Reading Questions: Session 23

Lomax

My Heart Struck Sorrow

What does "Otter run him in" refer to? Describe the scene.

What is associated with Beale Street? With Highway 61?

Who was Robert Johnson? What are some of the aspects of his memory that Lomax reveals?

Who was Son House, and what was the nature of Lomax’s interaction with him?

What does the Tunica law think of Lomax, and what was the nature of his encounter?

What is the Mississippi Delta country?

Who is the big storm from Tupelo?

What does Lomax experience in the Clarksdale church?

The Land Where Blues Began

Who was Ma Rainy?

What is the significance of 1912?

Why was Blind Lemon’s music different? What are some of the elements in it to which Wald alludes.

What was the effect of the Depression on the blues?

What does Johnny Shine reveal about what the records missed?

What is Wald’s take on the minstrel shows and black audiences/performers?

Ultimately, what does Wald opine about what the records missed?