

FOLKWAYS RECORDS FTS 31067

Lucinda 2
Happy
Woman
Blues



2

COVER DESIGN BY RONALD CLYNE

I never got to meet Lucinda. She was always someplace else when her daddy and me were getting drunk, reading poetry, listening to songs and harrasing Jim Whitehead. So; I got a tape of this album in the mail and put it on and just got all teary-eyed listening to this super voice telling us everything she has in her head. (It takes guts.)

"Happy Woman Blues" just wore me out and so I called in some friends and said, "Now look-a-here!" Everybody took sides with something or other, like the good picking, the high-rolling voice, the sincerity and the we-don't-know-everything-about-everybody-in-these-songs-but-we-like-them feel.

Well, her daddy's a good man and all, but that's not the point of the whole thing; it's just that I never got to meet Lucinda—until today.

Tom T. Hall
Nashville, Tenn.
1980

SIDE 1

- Band 1 LAFAYETTE
Acoustic guitar, bass, fiddle and drums.
Band 2 I LOST IT
Acoustic guitar, bass, fiddle, drums and harmony vocal.
Band 3 MARIA
Acoustic guitar, bass, electric lead guitar and drums.
Band 4 HAPPY WOMAN BLUES
Acoustic lead guitar, bass, electric slide guitar and drums.
Band 5 KING OF HEARTS
Acoustical lead guitar, bass, viola and drums.

SIDE 2

- Band 1 ROLLING ALONG
Acoustical guitar, bass, electrical lead guitar and drums.
Band 2 ONE-NIGHT STAND
Acoustical lead guitar, bass, pedal steel, fiddle and drums.
Band 3 HOWLIN' AT MIDNIGHT
Acoustical guitar, bass, electric guitar, fiddle and drums.
Band 4 HARD ROAD
Acoustical lead guitar, bass and drums.
Band 5 LOUISIANA MAN
Acoustical guitar, bass, fiddle and drums.
Band 6 SHARP CUTTING WINGS (SONG TO A POET)
Acoustical Guitar.

All songs, words and music by Lucinda Williams
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Engineered by Mickey Moody
Produced by: Lucinda Williams
Mickey White

Recorded at Sugar Hill Studios
Houston, Texas
April, May, June 1980

Special thanks to Tom Southwick without whose help all of this would have been on the impossible side of difficult.

Lucinda: Acoustical guitar and vocal on all bands.
Mickey White: Acoustical guitar, acoustic lead guitar and harmony vocal.
Rex Bell: Bass and harmony vocal.
Andre Mathews: Electric lead guitar, electric slide guitar and electric guitar.
Ira Wilkes: Drums.
Mickey Moody: Pedal steel.
Malcolm Smith: Fiddle and viola.

Lucinda 2
Happy
Woman Blues

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DESCRIPTIVE NOTES ARE INSIDE POCKET

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Lucinda 2

HAPPY WOMAN BLUES

LAFAYETTE

1. Oh my sweet Lafayette, how I'm gonna miss you!
You feel so good, Lafayette, now I've come to greet you.
Tell all my friends I've come back again,
I couldn't stay away; I was gone only a day,
But I'm comin' back to my sweet Lafayette.
2. I'm goin' down to Lafayette, I don't care how long I'm gone.
It's so hard to leave you, Lafayette, now I know where I belong.
When that sweet fiddle sounds and Clifton gets down,
That music sounds so good to me; I just might dance until three,
And I gotta get back to my sweet Lafayette.
3. Oh, those boys in Lafayette, smilin' so pretty!
Those sweet boys in Lafayette, they sure do look good to me!
We danced all night long to a sweet Cajun song,
Drinkin' and jivin' 'til dawn; I could dance on and on,
Doin' a two-step in my sweet Lafayette.

4. Take me back Lafayette, way down on the bayou!
I'm your girl, Lafayette, I'm gonna hang around you.
Eat that gumbo and roll and tumble,
And do crazy things every night; soon I'll be feelin' alright,
When I get back to my sweet Lafayette,
When I get back to my sweet Lafayette.

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I LOST IT

- Refrain: I think I lost it,
Let me know if you come across it,
Let me know if I let it fall along a backroad somewhere.
Money can't replace it,
No memory can erase it,
And I know I'm never gonna find another one to compare.
1. Give me some love to fill me up,
Give me some time, give me some stuff,
Give me a sign, give me some kind of reason.
Are you heavy enough to make me stay,
I feel like I might blow away,
I thought I was in heaven, but I was only dreamin'.
- Refrain: I think I lost it,
Let me know if you come across it,
Let me know if I let it fall along a backroad somewhere.
Money can't replace it,
No memory can erase it,
And I know I'm never gonna find another one to compare.
2. I just wanna live the life I please,
I don't want no enemies,
I don't want nothin' if I have to fake it.
Never take nothin' don't belong to me,
Everything's paid for, nothin's free.
If I give my heart, will you promise not to break it?
- Refrain: I think I lost it,
Let me know if you come across it.
Let me know if I let it fall along a backroad somewhere.
Money can't replace it,
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MARIA

1. Maria, you're still wild and restless
 And I can just see ya ridin' in a rodeo.
 You might even make it down to Texas
 Or you might head out west to New Mexico.
 So pack up all of your belongings,
 A pick-up will take you where you wanna go.
 You can ride out when you hear mountains calling,
 Out to Canada or the canyons of Colorado.
 New York City was always your home
 But in your heart you know you were born to roam,
 And you're gonna leave as soon as you get the money,
 After you sell everything you own.
2. Maria, is loneliness a virtue,
Or does it steal you blind and leave you split apart?
 Maria, can you give me an answer,
 Are the songs we sing worth the broken heart?

The highway has always been your lover
 And someday you may know his name.
 Wherever you stay, it wouldn't really matter
 'Cause all those cities start to look the same.

Some folks will try to take your heart away
 And just when you think you've really got it made,
 You wake up and find madness in the morning,
 But damn the pain and damn those restless days!
 Damn the pain and damn those restless days!

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HAPPY WOMAN BLUES

1. Tryin' hard to be a happy woman,
 But sometimes life just overcomes me,
 Everyday I'm workin' just to pay my dues.
 Lay down at night, my mind is so confused.
2. Goin' down south with the New York City blues,
 Gotta hit the road before I blow a fuse,
 I might buy me a Cadillac or a Chevrolet.
 I don't care what model as long as it takes me away.
3. I've been hiding my heart in a trunk.
 Can you come see me when my ship has sunk?
 You can give me lovin, that I can't refuse,
 And love is the one thing that's sure to cure my blues.
4. Goin' down the road with a heavy heart,
 Tryin' to find lightness in the dark,
 Tryin' to live my life, tryin' to get satisfied.
 My mind is in the city but my heart is in the countryside.

Repeat 1st
 verse /

Tryin' hard to be a happy woman,
 But sometimes life just overcomes me,
 Everyday I'm workin' just to pay my dues.
 Lay down at night, my mind is so confused,
 Lay down at night, my mind is so confused.

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KING OF HEARTS

1. Can you relieve me, baby?
 Take your heart from your sleeve,
 And put it on the line,
 Put it right here beside mine.

I can't seem to read you
 Most of the time,
 Don't you know that I need you?
 Will you ever be mine?

Love is a gamble, I knew it from the start.
 Whoever's holding the cards, please deal me
 the King of Hearts,
 Please deal me the King of Hearts.

2. If you came to my door
And you asked me for more,
I'd lay down beside you,
I'd never deny you.

And if I had lots of silver
I'd give some to you,
And if I had lots of gold,
I'd make a rich man of you.

Everytime I see you, I want to fall in love again,
I would like to free you, but you won't even let me in,
You won't even let me in.

Repeat 1st
verse

Can you relieve me, baby?
Take your heart from your sleeve,
And put it on the line,
Put it right here beside mine.

I can't seem to read you
Most of the time,
Don't you know that I need you?
Will you ever be mine?

Love is a gamble, I knew it from the start.
Whoever's holding the cards,
Please deal me the King of Hearts,
Please deal me the King of Hearts.

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ROLLIN' ALONG

1. Well, I'm rollin' along the highway,
Livin' the life I'm used to.
I thought about you all the way
From Little Rock to Houston,
And now I can't seem to get you off my mind,
But you're tied to somebody else;
I think about you all the time
And I just can't help myself.

Refrain: Sometimes I don't know right from wrong,
I find it easy to fall;
It's hard when I've been up all night long,
That's when I want you most of all.

2. Well, I'd love to see your smilin' face,
If I could just take one more look,
But you left me only one last trace
On the pages of your book,
But words can't hold me every night
And words can't kiss me in the mornin',
Look out, Honey, I've got love in my heart,
And it's growin' and it's burnin'!

Refrain: Sometimes I don't know right from wrong,
I find it easy to fall;
It's hard when I've been up all night long,
That's when I want you most of all.

Repeat 1st
verse Well, I'm rollin' along the highway,
Livin' the life I'm used to.
I thought about you all the way
From Little Rock to Houston,
And now I can't seem to get you off my mind,
But you're tied to somebody else;
I think about you all the time,
And I just can't help myself.

Refrain: Sometimes I don't know right from wrong,
I find it easy to fall;
It's hard when I've been up all night long,
That's when I want you most of all.

Repeat Sometimes I don't know right from wrong,
refrain: I find it easy to all;
It's hard when I've been up all night long,
That's when I want you most of all,
That's when I want you most of all.

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ONE NIGHT STAND

Refrain: Just another one night stand,
Just another man to forget,
Just another empty hand
With nothin' left to bet.

1. It doesn't really matter what I say,
There's **no one** here to blame.
I'll just close the door and walk away,
Let down once again.

I can't even say you lied to me
'Cause you ain't said nothin' yet;
You never even tried for me
There's nothin' to regret.

Refrain: Just another one night stand,
Just another man to forget,
Just another empty hand
With nothin' left to bet

2. I'd like to speak to you someway
but the words won't come out right.
How can it feel so wrong today,
When it felt so right last night?

I claim no hold on anyone,
No silken strings to bind,
No promises unbroken,
No messages to find.

Refrain: Just another one night stand,
Just another man to forget,
Just another empty hand
With nothin' left to bet.

Repeat Just another one night stand,
refrain Just another man to forget,
Just another empty hand
With nothin' left to bet.

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HOWLIN' AT MIDNIGHT

1. Howlin' at midnight, winter creepin' in,
Feel like I've gone and lost my best friend,
My best friend, lost my best friend.
This car's headed down the wrong track again.
2. I ain't got nobody, I'm nobody's girl,
Gonna get in my Mercury and drive around the world,
Around the world, all around the world.
When I reach that mountain top, I'll stand with flags unfurled.
3. She's up in New York City tryin' to make it big,
Wrote me a letter yesterday sayin' I ain't got no gigs,
Ain't got no gigs, I ain't got no gigs.
If you wanna send me somethin', make it a two dollar rig.
4. She's up in New York City tryin' to be a star,
Told me you're wastin' your time where you are,
Where you are, where you are.
Gotta get yourself out of all those Texas bars.

Repeat 1st Howlin' at midnight, winter creepin' in,
verse: Feel like I've gone and lost my best friend,
My best friend, lost my best friend.
This car's headed down the wrong track again.
This car's headed down the wrong track again.

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HARD ROAD

1. How long have you been hangin' around,
Your eyes fixed to the cement ground?
Your heart is warm, your hands are cold,
You know the truth, but the story gets old.

You stood on the corner for a long time,
People passin' by gave you nickels and dimes.
They think you're one of the nameless,
'Cause you got no record and you ain't famous.

Refrain: Oh, Bill, I know how you're feelin',
Your heart's on fire and your head is reelin',
But with the spirit to guide you and a friend beside you,
You know you'll win if you're only willin'.

2. The sun's so hot and my heart is thumpin',
Let me buy you a beer or somethin',
You've been travelin' a hard road,
Sit down, Bill, and lighten your load.

If you need a friend give me a call,
I've got your picture on my wall,
From one compadre to another,
I love you, Bill, as I would my brother.

Refrain: Oh, Bill, I know how you're feelin',
Your heart's on fire, and your head is reelin',
But with the spirit to guide you and a friend beside you,
You know you'll win if you're only willin'.

Repeat Oh, Bill, I know how you're feelin',
refrain: Your heart's on fire, and your head is reelin',
But with the spirit to guide you and a friend beside you,
You know you'll win if you're only willin'.

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LOUISIANA MAN

Refrain: Louisiana man with a style his own,
Not like some other men I've known,
With his cowboy boots and his hats he wore so well;
Caught my eye on the very first day
And I never will forget the way
He played guitar and he sang just like an angel.

1. Thoughts of you flicker past,
Goin' on down the road so fast,
The trees and the bushes and the telephone poles fly by.
I never seem to have the time,
I'll just have to keep you on my mind,
How I wish I could keep you by my side.

Refrain: Louisiana man with a style his own,
Not like some other men I've known,
With his cowboy boots and his hats he wore so well;
Caught my eye on the very first day
And I never will forget the way
He played guitar and he sang just like an angel.

2. Country man with a heart of gold,
One more kiss before I hit the road,
Hold me one more time before I go.
Nights will be longer now
But I'll get along somehow,
I've learned how to do it all before.

Refrain: Louisiana man with a style his own,
Not like some other men I've known,
With his cowboy boots and his hats he wore so well;
Caught my eye on the very first day
And I never will forget the way,
He played guitar and he sang just like an angel,
He played guitar and he sang just like an angel.

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SHARP CUTTING WINGS (Song to a Poet)

1. You're the one, you're my shinin' star,
You're the one I've been waitin' for;
Let's fly away to some foreign country
Where nobody knows who we are.
2. I wish I had a ship to sail the waters,
I wish I had about a hundred dollars,
But I'll just stand with this glass in my hand,
Feelin' like nothin' even matters.

Refrain: Your words run thru me like the blood in my veins;
I could swear I knew your love before I knew your name,
Before I knew your name.

3. Everyday I miss your smilin' face,
No one here can ever take your place;
The sun can shine down over my town
But it never shines in my days.
4. I told all the stars above
I'm gonna shower you with my love.
I won't demand you, I'll try to understand you,
My love is as free as a dove.

Refrain: Your words run thru me like the blood in my veins;
I could swear I knew your love before I knew your name,
Before I knew your name.

Repeat 1st
verse You're the one, you're my shinin' star,
You're the one I've been waitin' for;
Let's fly away to some foreign country
Where nobody knows who we are.

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Other Record by Lucinda Williams

LUCINDA Ramblin' on My Mind

FOLKWAYS RECORDS FTS 31066 STEREO

Ramblin' On My Mind (Robert Johnson)
Me and My Chauffeur (Memphis Minnie)
Motherless Children (Traditional)
Malted Milk Blues (Robert Johnson)
Disgusted (Lil' Son Jackson)
Jug Band Music (Memphis Jug Band—
add. verses Geoff Muldaur)
Stop Brekin' Down (Robert Johnson)
Drop Down Daddy (Sleepy John Estes)

Little Darling Pal of Mine (A.P. Carter)
Make Me Down a Pallet on Your Floor (Traditional)
JAMBALAYA (On the Bayou) (Hank Williams)
Great Speckled Bird (Rev. Guy Smith)
You're Gonna Need That Pure Religion (Traditional)
Satisfied Mind (Joe Hayes & Jack Rhodes)



Houston blues singer Lucinda heard New York was tough, but now she's made an album.

LADY SINGS THE BLUES

You can't let it get you down," blues singer and songwriter Lucinda Williams says, back home in the Bayou City from New York following the release of her first album. "People told me, 'Forget it—there's too much competition,' but the people there responded to my music really well." She cracks a sunny southern smile. "I was getting to be a hot little item in the Village."

And with good reason. For the last three years, Lucinda, twenty-six, has been a regular attraction at a number of Montrose watering holes such as Anderson Fair, Houlihan's, and Corky's, night after night belting out hardcore versions of the blues gospel according to Robert Johnson, the Rev. Gary Davis, and other greats. Her repertoire includes classics such as "Stop Breakin' Down," "Drop Down Daddy," "Malted Milk Blues," and "Great Speckled Bird." Her reputation for inspired renditions of the old masters at last earned her a recording contract from Folkways producer Moe Asch. Last September she met with local guitarist John Grimaudo in Jackson, Mississippi, and in a tight three-day session they completed the album—*Lucinda: Ramblin' on My Mind* (Folkways FTS 31066). Then it was off to New York City.

Bolstered by the success of her new record, Lucinda began to make the rounds of the many country bars and folk clubs that have sprouted up in Manhattan like stumptweed in the sidewalk. Soon she was playing at the Lone Star Café, The Other End, and Folk City, a mainstay of the New York folk music scene. If she didn't exactly take the Big Apple by storm, she certainly turned a lot of heads with what one *Variety* reviewer called her "no-frills" approach to the blues and her "excellent personal originals, most

of which have strong southern and southwestern influences."

"I'm very strong in my roots," she explains. "I was born in Lake Charles, Louisiana, and after I was three we moved all over the South—Baton Rouge, Vicksburg, Jackson, Macon, Atlanta, Fayetteville. The southern tradition, the hymns, the country music are in my blood."

Although she scoffs at city kids who've "never been south of the Mason-Dixon Line singing, 'I'm just a Texas cowboy and I ride the open range,'" Lucinda's not one of those blues purists who treat their songs like antiques. "They're into preservation," she says, "sort of like museums. I identify with those songs from my own point of view. It's all in your perspective. For instance, a lot of women don't like the old blues songs," she adds. "They feel they're degrading. But I look at them as metaphor; I change the gender. I still write songs dealing with women becoming more aware, taking a stand."

Now that she's back in Houston, Lucinda plans to stay through the fall, playing at some of her old hangouts and developing new material (an album of originals is in the works). Meanwhile, Nemperor Records, a CBS subsidiary, has reportedly taken an interest in her, and she's been encouraged to return to New York by some formidable friends—among them the peripatetic Bob Dylan, who is rumored to be starting his own record label.

"Pure fate," she says of their meeting. "I was playing at Folk City when Bob Dylan walked in. It was a guest set, it wasn't even my gig. The owner introduced us, and he said he liked my stuff. I gave him an album, and he said he'd be doing some shows. Who knows?"

Enrique Pasa

FOLKWAYS Records

AND SERVICE CORP., 632 BROADWAY, N.Y.C. 10012
Long Playing Non-Breakable Micro Groove 33 1/3 RPM

HAPPY WOMAN BLUES

by LUCINDA WILLIAMS, acc. by Mickey White, Rex Bell,
Malcolm Smith, Ira Wilkes, Andre Mathews, & Mickey Moody

SIDE 1

FTS 31067 A
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Band 2 I LOST IT

Band 3 MARIA

Band 4 HAPPY WOMAN BLUES

Band 5 KING OF HEARTS

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