Nothin' Gal* 3:57 18 *Suicide Blues* 4:18 19 *Church House Blues* 4:12 20 *Six Cold Feet Of Ground*
Musicians: Leroy Carr - piano, vocals Scrapper Blackwell - guitar Josh White - guitar

The 40 tracks compiled on this two-disc set represent the entire span of pianist and singer Leroy Carr's recording career that spanned a brief seven years, from 1928-1935. The material represented here -- all but one of these tracks were recorded for the Vocalion label -- features accompaniment by guitarist Scrapper Blackwell on all but one selection, and Josh White on a handful as well. Carr's material here ranges from the classic piano blues of the era that spawned Ma Rainey and Bessie Smith to vaudeville and hokum tunes made popular by artists like Tampa Red and Georgia Tom. Carr's voice is the haunting thing here; it's higher and very clear, sweet almost, as evidenced by most of these sides. But there was an edge, too; one that belied a kind of pathos underneath even the most cheery material -- check "Mean Mistreater Blues" or "Bread Baker." But the darker material such as "Suicide Blues" (one of six previously unissued performances), "Straight Alky Blues," or "Shinin' Pistol," is strange and eerie given Carr's smooth approach. Carr may not be the most well-known bluesman of the era, but his contribution is profound and lasting. This collection puts to shame almost all others with the exception of the multi-volume complete recordings on Document. But given the fact that these sides are wonderfully remastered, and 40 tracks are enough for virtually anybody but the

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hardest core blues punter, this is the set to have. ---Thom Jurek, allmusic.com

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