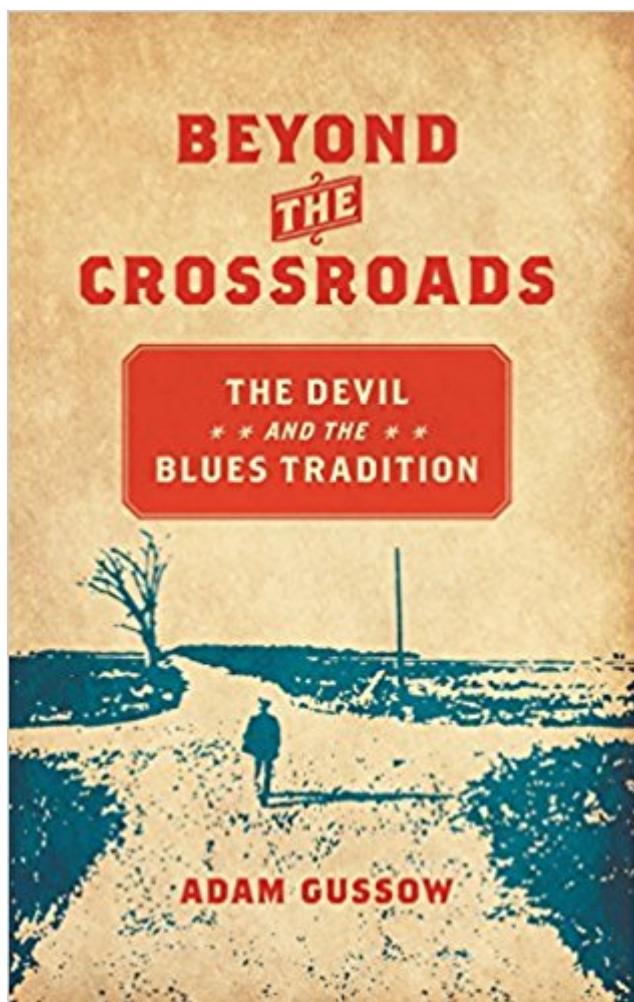


The book was found

# Beyond The Crossroads: The Devil And The Blues Tradition (New Directions In Southern Studies)



## Synopsis

The devil is the most charismatic and important figure in the blues tradition. He's not just the music's namesake ("the devil's music"), but a shadowy presence who haunts an imagined Mississippi crossroads where, it is claimed, Delta bluesman Robert Johnson traded away his soul in exchange for extraordinary prowess on the guitar. Yet, as scholar and musician Adam Gussow argues, there is much more to the story of the devil and the blues than these cliched understandings. In this groundbreaking study, Gussow takes the full measure of the devil's presence. Working from original transcriptions of more than 125 recordings released during the past ninety years, Gussow explores the varied uses to which black southern blues people have put this trouble-sowing, love-wrecking, but also empowering figure. The book culminates with a bold reinterpretation of Johnson's music and a provocative investigation of the way in which the citizens of Clarksdale, Mississippi, managed to rebrand a commercial hub as "the crossroads" in 1999, claiming Johnson and the devil as their own.

## Book Information

Series: New Directions in Southern Studies

Hardcover: 416 pages

Publisher: The University of North Carolina Press (October 2, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1469633655

ISBN-13: 978-1469633657

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 1.1 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #654,287 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #258 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Other Religions, Practices & Sacred Texts > Demonology & Satanism #262 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Blues #1740 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Folklore & Mythology

## Customer Reviews

By looking at over 125 blues songs, Gussow illustrates that the devil stands at the center of the black Southern blues tradition as a figure that sows trouble, wrecks love, but also gives power.--No Depression

Beyond the Crossroads is brilliant, a game-changer in blues history. A breathtaking and highly engaging book on a most American of sounds.--Patricia Schroeder, author of Robert Johnson, Mythmaking, and Contemporary American Culture Adam Gussow is an excellent interpreter of the blues.Ã  He has earned the right to speak.Ã  We should listen to him and be informed about one of the most important musical expressions in American history. I strongly recommend Beyond the Crossroads: The Devil and the Blues Tradition.--James H. Cone, author of The Spirituals and the Blues At once affable and frightening, the devil is forever partnered with the blues. Beyond the Crossroads is a beautifully written exploration of what Adam Gussow calls 'the blues' most malleable, dynamic, and important personage.' This is a work of exquisite detail.--William Ferris, author of Give My Poor Heart Ease: Voices of the Mississippi Blues

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Beyond the Crossroads: The Devil and the Blues Tradition (New Directions in Southern Studies) Southern Cooking: Southern Cooking Cookbook - Southern Cooking Recipes - Southern Cooking Cookbooks - Southern Cooking for Thanksgiving - Southern Cooking Recipes - Southern Cooking Cookbook Recipes Southern Cooking: for beginners - Simple Southern Food Recipes - Old South Recipes (Southern Food - Southern Meals - Southern Recipes - Soul Food - American Cuisine Book 1) Children of the Blues: 49 Musicians Shaping a New Blues Tradition Indian Blues: American Indians and the Politics of Music, 1879Ã¢â€œ1934 (New Directions in Native American Studies Series) The Caged System and 100 Licks for Blues Guitar: Complete With 1 hour of Audio Examples: Master Blues Guitar (Play Blues Guitar Book 5) 48 Razor-Sharp 12-Bar Blues Riffs for Swing Bands and Blues Bands: B Flat Instruments Edition (Red Dog Music Books Razor-Sharp Blues Series) 48 Razor-Sharp 12-Bar Blues Riffs for Swing Bands and Blues Bands: Guitar Edition (Red Dog Music Books Razor-Sharp Blues Series) Screening The Blues: Aspects Of The Blues Tradition (A Da Capo paperback) Blues Harmonica Method, Level 2 Book/CD Set An Essential Study of Blues for the Intermediate Player in the Tongue Block Style (School of the Blues) Blues Harmonica, Level 1: An Essential Study of Blues for the Beginning Player in the Tongue (School of Blues) Uptempo Blues: Blues Play-Along Volume 10 (Hal Leonard Blues Play-Along) Christmas Blues - Blues Play-Along Volume 11 (Book/Cd) (Hal Leonard Blues Play-Along) Texas Blues: Blues Play-Along Volume 2 (Hal Leonard Blues Play-Along) Queer Indigenous Studies: Critical Interventions in Theory, Politics, and Literature (First Peoples: New Directions in Indigenous Studies) The Complete Guide to Playing Blues Guitar Book Three: Beyond Pentatonics (Play Blues Guitar 3) Exalted Terrestrial Directions 2 The West (Compass of Terrestrial Directions) (vol. 2) The Rough Guides' Malta & Gozo Directions 2 (Rough Guide Directions) The Rough Guides' Antigua

Directions 1 (Rough Guide Directions) Waiting for Buddy Guy: Chicago Blues at the Crossroads  
(Music in American Life)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)