

Tampa Red – The Guitar Wizard (1994)

Written by bluesever

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1 It's Tight Like That 2 Big Fat Mama 3 No Matter How She Done It 4 Don't Leave Me Here 5 Dead Cats On The Line 6 Thing's Bout Comin' My Way 7 You Can't Get That Stuff No More 8 If You Want Me To Love You 9 Western Bound Blues 10 Sugar Mama Blues No. 1 11 Black Angel Blues 12 Thing's 'bout Comin' My Way 13 Denver Blues Musicians: Tampa Red - Composer, Guitar, Kazoo, Piano, Vocals Blind John Davis - Piano Tyrell Dixon - Drums Georgia Tom Dorsey - Piano, Vocals Alfred Elkins - Bass Big Walter Horton - Harmonica Black Bob Hudson - Piano Charlie Idsen - Trumpet Willie B. James - Guitar Clifford "Snags" Jones - Drums Harry Jones - Vocals Johnnie Jones - Piano Ransom Knowling - Bass Willie James Lacey - Guitar Carl Martin - Guitar Frank Melrose - Jug Big Maceo Merriweather - Piano Odie Payne, Jr. - Drums Bill Osborn - Sax (Tenor) Papa Too Sweet - Vocals Chick Sanders - Drums Bill Settles - Bass Willie Mae Williams - Harmonica Willie Williamson – Harmonica

Hudson Whittaker polished up the bottleneck-guitar style of the Delta, bringing it with him to Chicago's burgeoning 1930s blues scene. He coaxed wonderfully smooth and melodic sounds from his National steel guitar, favoring emotive phrases over raw power. These 17 tracks stretch from 1928 to 1934 and include a mix of lively hokum and sober blues. The buoyant melodies, humorous narratives, and sing-along choruses of hokum are illustrated by the tawdry "It's Tight Like That," "Dead Cats on the Line," and "You Can't Get That Stuff No More," all with Georgia Tom Dorsey on piano. Rough-edged blues include "Black Angel Blues," which became B.B. King's "Sweet Black Angel," and "Things 'Bout Comin' My Way," featured here as both a vocal with Georgia Tom and as a stunning solo instrumental. --Marc Greilsamer, amazon.com

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