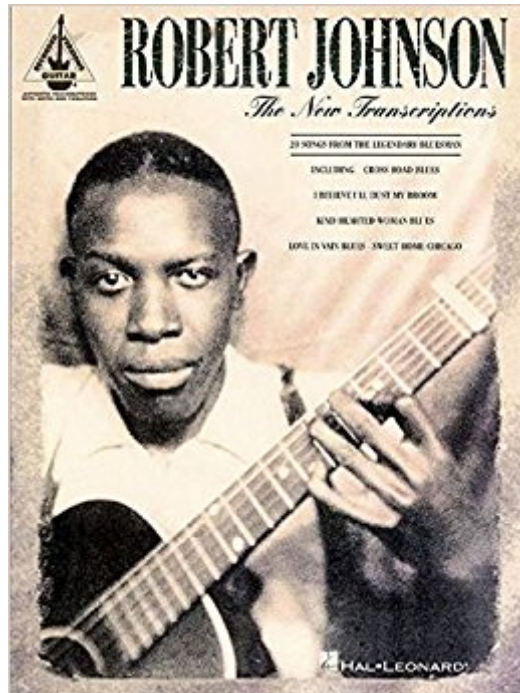




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Robert Johnson: The New Transcriptions



Synopsis

(Guitar Recorded Versions). A must-have for all blues guitarists, this exciting publication is the most complete Robert Johnson collection ever! It includes note-for-note transcriptions in notes & tab for all 29 songs ever recorded by this elusive legend, plus two alternate takes. Newly discovered authentic tunings and capo placements are also part of the package. Songs include: Cross Road Blues (Crossroads) * Dead Shrimp Blues * Drunken Hearted Man * Hell Hound on My Trail * Honeymoon Blues * I Believe I'll Dust My Broom * Kind Hearted Woman Blues * Love in Vain Blues * Malted Milk * Milkcow's Calf Blues * Ramblin' on My Mind * Sweet Home Chicago * When You Got a Good Friend * and more. Also includes an introduction.

Book Information

Series: Guitar Recorded Versions

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Customer Reviews

A must buy for any guitar player who is interested in Robert Johnson's various playing styles and music writing. There are only 41 recordings available of Robert Johnson, with 29 compositions plus 12 alternate versions. This transcription book only contains some of those, and it contains a few multiple versions of songs instead of choosing to give a few more other tunes. Don't be swayed by this, like I was before purchasing. The alternate tunes are often in different tunings and include different phrasings and voicings of chords, so they're essentially different songs. They add to the insight of RJ's brilliance which this book gives. There are only a few experiences that I've had when playing guitar that can match when I tuned down to open E and played some of the voicings for

Hellhound On My Trail. It'll give you some serious chills, like Mr. Robert is there with you in spirit. There has been a lot of deliberation over what speed the recordings are being played back in the recordings we listen to as well as what tunings, etc. that RJ really used. No one seems to know all because of the brief time Mr. Johnson recorded and the mysteriousness that surrounds all that is him and his music. I believe that this is the closest we probably have, although it's probably not 100% accurate if I try to over analyze it. But, don't you let that stop you. A lot of hard work by these transcribers was done in order to present his music in sheet music and tab form to their best of their abilities. It's the best we have and it's worth it! Any fan of the blues who wants to know where it was around 1930, before the electric guitar and production came into the forum with Chess Records in the 50s, should get this. There's much more than a simple I-IV-I progression and that cliché rhythm many people think of when it comes to the blues. This is where you begin. This is where that sound came from, as far as the evolution of blues guitar. This book isn't for the faint of heart, but dive in even if you don't think you're ready (like myself). There's only one way to learn to swim, jump in the deep end. Well, actually, don't take that advice literally or you'll probably drown. You get what I mean. Robert Johnson forever!

I saw some low review ratings for this book, but discovered that they were all for the Kindle version. Fortunately, I ordered the paperback version and am very pleased with it. First, it is not a small format book. It is a full 9" x 12" format which is perfect for music scores. Second, The transcriptions are very complete including the specific tuning for each song (and there are many with Robert Johnson) as well as capo locations where applicable. Very complete sheets of music. Third, it is complete. That is, it contains all 29 of Robert Johnson's recorded song catalogue. If you are unfamiliar with Robert Johnson, you will be surprised at how many of the blues "Standards" were written by Johnson. If you're a blues guitarist and into the early Delta sound, then this is a perfect reference.

Avoid the kindle edition. The small font can't be zoomed in. I should have read the reviews prior to buying it. I am returning it.

The best from the master

If you are looking for a guide to all those weird tunings and a note by note glimpse into the music of Robert Johnson, this work is all you need. If you are looking at how to actually sound like him, you'll

probably need something more, like the videos from Homespun. But put the two together and you'll be as close as you can get to being on your way to the crossroads without living the life he did.

Get the book. It's blurry and hard to read on a tablet

An awesome book! It has been great to share these songs with my guitar students and help them learn the blues music that influenced so many guitarist before them.

Since Robert Johnson used non-standard tunings, capos in seemingly random positions, and there's no video recording of his playing at all, it's about as easy to transcribe his music as solving a doctoral-level open scientific problem. While I don't approve of most guitar songbooks published these days, I certainly feel that the authors have offered us more than a fair deal with this book, and unless you have a few years of your life you're willing to dedicate to studying acoustic guitar Delta blues, you'd be well advised to reap these ready results. It's well worth it.

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