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Sourcebook Of Little Walter/Big Walter Licks For Blues Harmonica



Synopsis

(Harmonica). In this essential collection for blues harp players, author Tom Ball sets out to discuss, understand and demystify some of the playing of the phenomenal Walters: the legendary "Big Walter" Horton and "Little Walter" Jacobs. Includes a sampling of the best licks from each artist's repertoire, mapped out in easy-to-read harmonica tablature and played on CD by Ball, plus extensive notes on each musician's style, bios and discographies, rare photos, a bibliography, harmonica basics, notes on amplification and equipment, and much more!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The best way to learn any instrument is by transcribing the masters and this book makes it easy. Tom Ball has done all the leg work compiling and transcribing classic lines so you can learn them and get way better. Its also a great overview of blues history and music from a harp point of view which is great for anyone that wants a launching point for becoming hip to the blues. Also the book covers a wide range of difficulty levels so it will give newer guys a place to start but will continue to challenge people who have more experiance. Certainly the best harp book out there, and definantly worth the price. Just so you know all the tunes on the CD are played using a Bb harp. Also the fact that Ball puts multiple licks on a track is a bit frustrating when your trying to play them over and over again to learn them, but if thats enough to deture your purchase of this treasure trove of blues harp greatness, you should probably just stop trying to playing music. Hope thats not the case. Have fun and good luck!

This book is not for the beginning harmonica player, but if you can bend notes and perform octaves/tongue splits, or are able to acquire these skills, this is for you. The author plays the licks beautifully on the accompanying CD and the notation is clear. If you have some harmonica skill, you can play these licks, even though many of them sound complex and sophisticated. Tom Ball must have put in hours and hours breaking these licks down - he's done all the work - you just need to listen, follow the notation, and practice. There are some nice surprises on the CD also - the author has a great sense of humor. One of the best harmonica books I've ever seen.

First of all, this is NOT a book for total beginners. This is a book for someone who can bend the notes, but can't get much farther. This is a book of licks, as played by the truly greats. If you can play all these licks, you are ready for prime time. Then you just have to take it to the last step, which is thinking up your own licks. You will have a much better chance of reaching that point when you learn this material. Very well presented by the way.

The Kindle version of the book does not have the audio examples embedded in the text, nor does it link to a website where the examples could be downloaded. As books become digital, publishers need to take this into account. Right off the top you have lost important content by purchasing the digital edition. Problem two is the lack of rhythmic notation in the harmonica tablature - obviously this applies to both the electronic and paper versions. This is a big mistake in any tablature notation and with so many of these types of books out there it is inexcusable for a publisher to allow the tab to be presented in this manner. This makes the kindle edition without the audio musical examples even harder to use. With the kindle version you'll need to have or purchase individually the tunes transcribed to learn the proper timing and inflections. I would recommend the Hal Leonard Little Walter Book, Volume 13 over this volume. However, this is one of the few books that includes info and music by Big Walter Horton. So if this is what you are after this is one of your few options. I would recommend the paperback version with the audio example CD over the kindle edition.

The vast majority of this book is NOT licks. Despite it's 128 pages, only about 20 or so are devoted to licks. The rest is devoted to history and the author's first-hand experiences. It's all interesting and worth the money, however, I can't give it 5 stars because: 1) Despite being a good read, the narrative portion needs an editor 2) The "slow and easy" licks are NOT "slow and easy." I've been playing harp for over 2 years, and only recently started taking it seriously. This book made me

realize how much I suck and it's motivating and helpful in that way. After a month with this book I've only really gotten two licks down (and even then they're still off from the CD version.) If you can't tongueblock and don't have master of your bends, this books is going to be tough for you.3) I was expecting/hoping for more licks than what is provided here.

Glad is offering this product for sale. If you are even thinking about anything blues harmonica the c.d. that comes with this book is worth the price alone! Iam 60 years old and have been playing harp over 40 years. I got this book about 15 years ago back when I thought I knew everything about this subject. Boy was I wrong this book gives you insight into even the most subtle playing intricacies of these two great masters. You also get lots more great information about blues harp. From mics to amps to history. Buy this you will not be sorry

Tom is a monster player/teacherI love this book and his others tooThe Sonny Terry Lick Book is greatBuy This!HarmonicaLessonsNYC.comHarmonica Lessons NY

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