Howlin Wolf – Caddillac Daddy – Memphis Recording (1952)



1 Cadillac Daddy (Mr. Highway Man) 2.30 2 Bluebird Blues 2.51 3 My Last Affair (Take 1) 3.05 4 Oh Red! (Take 2) 2.42 5 Come Back Home 2.12 6 Dorothy Mae 2.41 7 Decoration Day Blues 3.18 8 Color And Kind 3.14 9 Drinkin' C.V. Wine 3.08 10 I Got A Woman (Sweet Woman) 3.30 11 Everybody's In The Mood 3.02 12 My Baby Walked Off 3.01 Howlin' Wolf (vocals, harmonica); Willie Johnson (guitar); William "Strutcher" Johnson (piano); Willie Steele (drums).

You can't possibly fault the material aboard this 12-song collection of Howlin' Wolf's Memphis recordings cut for Sam Phillips. The title track features some truly frightening guitar work from Willie Johnson, and all the material here is loaded with feral energy and a sense that it could fall apart at any second. It's totally intuitive music, with Wolf seemingly making it all up as he went along, which Sam Phillips had the patience to capture as it all went down. These are some of the great moments in blues history, but this part of Wolf's career is better documented on the two Bear Family volumes of the same material and the Flair/Virgin single disc of Memphis and West Memphis recordings. ---Cub Coda, Rovi

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Wpisany przez bluesever Środa, 28 Październik 2009 15:15 - Zmieniony Wtorek, 09 Luty 2021 20:47

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