This Land Is Your Land



In the early 1930's balladeer, poet, philosopher, and grassroots American Woody Guthrie was enthusiastic about a family of singers called The Carters, whose nasal twangs and primitive songs were about as authentic and unspoiled as one could find. Themes from two of their inimitable collections found their way—probably without his ever realizing it—into Guthrie's own "This Land Is Your Land," published in 1956. However the words and the unabashed, shore-to-shore patriotism of the song are Guthrie's own. This, his most famous composition, became virtually the national anthem of the folksong revival that began in the 1950's. Guthrie died in 1967.





