Patsy Cline – Fingerprints (2010)

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- 01 A church, a courtroom and then goodbye
- 02 A poor man's roses
- 03 Cry not for me
- 04 Fingerprints
- 05 Got a lot of rhythm in my soul
- 06 Honky tonk merry go round
- 07 Hidin' out
- 08 I cried all the way to the altar
- 09 I've loved and lost again
- 10 I can't forget
- 11 In care of the blues
- 12 Just out of reach
- 13 Let the teardrops fall
- 14 Never no more
- 15 Stop the world and let me off
- 16 Today, tomorrow and forever
- 17 Turn the cards slowly
- 18 Too many secrets
- 19 Three cigarettes in an ashtray
- 20 Walkin' after midnight

Patsy Cline was born Virginia Patterson Hensley on September 8, 1932, at the Winchester Memorial Hospital, Winchester, Virginia, and became one of the most popular and beloved singers in country and pop music history. Her life was cut short too early but Patsy Cline's influence remains huge. Growing up in Gore, Elkton and Winchester (all of which battle today for the title of "Patsy Cline's Hometown"), Patsy performed in public for the first time at age 4, winning an amateur contest with her tap-dancing. Her parents gave her a piano for her 7th birthday and she was soon playing songs she'd heard on the radio, picking them out by ear. Her

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singing was a well-known gift, and she was a featured singer in her church choir for nearly a decade.

Listening to the Grand Ole Opry and other radio variety shows inspired the young artist. At age 16 she met Opry star Wally Fowler, who was performing in Winchester. She cornered him backstage and sang for him unaccompanied, and he invited her to do a guest spot on his show at the Palace Theater. Fowler helped her get an audition in Nashville, and while it went well, family finances dictated that she return to Winchester, where she dropped out of school and began working as a soda jerk at Gaunt's Drug Store (which still stands).

She began performing at local bars, honky-tonks and Moose Lodges, often singing with Bill Peer and his Melody Boys. It was Peer who changed her name to Patsy, playing off her middle name, while her marriage in 1953 to Gerald Cline gave her the last name we now know her by (four years later she divorced him and married Charlie Dick).

In 1954 Cline returned to Nashville to perform on Ernest Tubb's radio show, and cut her first recordings there. On the strength of those songs, she signed with the Four Star Records company. Her songs for Four Star, produced by the soon-to-be legendary studio head Owen Bradley, were soon being leased to Decca Records. In her five years with Four Star, Cline had one hit, "Walking After Midnight."

Decca signed her to a full contact in 1960, and the next year released "I Fall to Pieces," a huge hit, but a bad car accident prevented Cline from touring to support the record. After several months of recovery, she began a two years of steady touring in support of her hits "Crazy, "She's Got You," "When I Get Through With You, You'll Love Me Too," and "Faded Love." She was becoming an international star.

On March 3, 1963 she performed in Kansas City at a charity show for the widow of a noted DJ, Cactus Jack. On March 5, Cline, together with country singers Cowboy Copas and Hawkshaw Hawkins, set out on the five-hundred-mile flight to Nashville in a small aircraft piloted by Randy Hughes, the son-in-law of Copas and Cline's lover and manager. In bad weather, the plane went down near Camden, TN, killing all aboard.

Cline's "Greatest Hits" recording was the all-time best selling country record by a female artist

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before Shania Twain took that title, but regardless of sales figures, Cline's style of country-carefully crafted arrangements, lush orchestration and of course powerfully emotional vocals-became the model for nearly everything to come out of Nashville in the decades that followed. ---wamadc.com

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