

## Chris Rea – Beginnings (2005)

Written by bluesever

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1. *West Africa* 2. *Cry For Home* 3. *The King Who Sold His Own* 4. *White Man Coming* 5. *Where The Blues Come From* 6. *Lord Tell Me It Won't Be Long* 7. *Work Gang* 8. *Praise The Lord* 9. *Sweet Sunday* 10. *Sing Out The Devil* 11. *Boss Man Cut My Chains* Musicians: Chris Rea - electric guitar, piano, harmonica, dobro, mandolin, banjo, slide guitar, bass, calimba, balafon, vibraphone, hammond organ, percussion, drums Robert Ahwai - guitar Sylvin Marc - bass Gerry O'Connor - banjo Ed Hession - accordion Martin Ditcham – drums

The first album of the set deals with the very beginnings of the Blues, tracing its ways back to its African roots.

Living conditions were hard, many African natives were taken captives and transported across the ocean to be sold as slaves, sometimes even betrayed by their own people, which is vividly depicted in the song *The King Who Sold His Own*.

All in all it was an environment, where it was only natural for the Blues to develop, and even though the instrumentation and the construction of the songs was still very different from what we now know as Blues, the basics were already there: the sadness, the strain, the burdens, the depression, the feeling of "blue" and of course the underlying musical structure. ---  
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