

Acknowledgments	•	•	vii
RECORD LABEL ABBREVIATIONS		•	xiii
WALKIN' WITH THE BLUES	•		xv
Chapter One			
THE SETTING OF THE BLUES	•	•	1
Chapter Two			
A Brief History of the Blues AND A DEFINITION OF THE FORM	•		11
Chapter Three			
THEMES AND FUNCTIONS OF COUNTRY BLUES	•		27
Chapter Four			
The Blues as Poetry		•	61
Chapter Five			
The Songs		•	113
DISCOGRAPHY OF PERFORMANCES IN THIS COLLECTION		•	445
Bibliography	•		457
INDEX OF SONG TITLES		•	461