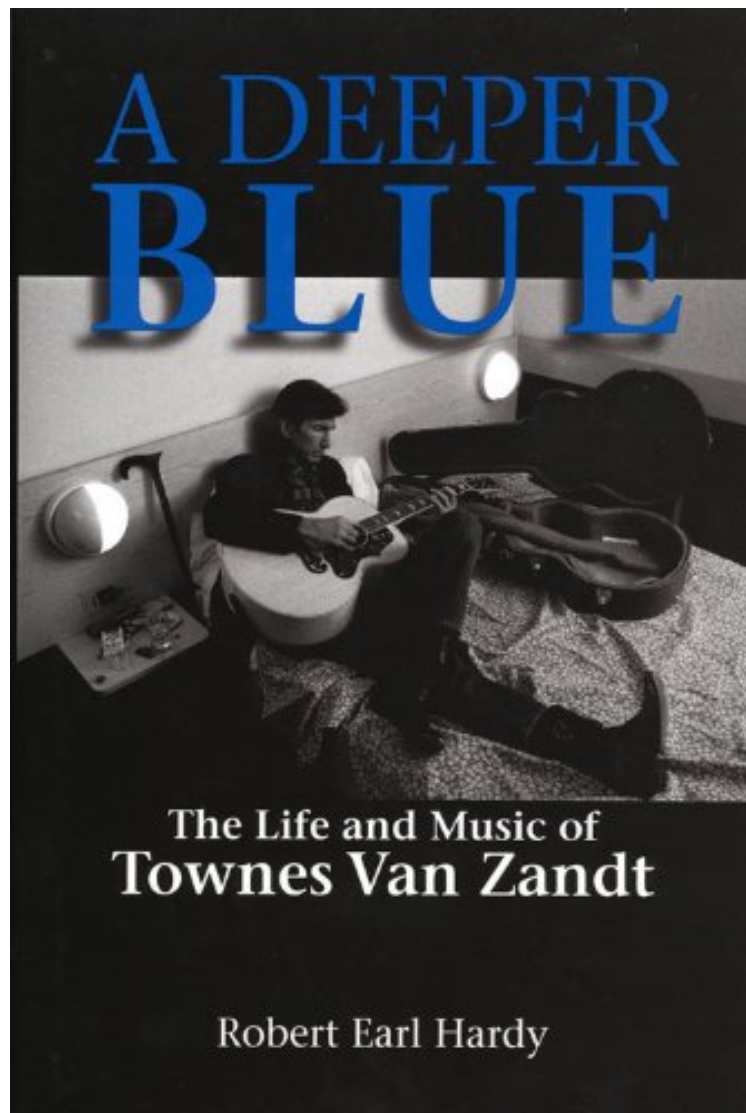


(Mobile book) A Deeper Blue: The Life and Music of Townes Van Zandt (North Texas Lives of Musician Series)

A Deeper Blue: The Life and Music of Townes Van Zandt (North Texas Lives of Musician Series)

Robert Earl Hardy

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Robert Earl Hardy : A Deeper Blue: The Life and Music of Townes Van Zandt (North Texas Lives of Musician Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Deeper Blue: The Life and Music of Townes Van Zandt (North Texas Lives of Musician Series):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great Read for Music LoverBy Sharon RushI grew up in Texas, Houston primarily, and I was a great fan of Townes. I am always interested in the music writing process and what

exactly was Townes' muse. His lyrics were always so deep and you knew that they had a some deeper meaning and sometimes you could place it but just getting to know the man that Robert Earl Hardy wrote about was very good. He obviously researched this book in great depths as there are many quotes. Very good read, helped me love his music even more. We Texans love, appreciate, and miss TVZ, but thankfully we have his music.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An excellent book.By Kindle CustomerI thought this was a comprehensive biography. It certainly displayed the subject as a poet who employed music to send his messages about life as he lived it.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A great read about a music legendBy HollythedylanfanI love Townes Van Zandt and his music. Until I read this book, I did not know much about him. Information about Townes is sort of hard to find. The author does a great job in getting interviews from the people who knew Townes the best. Townes comes across as an enigmatic, troubled genius. I recommend this book to anyone who appreciates the music of Townes Van Zandt. Steve Earle, friend of Townes, once said, "Townes Van Zandt is the best songwriter in the whole world, and I'll stand on Bob Dylan's coffee table in my cowboy boots and say that." I'm a big Bob Dylan fan, but I agree that Townes was a fantastic song writer. Reading about him was a real pleasure.

This is the first serious biography of a man widely considered one of Texas's—and America's—greatest songwriters. Like Jimmie Rodgers, Woody Guthrie, Robert Johnson, and Hank Williams, Townes Van Zandt was the embodiment of that mythic American figure, the troubled troubadour. *A Deeper Blue* traces Van Zandt's background as the scion of a prominent Texas family; his troubled early years and his transformation from promising pre-law student to wandering folk singer; his life on the road and the demons that pursued and were pursued by him; the women who loved and inspired him; and the brilliance and enduring beauty of his songs, which are explored in depth. The author draws on eight years' extensive research and interviews with Townes' family and closest friends and colleagues. He looks beyond the legend and paints a colorful portrait of a complex man who embraced the darkness of demons and myth as well as the light of deep compassion and humanity, all for the sake of the song.

"*A Deeper Blue* ... gives fascinating insight into what inspired this sweet-singing, tortured genius and what inevitably brought him down. His songs stirred the soul and seemed to well from its darkest depths. He became the patron saint of many a Texas songwriter in his day and will continue to inspire for generations to come. Save a tear for Townes. You'll need it." -- Joe Ely
"Hardy delineates the musician's chaotic life in honest, often dramatic detail, but always brings the attention and focus back to Van Zandt's music and the classic songs he penned.... Steering through the myths and legends, the author depicts a troubled individual and gifted artist who inspired many singers and songwriters in the alternative country scene." -- Billboard
"Hardy's sparkling new biography of the tragic, magic life of Townes Van Zandt is a must-read for anyone who loves music or likes to raise hell. *A Deeper Blue* demonstrates why Van Zandt has become Texas' version of Mozart, Van Gogh, and Hank Williams all rolled up into one brilliant and beautiful burrito." -- Kinky Friedman
"Honest, unbiased look at the troubled career and existence of one of America's greatest songwriters.... A poignant, clear and vivid portrait." -- Kirkus
"Hardy's book carefully documents many of the facets of this gem of a life. His love for the music shines through, just as the spirit of Townes shines through each song." -- Kathleen Hudson, founder of the Texas Heritage Music Foundation
From the Publisher
"The author talked to many, many people who knew Townes. His work offers a wealth of anecdotes and information." -- Louis Black, editor of the *Austin Chronicle* and executive producer of *Be Here To Love Me: A Film About Townes Van Zandt*
About the Author
ROBERT EARL HARDY has been a professional writer for twenty-five years, with articles on twentieth century American music and the arts published in newspapers, journals, and magazines, most recently in *The Oxford American*. Also a musician, since the 1970s, Mr. Hardy has played guitar in rock roll, rhythm blues, and honky-tonk bands in the Washington, DC, area. He lives in Laurel, Maryland.