

LICK OF THE WEEK

Muddy Waters *Landlady*

This week's lick is Muddy Waters' intro to his 1950 tune, "Landlady," also known as "My Life is Ruined." It first appeared on his Chess album, **More Real Folk Blues**. You can hear it on the MCA re-issue under the same title (MCA 1988 #CHD-9278).

The lick starts off in pattern 1 of the F minor pentatonic scale in the 13th position, with the addition of a D note not in the scale (2nd string, 15th fret). It then moves down to one of Muddy's turnaround licks, which moves from the I (F7) chord to the V (C7) chord. You'll no doubt recognize the sound. I have it notated for standard tuning, where the F note is played on the 2nd string, 6th fret. Muddy used a capo at the 1st fret, so his fingering was different. If you use a capo, most of the notes are played in the same place as indicated here. The only difference would be that the notes marked with an asterisk (*) in the score would be played on open strings. If a different string is used, it is given below the staff.

Enjoy.
JG