

Jason Elmore Hoodoo Witch - Tell You What (2013)

Written by bluesever

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01. Sharecropper Shuffle 02. Southbound 03. Cold Lonely Dawn 04. When The Sun Goes Down 05. Bottom Feeder 06. Dirt Ain't Enough 07. Buckaroo 08. Country Mile 09. Don't Pass Me By 10. Good Foot 11. She Fine 12. You Don't Miss Your Water Jason Elmore – guitar, vocals Chris Waw – bass Mike Talbot – drums + Jim Suhler - guitar Kirby Kelley - lap steel Tommy Young – Hammond B3 Ron Jones - saxophone

Did you ever have one of those weeks or maybe even a whole month that was almost more than you could handle? I just came out of one of those very times, and had it not been for the advice of an old hippie I met long ago, things might have gone really bad. He told me "when you get confused, just listen to the music play." Last Sunday, I began to do just that.

Tell You What is the sophomore release from Texas native, Jason Elmore and his band Hoodoo Witch featuring Mike Talbot on drums and Chris Waw on bass. The compilation is a symbiotic journey from start to finish that chronicles the struggles of relationships and the human condition. From the solid opening track, Sharecropper Shuffle, to the last sustained vibrato of You Don't Miss Your Water, this trio brings everything to the table.

Nine of the twelve tracks are original offerings from Jason, but there are three covers that supply a well rounded historical perspective of the musical makeup of Jason Elmore, the man. Nicely placed in sequence beginning with track seven, is an old Buck Owens composition, Buckaroo, that transports you back into the days of innocence and good clean fun. Invoking memories of the family just sitting around the tube, watching ol' Buck and his buddy Roy Clark picking and grinning on the Saturday night staple of the American household, Hee Haw. The middle selection is Jason's hard rocking tribute to the late Rory Gallagher, Country Mile.

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Tucked in among the driving force of the solid rhythmic train of Waw and Talbot, Elmore's electric moonshine is perfectly countered by the incendiary slide work of Elmore's mentor, Jim Suhler. This selection might possibly be the luck of the Irish, caught on tape. The more you listen, the more you hear. But wait, there's more. The trio of covers comes full circle with Sean Costello's Don't Pass Me By. Between the raw unfiltered emotion of the vocal track and the gut wrenching soul of the guitar, the listener is drawn into the supplication, affected by the pleadings of a yearning heart.

The intensity and depth of the music is like a lotus blossom. As the music unfolds, another layer is revealed. A week ago, I found myself pleading with the spirit of the universe to give me a little relief from the pain of life. Tell you what, Jason Elmore has delivered. --- Kat Sugg, jammagazine.com

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