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Big Joe Williams (born October 16, 1903, Crawford, Mississippi; died December 17, 1982) epitomized the travelling bluesman - He travelled from town to town in the 1920's and 30's working for spare change or food. He hopped freight cars and travelled through the south playing levee camps, house parties and juke joints.

Big Joe Williams was part Cherokee Indian and his first hit was the self-penned classic "Baby Please Don't Go" in 1935, which he recorded as Poor Joe Williams. He used a conventional six string guitar on his early recordings, and in the early 1940's developed his unique, home made, nine string guitar, where he doubled the first, second and fourth strings.

His recording career lasted over 40 years. He continued to record for a number of labels until the late 1970's, and his country folk - blues style remained popular at a time when Chicago electric blues was the predominant blues style.

To just say that Big Joe Williams was one of the "greats" is in some way to do him a dis-service, for Big Joe Williams is simply one of the most important blues musicians to have ever recorded.

His leathery voice, renowned temper and disposition, original guitar style, at the time hoboing lifestyle and brilliant songwriting talent combined to present within him a complex artist, who for 60 years toured and recorded unbent and unbowed by the prevailing system - Big Joe Williams will always be regarded at the very top of the list of giants of the blues - A position he unreservedly commands.

Aim is proud to be involved within its Legendary Masters Series to be able to continue to present classic blues recordings of this standard. Every effort has been made to present quality recordings through a process of digital remastering and the pro-tools sound reduction process.

The Best Of Big Joe Williams Ramblin' & Wanderin' AIM 0011 CD

- Nobody Know's You When You're Down & Out
- 2. Baby Please Don't Go
- 3. Sinking Blues
- 4. Put On Your Nightcap Baby
- 5. Bye Bye Baby Blues
- 6. Don't Want No Evil Woman
- 7. Ride In My New Car Blues
- 8. Goin' Away Wont Be Back Till Fall
- 9. Sloppy Drunk Blues
- 10. Sugar Mama
- 11. 44 Blues
- 12. Terraplane Blues
- 13. Razor Sharp Blues
- 14. Chain Gang Blues
- 15. Everybody's Blues
- 16. Great Gospel Blues
- 17. I've Been Scorned
- 18. Shake'em On Down
- 19. Saturday Night Jump
- 20. Pick A Pickle
- 21. Ramblin' & Wandering Blues
- 22. Old Saw Mill Blues
- 23. El Paso Blues
- 24. Don't You Leave Me Here

Legendary Masters Series/Mid Price
73 Minute Recording



