

John Lee Hooker □ – Urban Blues (1967/1995)

Written by bluesever

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1 *Cry Before I Go* 2:38 2 *Boom Boom Boom* 2:45 3 *Backbiters & Syndicators* 2:50 4 *Mr Lucky* 2:52 5 *My Own Blues* 2:32 6 *I Can't Stand To Leave You* 2:30 7 *Think Twice Before You Go* 2:03 8 *I'm Standing In Line* 2:17 9 *Hot Spring Water Pt. 1* 2:29 10 *Hot Spring Water Pt. 2* 2:00 11 *The Motor City Is Burning* 2:45 12 *I Gotta Go To Vietnam* 4:25 13 *Messin' 'Round With The Blues* 3:18 14 *Hold On Baby* 3:32 John Lee Hooker - Guitar, Vocals Al Duncan - Drums Eddie Taylor - Guitar (Bass) Phil Upchurch - Guitar (Bass) Eddie Kirkland - Guitar Louis Myers - Harmonica Roosevelt Sykes - Drums Earl Hooker - Guitar Jeff Carp - Harmonica Johnny "Big Moose" Walker - Keyboards Gino Skaggs - Bass

This is the Boogie Man's 1967 ABC-BluesWay album in its entirety. Hooker's Chicago sidemen (including Eddie Taylor, Wayne Bennett, and Louis Myers) deftly handle Hooker's eccentricities on "Mr. Lucky," and the harrowing "The Motor City Is Burning," as well as a sprightly remake of "Boom Boom." ---Bill Dahl, AllMusic Review

First, I am a fan of John Lee Hooker and have bought as many of his CDs as I could find. With that in mind, I gave this CD four stars (instead of five) only because this one is not essential for a proper music collection. However, along with a newer version of "Boom Boom" being included, John Lee also makes two musical statements about current events (of the late 1960's) with "The Motor City is Burning" and (as a bonus track) "I Gotta Go to Vietnam". Both are splendid and are of some significance to those who are interested in tracking the public's attitude towards the war through song. Overall, it is a great album, just not an "essential" one. ---J. Bynum, amazon.com

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