



## The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press)

*Charles Wolfe*

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

# **The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press)**

*Charles Wolfe*

**The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press)** Charles Wolfe

A unique and illuminating overview of the traditions of Southern fiddling, covering the key performers and compositions that defined that genre during its golden age--from the 1920s to the 1950s--and that continue to influence popular music today.

It was called "the devil's box" because the instrument was thought to be sinful to play. Yet in spite of (or perhaps partially because of) that stigma, the fiddle has long been one of America's favorite instruments.

Easily portable, stylistically versatile, and possessing an enchanting timbre, it accompanied the European settlers across America. In the 1800s, the fiddle entertained on the battlefield and on the campaign trail.

When country music made its first appearance on records in the 1920s, fiddlers called the tune. To this day, the fiddle remains a distinctive element of country music, and fiddlers like Alison Krauss and Mark O'Connor are among the music's biggest stars and most innovative artists.

The key players and favorite tunes in the commercial emergence of Southern fiddling in the first half of the twentieth century are the focus of this lucid and engaging study. Among the lively portraits that emerge in *The Devil's Box* are those of:

Eck Robertson, the audacious Texas fiddler who jump-started the country music recording industry in 1922 by showing up unannounced at the studios of Victor Records and demanding to be recorded;

Uncle Jimmy Thompson, the feisty, white-bearded, rural fiddler whose appearance on radio station WSM in Nashville inaugurated the Grand Ole Opry;

Clayton McMichen, the dazzlingly talented but disgruntled fiddler's fiddler who preferred jazz to country music and who could never live down his early years in country music's first supergroup, the Skillet Lickers; and

Bob Wills, who popularized western swing by combining fiddle music with the sounds of big band swing and who never abandoned the fiddle music of his youth, even after dance music became far more lucrative.

Elsewhere, Wolfe discusses the background of such famous fiddle tunes as "Black Mountain Rag" and "Over the Waves," tracing their meandering and curious paths to widespread popularity, and explains how Stephen Vincent Benet's 1925 classic poem "The Mountain Whippoorwill" was inspired by country fiddler Lowe Stokes winning an Atlanta fiddle contest in 1924.

Drawing on such seldom-tapped resources as small regional newspapers, personal correspondence, and rare interviews with the fiddlers themselves as well as their families, Wolfe conjures up vivid portraits of the individuals who fashioned this distinctly American music. Along the way, he places the fiddlers and their music in a rich historical context, illuminating the threads that connect country music to blues, jazz, folk, and classical music--and, indeed, to the history of America itself.

*Co-published with the Country Music Foundation Press*

 [\*\*Download\*\* The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling \(Van ...pdf](#)

 [\*\*Read Online\*\* The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling \(V ...pdf](#)

## **Download and Read Free Online The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press) Charles Wolfe**

---

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Odessa Currie:**

This The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press) are generally reliable for you who want to certainly be a successful person, why. The key reason why of this The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press) can be among the great books you must have is usually giving you more than just simple studying food but feed a person with information that maybe will shock your preceding knowledge. This book is actually handy, you can bring it just about everywhere and whenever your conditions at e-book and printed kinds. Beside that this The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press) forcing you to have an enormous of experience like rich vocabulary, giving you trial run of critical thinking that we all know it useful in your day exercise. So , let's have it and enjoy reading.

#### **Edna Brooks:**

Hey guys, do you really wants to finds a new book to see? May be the book with the name The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press) suitable to you? Often the book was written by famous writer in this era. Typically the book untitled The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press)is one of several books that will everyone read now. That book was inspired many people in the world. When you read this e-book you will enter the new shape that you ever know ahead of. The author explained their idea in the simple way, and so all of people can easily to know the core of this e-book. This book will give you a large amount of information about this world now. To help you to see the represented of the world in this particular book.

#### **Kenneth Matson:**

Do you like reading a book? Confuse to looking for your chosen book? Or your book ended up being rare? Why so many issue for the book? But just about any people feel that they enjoy with regard to reading. Some people likes studying, not only science book and also novel and The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press) as well as others sources were given knowledge for you. After you know how the truly great a book, you feel desire to read more and more. Science e-book was created for teacher or perhaps students especially. Those publications are helping them to include their knowledge. In various other case, beside science book, any other book likes The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press) to make your spare time considerably more colorful. Many types of book like this one.

#### **Lawrence Pomerleau:**

Book is one of source of expertise. We can add our information from it. Not only for students but native or citizen will need book to know the revise information of year for you to year. As we know those books have many advantages. Beside many of us add our knowledge, could also bring us to around the world. By the

book The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press) we can take more advantage. Don't someone to be creative people? Being creative person must choose to read a book. Just simply choose the best book that ideal with your aim. Don't become doubt to change your life with this book The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press). You can more inviting than now.

**Download and Read Online The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press) Charles Wolfe #F0PR7Y26DJZ**

# **Read The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press) by Charles Wolfe for online ebook**

The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press) by Charles Wolfe Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press) by Charles Wolfe books to read online.

## **Online The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press) by Charles Wolfe ebook PDF download**

**The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press) by Charles Wolfe Doc**

**The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press) by Charles Wolfe MobiPocket**

**The Devil's Box: Masters of Southern Fiddling (Vanderbilt/Country Music Foundation Press) by Charles Wolfe EPub**