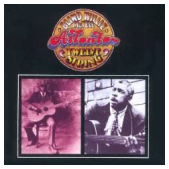
Blind Willie McTell - Atlanta Twelve String (1949)



01. Kill It Kid
02. The Razor Ball
03. Little Delia
04. Broke Down Engine Blues
05. Dying Crapshooter's Blues
06. Pinetop's Boogie Woogie
07. Blues Around Midnight
08. Last Dime Blues
09. On The Cooling Board
10. Motherless Children Have A Hard Time
11. I Got To Cross The River Jordan
12. You Got To Die
13. Ain't It Grand To Live A Christian
14. Pearly Gates
15. Soon This Morning
Blind Willie McTell – guitar, vocals

In 1949, a brief flurry of interest in old-timey country blues resulted in this 15-song session by Blind Willie McTell for the newly formed Atlantic Records. Only two songs, "Kill It Kid" and "Broke Down Engine Blues," were ever issued on a failed single, and the session was forgotten until almost 20 years later. McTell is mostly solo here, vividly captured on acoustic 12-string (his sometime partner Curley Weaver may have been present on some tracks), and in excellent form. The playing and the repertory are representative of McTell as he was at this point in his career, a blues veteran rolling through his paces without skipping a beat and quietly electrifying the listener. Songs include "Dying Crapshooter's Blues," "The Razor Ball," and "Ain't I Grand to Live a Christian." --- Bruce Eder, allmusic.com

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