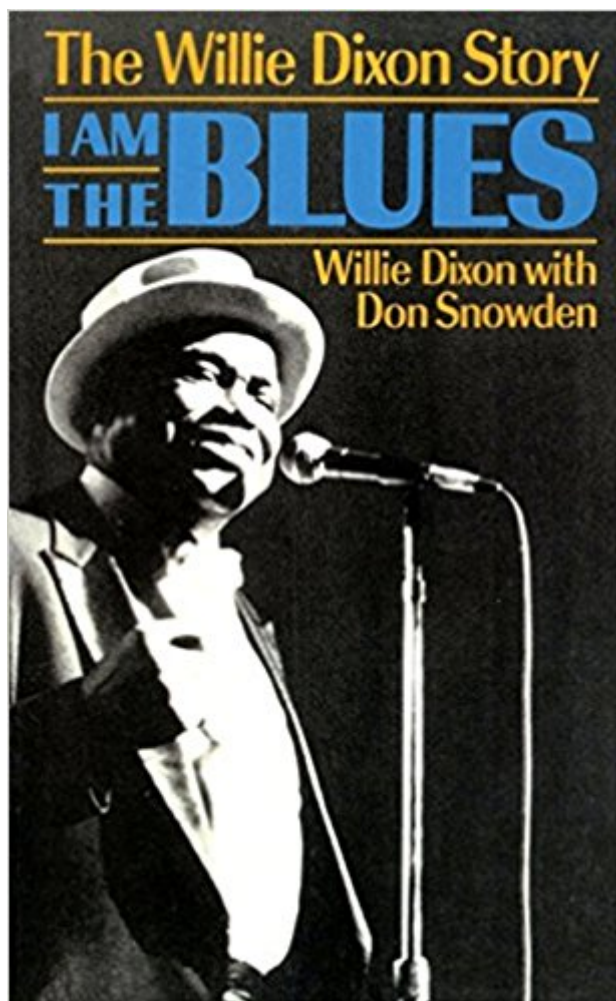


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# I Am The Blues: The Willie Dixon Story (A Da Capo Paperback)



## Synopsis

These are just a few of Willie Dixon's contributions to blues, R&B, and rock'n'roll songs performed by artists as varied as the Rolling Stones, Howlin' Wolf, Muddy Waters, ZZ Top, the Doors, Sonny Boy Williamson, the Grateful Dead, Van Morrison, Megadeth, Eric Clapton, Led Zeppelin, Tesla, Elvis Presley, Chuck Berry, Stevie Ray Vaughan, and Jeff Healey. *I Am the Blues* captures Willie Dixon's inimitable voice and character as he tells his life story: the segregation of Vicksburg Mississippi, where Dixon grew up; the prison farm from which he escaped and then hoboed his way north as a teenager; his equal-rights-based draft refusal in 1942; his work as songwriter, bassist, producer, and arranger with Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Little Walter, Bo Diddley, and Chuck Berry which shaped the definitive Chicago blues sound of Chess Records; and his legal battles to recapture the rights to his historic catalog of songs.

## Book Information

Series: A Da Capo paperback

Paperback: 264 pages

Publisher: Da Capo Press; Reprint; Inscribed and Signed by Dixon edition (August 22, 1990)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0306804158

ISBN-13: 978-0306804151

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 15 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 16 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #234,773 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #54 in Books > Arts &

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Musical Genres > Soul #64 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Biographies > Rhythm & Blues

## Customer Reviews

*I Am the Blues* captures Willie Dixon's inimitable voice and character as he tells his life story: the segregation of Vicksburg, Mississippi, where Dixon grew up; the prison farm from which he escaped and then hoboed his way north as a teenager; his equal-rights-based draft refusal in 1942; his work - as songwriter, bassist, producer, and arranger - with Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Little Walter, Bo Diddley, and Chuck Berry which shaped the definitive Chicago blues sound of Chess Records; and his legal battles to recapture the rights to his historic catalog of songs.

Don Snowden, a regular contributor to the Los Angeles Times for over 15 years, has supplemented Dixon's reflections with interviews with other performers and Chess insiders, a comprehensive discography, and a list of the major artists who have recorded his songs.

Let's start off by saying what a talent Willie Dixon was in the music world. This man wrote and/or played bass on hundreds of records, many of them standards by today's measure. This book started off a little difficult to read but became hard to put down. This is recommended to anyone with a thirst for knowledge of where Rock & Roll came from.

Excellent...thanks.

Great, fills in the missing gaps from "I can't be Satisfied" (Muddy Waters) and Moanin' at Midnight (Howlin' Wolf)

Willie Dixon was a key person in 20th century music. It's a shame that he gets so little recognition in mainstream America. His talent for songwriting was only part of his greatness, though. He was quite a human being. In this book, we get a look at Willie, what he did, and where he came from. I finished the book feeling as though I understand him as best as I can. And I have a greater appreciation of his music, and pride in the fact that my band plays a small role in keeping Willie's legacy alive. The fact that much of this book is written in Willie's own words -- that is, with his early-to-mid-1900s southern black dialect -- may throw some people at first, but stories are best told in the language in which they arose. Sanitizing his words would lessen their impact. The only reason I don't give this book five stars, is because I want more. I would love to have had more pages to read; more interviews with others about Willie; more photos of Willie. If you like the blues, or even just like the story of someone who went from having nothing (perhaps less than nothing) to a self-taught cultural cornerstone, read this book. Then tell others about what you've learned about Willie Dixon and his inspiring story. And check out Willie's Blues Heaven Foundation.

Thank you . The first time I purchased this book , I did so from a third party on an outside text book website. I still haven't recieved the book. Its been two months. :( Since then I have ordered from you and your vendors and recieved the book and person who it was intended for has read it. They also said it was one of the finest written autobiographies about someone from the blues genre.

A comprehensive and honest account of Willie Dixon's iconic ascent in the ranks of blues royalty. A must-read for blues fans, and especially those of us Chicagoans who grew up with/around Chess.

A bit dry. This man deserves a better story teller.

Incredible!

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