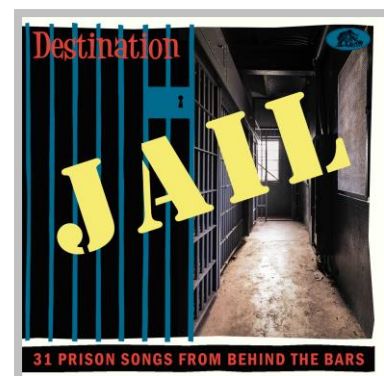


# BEAR FAMILY RECORDS



PRODUCTINFO (CD) February 3, 2023

Artist **Various Artists**  
Title **Destination Jail – 31 Prison Songs From Behind The Bars**  
Label **Bear Family Records**  
Catalog no. **BCD17689** Price code: **AB**  
EAN-Code **4000127176899**  
Format **1-CD with 20-page booklet**  
Genre **Country, Rock 'n' Roll**  
No. of tracks **31** approx. **79:00 min.**  
Release date **February 3, 2023**



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## INFO:

- **Incarceration is a common theme in American roots music.**
- **Songs tell of gruesome crimes, daring escapes, self-pity, repentant pleas for a second chance in exchange for promises of category XYZ.**
- **Bear Family Records® delivers 'Destination Jail', a cross-stylistic CD compilation centered around the ubiquitous phenomenon of jail in the USA.**
- **This CD in our midprice series delivers contributions from Marty Robbins, Jimmie Skinner, the Johnny Burnette Trio and more obscure songs from Benny Hess, Helen Grayco and Bill Carter, rock 'n' roll and country music, a.o.**
- **Song titles such as *The Hanging Tree*, *One Dead Man Ago*, *Midnight Train*, *Walking the Last Mile*, *Lilly's Lament (Cell 29)* and *Shot Four Times And Dying* describe what this CD album is all about.**
- **Notes and illustrations for each song in the booklet.**

Incarceration is a frequent theme in American roots music. There is plenty of songs about hideous crimes, boastful escapes, self-pity, and remorseful pleading for a second chance in exchange for XYZ.

Especially in old-time and early country music, we find good examples of the jail theme. One might think the motif may have been derived from pieces from the Anglo-Celtic tradition. Indeed, songs about murder, theft, and other sinful deeds are frequent in the British songbook, yet, jail, as a metaphor or as a place of self-reflection and transformation, is an American specialty: In the Land of the Free and the Home of the Evangelically Oppressed, incarceration serves as a mirror of the self. Jail is an implicitness, like death, heaven and hell.

With 'Destination Jail' (BCD 17689), Bear Family Records® offers a hodgepodge of hillbilly and rock & roll obscurities and classics dealing with life behind bars. The songs feature all the various elements of the US detention system: prison - county farm, prison, and penitentiary.

Among the better-known highlights, we find *The Hanging Tree* by Marty Robbins, Ronnie Hawkins' tragical ballad about the "red light bandit" Caryl Chessman, *One Dead Man Ago* by honky tonk pioneer Jimmie Skinner, and the passionate *Midnight Train* by the Johnny Burnette Trio.

Top tunes of the obscure portion of the sampled goodies are Benny Hess' morbid *Walking the Last Mile*, Helen Grayco's haunting *Lilly's Lament (Cell 29)*, and the amazing *Shot Four Times and Dying* by Bill Carter. In between, Bear Family Records® offers many goodies by Skeets McDonald, Stonewall Jackson, Webb Pierce, Bobby Darin, and many more – and no Johnny Cash (yet his spirit is evoked by several tracks on the CD).

Bear Family Records®' 'Destination Jail' is an exciting and wallet-friendly introduction to the gangsta tunes of rockabilly and classic country.

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## TRACKLISTING:

### CD:

**Billy Tidwell & The Chivells:** Folsom Prison Blues      **Webb Pierce:** In The Jailhouse Now      **Rod Morris:** Alabama Jailhouse  
**Bill Carter:** Shot Four Times And Dyin'      **Ronnie Hawkins:** The Ballad Of Caryl Chessman      **Jim Carter:** Jailer, Jailer  
**The Pierce Brothers:** Death Row      **Gary Williams:** Walla Walla State Prison      **The Johnny Burnette Trio:** Midnight Train  
**Helen Grayco:** Lilly's Lament (Cell 29)      **Jaycee Hill:** Crash Out      **Sonny Burgess:** Prisoner's Song (alt. 2)  
**Troy Crane & The Three Texans:** Huntsville Prison Blues      **Skeets McDonald:** Fort Worth Jail      **Curley Money:** Chain Gang Charlie  
**Jimmie Skinner:** One Dead Man Ago      **Stonewall Jackson:** Run      **Bobby Sykes:** The Guard On The North Wall  
**Bobby Darin:** Jailer Bring Me Water      **Reb Allen:** Folsom Prison Blues      **Johnny Starr:** Lewisburg Prison      **Ron & Jon & The Crew:** Riot In  
Cell Block No. 9      **Jimmy Young:** Chain Gang      **Johnny Rebb & His Rebels:** Hey Sherriff      **Bill Carter:** Jailer Man  
**Jim Minor:** Death Row      **Bill Monroe:** Prisoner's Song      **Bill Flagg:** Doin' My Time      **Marty Robbins:** The Hanging Tree  
**George Champion:** My Hanging Day      **Bennie Hess:** Walking That Last Mile

## ALSO AVAILABLE:

**Various Artists:**  
**Destination Lonely Street**

BCD17574 AB  
1-CD with 16-page booklet  
EAN: 5397102175749



**Various Artists:**  
**Destination Jurassic Land**

BCD17655 AB  
1-CD with 20-page booklet  
EAN: 4000127176554



**Johnny Cash:**  
**Travelling Cash – An Imaginary Journey**

BCD16820 AH  
1-CD with 16-page booklet  
EAN: 4000127168207



**Johnny Seay:**  
**Blue Moon Of Kentucky**

BCD16153 AH  
1-CD with 28-page booklet  
EAN: 4000127161536



**Various Artists:**  
**That'll Flat Git It! Vol. 31**  
**Rockabilly & Rock 'n' Roll From The Vaults Of**  
**Colonial Records**

BCD17567 AR  
1-CD (Digipak) with 44-page booklet  
EAN: 5397102175671



**Various Artists:**  
**Left Behind**  
**13 Black & White Rockers From The Felsted Vaults**

BAF14022 BAFX  
10inch vinyl LP with 16-page booklet, postcard  
and bonus CD  
EAN: 5397102140228

