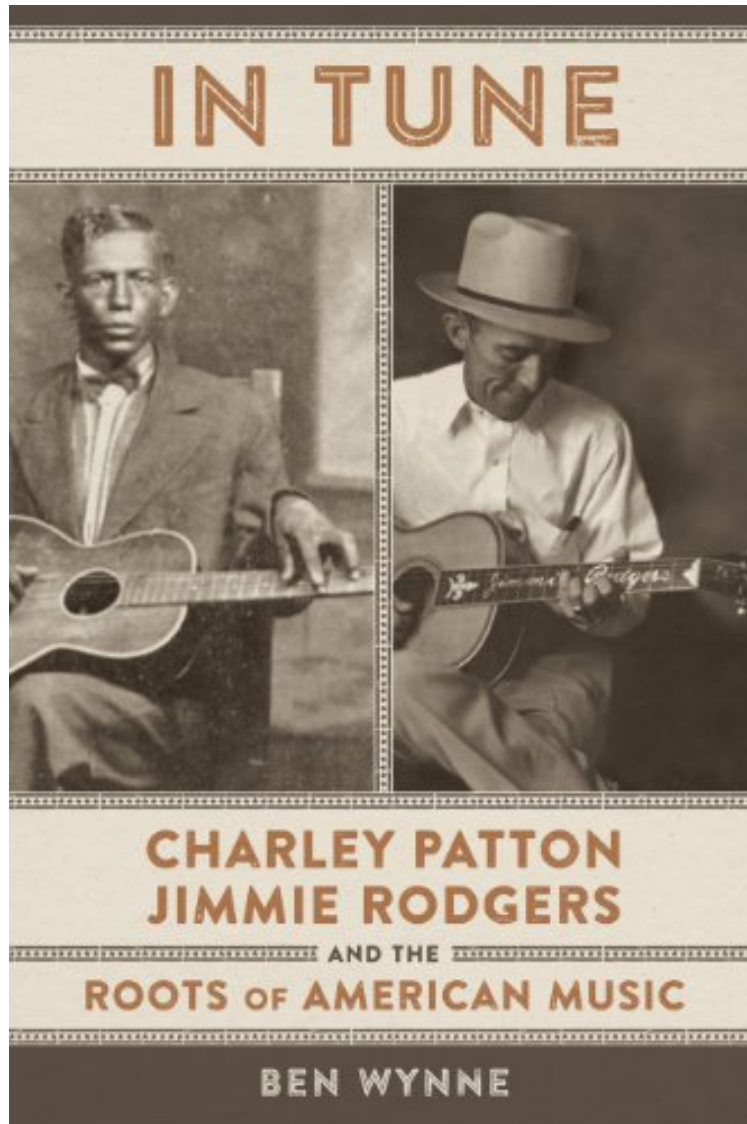


(Library ebook) In Tune: Charley Patton, Jimmie Rodgers, and the Roots of American Music

# In Tune: Charley Patton, Jimmie Rodgers, and the Roots of American Music

Ben Wynne

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**Ben Wynne : In Tune: Charley Patton, Jimmie Rodgers, and the Roots of American Music** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised In Tune: Charley Patton, Jimmie Rodgers, and the Roots of American Music:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Bought as a present for my husband. He's enjoying ...By The Cacklin' Hen Bought as a present for my husband. He's enjoying the book, although he did say that it's more of a social and cultural history of Mississippi from Reconstruction to the Depression, than it is of music. He gave it a 4-star

rating. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Darwin Lee Hill Great book. Highly recommended. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Found In Tune to be True to Name By P. Gittings Found it to be a very well written and researched book. I was not expecting much at first but thought it did a good job of not just exploring the 2 musicians but also good history of the time period and the region.

Born into poverty in Mississippi at the close of the nineteenth century, Charley Patton and Jimmie Rodgers established themselves among the most influential musicians of their era. *In Tune* tells the story of the parallel careers of these two pioneering recording artists -- one white, one black -- who moved beyond their humble origins to change the face of American music. At a time when segregation formed impassable lines of demarcation in most areas of southern life, music transcended racial boundaries. Jimmie Rodgers and Charley Patton drew inspiration from musical traditions on both sides of the racial divide, and their songs about hard lives, raising hell, and the hope of better days ahead spoke to white and black audiences alike. Their music reflected the era in which they lived but evoked a range of timeless human emotions. As the invention of the phonograph disseminated traditional forms of music to a wider audience, Jimmie Rodgers gained fame as the "Father of Country Music," while Patton's work eventually earned him the title "King of the Delta Blues." Patton and Rodgers both died young, leaving behind a relatively small number of recordings. Though neither remains well known to mainstream audiences, the impact of their contributions echoes in the songs of today. The first book to compare the careers of these two musicians, *In Tune* is a vital addition to the history of American music.

"With this admirable and instructive book, Wynne adds to and enriches the literature dedicated to these musicians by juxtaposing their lives as contemporary Mississippians growing up within 100 miles of one another. . . . Highly recommended. All readers."--CHOICE "Wynne is to be commended for his passionate, detailed research in an important area of American music history. His well-conceived narrative and vivid portrayal of these two musicians brings dignity and value to their music and a better understanding of the complexity of race and class in the early-twentieth-century American South. Anyone interested in the roots of American popular music will find this book a valuable addition to their personal library."--Journal of Southern History "A gripping examination of how the work of Patton, Rodgers and others of the era would come to define so much of popular music in the decades to come."--Bob Mehr, Memphis Commercial Appeal "Ben Wynne's broad and engaging *In Tune* is a study of two giants of American popular music. . . . *In Tune* lays out the complex terrain of American music, exposing the many contradictions present in our understanding of its history. Wynne's bold comparison of the lives and music of Charley Patton and Jimmie Rodgers reminds us of the need to view music as resolutely embedded within broader social and institutional currents."--Notes "Wynne's *In Tune: Charley Patton, Jimmie Rodgers, and the Roots of American Music* demonstrates that the right-place-right-time scenario preserved their innovative and exemplary skill for the ages."--Jackson Clarion-Ledger "It's to author Ben Wynne's credit that I now think differently upon the relationship between these two musical pioneers--after all, nothing is as simple as it first appears." --Rhythms About the Author A native of Florence, Mississippi, Ben Wynne earned his doctorate degree in history from the University of Mississippi. He currently teaches at the University of North Georgia and has written several works related to southern history.