

Gregg Allman - Low Country Blues (2011)

Written by bluesever

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1. *Floating Bridge* 2. *Little by Little* 3. *Devil Got My Woman* 4. *I Can't Be Satisfied* 5. *Blind Man* 6. *Just Another Rider* 7. *Please Accept My Love* 8. *I Believe I'll Go Back Home* 9. *Tears, Tears, Tears* 10. *My Love Is Your Love* 11. *Checking on My Baby* 12. *Rolling Stone* Gregg Allman – Guitar (Acoustic), Hammond B3, Vocals Jay Bellerose – Drums, Percussion Doyle Bramhall II – Guitar T-Bone Burnett – Guitar, Producer Mike Compton – Mandolin, Vocals (Background) Dennis Crouch – Bass (Acoustic) Vincent Esquer – Guitar Daniel Fornero – Trumpet Hadley Hawkensmith – Guitar Judith Hill- Vocals (Background) Darrell Leonard – Conductor, Horn Arrangements, Trumpet, Trumpet (Bass) Colin Linden – Dobro Lester Lovitt - Trumpet Thomas Peterson – Sax (Baritone) Tom Peterson – Sax (Baritone) Mac Rebennack – Arranger, Piano Joseph Sublett – Sax (Tenor) Jim Thompson – Sax (Tenor) Tata Vega – Vocals (Background) Jean Witherspoon – Vocals (Background)

With his long hair, beard and battered features, Gregg Allman is the archetypical survivor, a hero with the Allman Brothers Band in the 70s, and a man whose famously wild career has involved induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, six marriages and a liver transplant. Amazingly, both his distinctive voice and his Hammond keyboard work have remained intact, as shown on his first solo album in 14 years, in which he's helped by an impressive backing band that includes the album's producer T-Bone Burnett on guitar, and Dr John on piano. This is, for the most part, a no-nonsense blues set, with tributes to early heroes from Skip James to Muddy Waters, BB King and Otis Rush, and it succeeds both because of Allman's vocals and Burnett's varied, uncluttered production work. So the Sleepy John Estes song *Floating Bridge* is treated to a tight, slinky treatment that's as insistent as a JJ Cale song, Skip James's *Devil Got My Woman* is a rumbling acoustic workout with Allman supplying impressively high and plaintive vocals, BB King's *Please Accept My Love* is upbeat and melodic, and Amos Milburn's *Tears, Tears, Tears* is a soulful, brass-backed weepie with a fine piano solo from Dr John. No great surprises, maybe, but it's good to find he can still deliver. --- Robin Denselow, guardian.co.uk

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