

# the grand tour george jones

The Grand Tour George Jones: A Journey Through Music and Legacy

**the grand tour george jones** is more than just a phrase; it's an invitation to explore the life, music, and enduring impact of one of country music's most iconic figures. George Jones, often hailed as the "greatest country singer," left an indelible mark with his soulful voice, heartfelt lyrics, and a career that spanned over five decades. His song "The Grand Tour," in particular, stands out as a poignant narrative that captures the essence of heartbreak and nostalgia, making it a timeless classic in the country genre.

## The Story Behind "The Grand Tour" by George Jones

When diving into George Jones's discography, "The Grand Tour" emerges as one of his most emotionally charged songs. Released in 1974, the track was written by Norro Wilson and Carmol Taylor and became a signature song for Jones. The lyrics paint a vivid picture of a man walking through an empty house, reminiscing about a love that has slipped away. The metaphor of a "grand tour" of a once joyful home turned hollow is a masterstroke of storytelling.

## Lyrics That Tell a Story

The power of "The Grand Tour" lies in its lyrical depth. Lines like:

\_"Step right up, come on in, the house is on the stage  
This is the grand tour, let me take you through the rooms of a house I once called my home"\_

invite listeners to visualize the setting and feel the protagonist's sorrow. George Jones's delivery adds layers of pain and sincerity, making it easy for anyone who has experienced loss to connect with the song.

## Impact on George Jones's Career

"The Grand Tour" was a major milestone for George Jones. It reached No. 1 on the country charts and solidified his reputation as a master interpreter of heartbreak. This song, along with others like "He Stopped Loving Her Today," helped define Jones's legacy as an artist who could convey the complexities of human emotion with unmatched authenticity.

## George Jones: The Man Behind the Music

To truly appreciate "The Grand Tour," it helps to understand George Jones himself. Born in 1931 in Texas, Jones's early life was filled with hardship, including poverty and family struggles. These

experiences shaped his music, which often delved into themes of love, loss, and redemption.

## Career Highlights and Influence

George Jones's career spanned more than 50 years, producing dozens of hits and influencing countless artists. Some key points in his musical journey include:

- His first hit, "Why Baby Why," in 1955, which introduced his distinctive style to the country world.
- Multiple chart-topping singles throughout the 1960s and 70s, including "She Thinks I Still Care" and "The Grand Tour."
- Winning the Country Music Association's Male Vocalist of the Year multiple times.
- Collaborations with fellow country legends like Tammy Wynette, with whom he shared a tumultuous but creative partnership.

Jones's influence extends far beyond his own recordings. Many country artists cite him as a primary inspiration, and his vocal phrasing and emotional delivery have become a benchmark in the genre.

## Personal Struggles and Triumphs

George Jones's life wasn't without challenges. He battled alcoholism and personal demons that often threatened his career. However, his resilience and dedication to his craft allowed him to overcome these obstacles, adding a layer of authenticity and grit to his music. Songs like "The Grand Tour" resonate partly because they come from a place of genuine experience and vulnerability.

## Exploring the Themes of "The Grand Tour" in Country Music

Country music has always been a storytelling medium, and "The Grand Tour" exemplifies this tradition. The song's themes are universal, touching on heartbreak, nostalgia, and the passage of time.

## Heartbreak and Loss

Heartbreak is a staple theme in country music, but few songs capture it as vividly as "The Grand Tour." The empty rooms symbolize not just a lost love but the emotional emptiness that follows. This theme resonates because it reflects real human experiences, making the song timeless.

## Nostalgia and Memory

The song also explores nostalgia—the bittersweet longing for what once was. The careful description of each room and its memories allows listeners to embark on their own "grand tour" of past relationships and moments.

## Why "The Grand Tour" Still Matters Today

Decades after its release, "The Grand Tour" remains a staple in country music playlists and covers. Its enduring appeal lies in its ability to evoke deep emotions while telling a relatable story. For fans of classic country music and new listeners alike, the song offers a glimpse into the art of storytelling through music.

## Tips for New Listeners Exploring George Jones and "The Grand Tour"

If you're new to George Jones or country music in general, starting with "The Grand Tour" is an excellent choice. Here are some tips to deepen your appreciation:

- **Listen actively:** Pay close attention to the lyrics and the emotional nuances in Jones's voice.
- **Explore his other hits:** Songs like "He Stopped Loving Her Today" and "If Drinking Don't Kill Me" showcase his range.
- **Watch live performances:** George Jones's live shows reveal his charisma and connection with the audience.
- **Read about his life:** Understanding his personal history can add depth to your listening experience.

## Legacy of George Jones and "The Grand Tour"

George Jones passed away in 2013, but his legacy lives on through his music. "The Grand Tour" remains a testament to his ability to turn personal pain into art that touches millions. His influence can be heard in the voices of contemporary country stars and in the hearts of fans worldwide.

For anyone interested in the roots of country music or powerful storytelling through song, exploring George Jones's catalog, starting with "The Grand Tour," is a journey worth taking. It's a reminder of the power of music to capture the human experience in all its complexity.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Who is George Jones in 'The Grand Tour'?

George Jones is a classic American country singer whose music was featured in an episode of 'The Grand Tour' to complement the show's theme and atmosphere.

## Which episode of 'The Grand Tour' features George Jones' music?

George Jones' music is featured in Season 3, Episode 6 of 'The Grand Tour', where his songs are used to enhance the storytelling and mood.

## Why does 'The Grand Tour' use George Jones' songs?

'The Grand Tour' uses George Jones' songs to add a nostalgic and authentic American country vibe, aligning with the episode's themes and locations.

## Are there any special segments about George Jones in 'The Grand Tour'?

While 'The Grand Tour' does not have dedicated segments about George Jones, his music is prominently used to enrich certain episodes' soundtracks.

## How does George Jones' music influence the tone of 'The Grand Tour'?

George Jones' music adds a classic, soulful, and sometimes melancholic tone to 'The Grand Tour', enhancing the emotional and cultural depth of the show.

## Additional Resources

The Grand Tour George Jones: An In-Depth Exploration of the Iconic Country Music Connection

**the grand tour george jones** is a phrase that holds a special place in the annals of country music history. It refers not only to one of George Jones's most celebrated songs but also to the broader context of his influential career and the enduring legacy he crafted through his music. Known as one of the greatest voices in country music, George Jones's "The Grand Tour" stands out as a poignant narrative that captures the emotional depth and storytelling prowess that defined his artistry. This article delves into the significance of "The Grand Tour," examining its lyrical themes, musical composition, and place within George Jones's extensive body of work, while also considering its impact on country music as a genre.

# **The Significance of "The Grand Tour" in George Jones's Career**

Released in 1974, "The Grand Tour" marked a high point in George Jones's career, showcasing his ability to blend traditional country instrumentation with deeply evocative storytelling. The song's success was not only commercial but also critical, cementing Jones's reputation as the "Possum" who could convey heartbreak and vulnerability with unmatched sincerity. The title itself, "The Grand Tour," serves as an ironic metaphor, contrasting the grandeur suggested by the phrase with the intimate, painful journey of a man walking through the empty rooms of a home once filled with love.

## **Lyrical Themes and Storytelling**

At the heart of "The Grand Tour George Jones" is a narrative of loss and reflection. The lyrics guide listeners through the protagonist's tour of his former home, where every room triggers memories of a love that has ended. Lines such as "Step right up, come on in, first stop, the living room" create a vivid scene, inviting the audience to experience the emotional weight alongside the singer. This storytelling approach is quintessential to George Jones's style, where personal sorrow is rendered universal through detailed, relatable imagery.

The song's narrative technique is notable for its use of spatial metaphor, with each room symbolizing different stages of the relationship. This layered storytelling allows listeners to engage with the song on multiple levels, from the immediate emotional impact to the broader contemplation of memory and heartache.

## **Musical Composition and Vocal Performance**

Musically, "The Grand Tour" is anchored in traditional country elements, with steel guitar and subtle fiddle lines weaving through a melancholic melody. The arrangement provides a perfect backdrop for Jones's vocal delivery, which is both restrained and emotionally charged. His nuanced phrasing and timbre convey a vulnerability that resonates deeply, reinforcing the narrative's themes.

George Jones's vocal performance on this track is often cited as a masterclass in country singing. His ability to express pain without resorting to melodrama sets him apart from many of his contemporaries. This balance of technical skill and emotional authenticity is a defining characteristic of his work and contributes to the enduring appeal of "The Grand Tour."

## **Contextualizing "The Grand Tour" Within George Jones's Discography**

To fully appreciate "The Grand Tour George Jones," it is necessary to consider its place within the broader context of his discography. George Jones, whose career spanned over five decades, was known for his prolific output and consistent quality. His songs often explored themes of love, heartbreak, and redemption, making him a key figure in shaping the country music narrative

tradition.

## Comparisons to Other Notable Works

When compared to other major hits like "He Stopped Loving Her Today" or "White Lightning," "The Grand Tour" stands out for its storytelling ambition and emotional subtlety. While "He Stopped Loving Her Today" is often heralded as the quintessential country ballad of heartbreak, "The Grand Tour" offers a more introspective and spatially grounded portrayal of loss.

This song also reflects the transitional period in country music during the 1970s, where traditional sounds began to intersect with more contemporary production techniques. Jones managed to maintain his traditionalist appeal while adapting to changing musical landscapes, a testament to his versatility and enduring relevance.

## Influence on Country Music and Legacy

"The Grand Tour George Jones" has influenced generations of country artists who seek to balance narrative depth with emotional authenticity. Its lyrical and musical approach has been studied and emulated by songwriters aiming to capture the nuances of human experience. Furthermore, the song's success contributed to the commercial viability of deeply personal storytelling in country music, encouraging labels and artists to embrace similar themes.

George Jones's legacy as a vocal stylist and storyteller remains intact, with "The Grand Tour" often cited as a prime example of his artistic strengths. The song's impact extends beyond its initial release, continuing to resonate with audiences and critics alike.

## The Grand Tour George Jones: Features and Reception

A detailed look at the song's features helps explain why it remains a staple in country music playlists and retrospectives.

- **Instrumentation:** Traditional country instruments including steel guitar, piano, and fiddle create an authentic soundscape.
- **Production Quality:** Produced during an era when analog recording was standard, the warmth and clarity of the track emphasize Jones's vocal nuances.
- **Songwriting:** Penned by Norro Wilson, George Richey, and Carmol Taylor, the lyrics are crafted with precision and emotional insight.
- **Chart Performance:** The song reached number one on the Billboard Hot Country Singles chart, underscoring its commercial success.
- **Critical Acclaim:** Widely praised by music critics for its storytelling and vocal delivery.

## Pros and Cons from a Contemporary Perspective

While "The Grand Tour" is widely regarded as a classic, analyzing it through a modern lens reveals certain considerations.

### 1. Pros:

- Timeless emotional resonance that connects with listeners across generations.
- Exemplary vocal performance showcasing George Jones's unique style.
- Strong narrative structure that elevates it beyond typical country ballads.

### 2. Cons:

- The pacing of the song may feel slow to listeners accustomed to contemporary country's faster tempos.
- The traditional instrumentation might not appeal to fans of modern country-pop fusion.

Despite these minor critiques, the overall impact and artistic merit of "The Grand Tour George Jones" remain overwhelmingly positive.

## Exploring the Cultural and Emotional Impact

Beyond its musical attributes, "The Grand Tour" serves as an emotional touchstone for many fans. It articulates the universal experience of revisiting spaces imbued with memories of lost love, a theme that transcends cultural and temporal boundaries. This emotional authenticity is a hallmark of George Jones's appeal and is why his music continues to be celebrated decades after its initial release.

Moreover, the song's influence extends into popular culture, inspiring covers by various artists and inclusion in numerous country music compilations. It also represents a touchstone for understanding the evolution of country music storytelling, blending traditional motifs with personal introspection.

In essence, "The Grand Tour George Jones" encapsulates the profound connection between artist, song, and listener—a connection forged through honest expression and masterful craftsmanship. As country music continues to evolve, this song remains a beacon of the genre's rich narrative tradition and emotional depth.

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**the grand tour george jones:** *The Grand Tour* Rich Kienzle, 2024-05-21 In the vein of the classic Johnny Cash: The Life, this groundbreaking work explores the wild life and extraordinary musical career of the definitive country singer of the last half century ( New York Times), who influenced, among others, Bob Dylan, Buck Owens, Emmylou Harris, John Fogerty, George Strait, Alan Jackson, and Garth Brooks. In a masterful biography laden with new revelations, veteran country music journalist/historian Rich Kienzle offers a definitive, full-bodied portrait of legendary country singer George Jones and the music that remains his legacy. Kienzle meticulously sifted through archival material, government records, recollections by colleagues and admirers, interviewing many involved in Jones's life and career. The result: an evocative portrait of this enormously gifted, tragically tormented icon called the Keith Richards of country. Kienzle chronicles Jones's impoverished East Texas childhood as the youngest son of a deeply religious mother and alcoholic, often-abusive father. He examines his three troubled marriages including his union with superstar Tammy Wynette and looks unsparingly at Jones's demons. Alcohol and later cocaine nearly killed him until fourth wife Nancy helped him learn to love himself. Kienzle also details Jones's remarkable musical journey from singing in violent Texas honky tonks to Grand Ole Opry star, hitmaker and master vocalist whose raw, emotionally powerful delivery remains the Gold Standard for country singers. The George Jones of this heartfelt biography lived hard before finding contentment until he died at eighty-one—a story filled with whiskey, women and drugs but always the saving grace of music. Illustrated with eight pages of photos.

**the grand tour george jones:** *George Jones* Bob Allen, 2023-10-03 George Jones's nearly 60-year recording and performing career has had a profound influence on modern country music and influenced a younger generation of singers, including Garth Brooks, Alan Jackson, Randy Travis, Tim McGraw, and Trace Adkins. As Merle Haggard said of Jones in Rolling Stone magazine, "His voice was like a Stradivarius violin: one of the greatest instruments ever made." Jones's saga is a larger-than-life tale of rags to riches and back to rags again. He was born into near poverty in a backwater patch of East Texas. His formal education ended early; by his early teens, he was singing on the streets of Beaumont, Texas, for tips. After beginning to record in the mid-1950s Jones became, by sheer dint of his vocal prowess, one of Nashville's most celebrated honky-tonk singers. But from the start, Jones's life, as often reflected in his music, was shaped by misdirection, chaos, turmoil, and emotional strife aggravated by a ferocious appetite for alcohol. Fame and adulation seemed to merely intensify his personal travails. Jones's story has a relatively happy ending. With the help of fourth wife Nancy during the final decade and a half of his life, he got clean and sober, was feted as a much-revered elder statesman for the music, and, by most accounts, found peace of mind at long last.

**the grand tour george jones:** *1,000 Recordings to Hear Before You Die* Tom Moon, 2008-08-28 The musical adventure of a lifetime. The most exciting book on music in years. A book of treasure, a book of discovery, a book to open your ears to new worlds of pleasure. Doing for music what Patricia Schultz—author of the phenomenal 1,000 Places to See Before You Die—does for travel, Tom Moon recommends 1,000 recordings guaranteed to give listeners the joy, the mystery, the revelation, the sheer fun of great music. This is a book both broad and deep, drawing from the diverse worlds of classical, jazz, rock, pop, blues, country, folk, musicals, hip-hop, world, opera, soundtracks, and more. It's arranged alphabetically by artist to create the kind of unexpected



juxtapositions that break down genre bias and broaden listeners' horizons— it makes every listener a seeker, actively pursuing new artists and new sounds, and reconfirming the greatness of the classics. Flanking J. S. Bach and his six entries, for example, are the little-known R&B singer Baby Huey and the '80s Rastafarian hard-core punk band Bad Brains. Farther down the list: The Band, Samuel Barber, Cecelia Bartoli, Count Basie, and Afropop star Waldemer Bastos. Each entry is passionately written, with expert listening notes, fascinating anecdotes, and the occasional perfect quote—Your collection could be filled with nothing but music from Ray Charles, said Tom Waits, and you'd have a completely balanced diet. Every entry identifies key tracks, additional works by the artist, and where to go next. And in the back, indexes and playlists for different moods and occasions.

**the grand tour george jones:** *All Music Guide to Country* Michael Erlewine, 1997-06 Reviews and rates the best recordings of country artists and groups, provides biographies of the artists, and charts the evolution of country music

**the grand tour george jones:** *Redneck Liberation* David Fillingim, 2003 In this unique book, David Fillingim explores country music as a mode of theological expression. Following the lead of James Cone's classic, *The Spirituals and the Blues*, Fillingim looks to country music for themes of theological liberation by and for the redneck community. The introduction sets forth the book's methodology and relates it to recent scholarship on country music. Chapter 1 contrasts country music with Southern gospel music--the sacred music of the redneck community--as responses to the question of theodicy, which a number of thinkers recognize as the central question of marginalized groups. The next chapter *The Gospel according to Hank*, outlines the career of Hank Williams and follows that trajectory through the work of other artists whose work illustrates how the tradition negotiates Hank's legacy. *The Apocalypse according to Garth* considers the seismic shifts occurring during country music's popularity boom in the 1980s. Another chapter is dedicated to the women of country music, whose honky-tonky feminism parallels and intertwines with mainstream country music, which was dominated by men for most of its history. Written to entertain as well as educate and advance, *Redneck Liberation* will appeal to anyone who is interested in country music, Southern religion, American popular religiosity, or liberation theology.

**the grand tour george jones:** *Southern Comforts* Conor Picken, Matthew Dischinger, 2020-03-11 Moving beyond familiar myths about moonshiners, bootleggers, and hard-drinking writers, *Southern Comforts* explores how alcohol and drinking helped shape the literature and culture of the U.S. South. Edited by Conor Picken and Matthew Dischinger, this collection of seventeen thought-provoking essays proposes that discussions about drinking in southern culture often orbit around familiar figures and mythologies that obscure what alcohol consumption has meant over time. Complexities of race, class, and gender remain hidden amid familiar images, catchy slogans, and convenient stories. As the first collection of scholarship that investigates the relationship between drinking and the South, *Southern Comforts* challenges popular assumptions by examining evocative topics drawn from literature, music, film, city life, and cocktail culture. Taken together, the essays collected here illustrate that exaggerated representations of drinking oversimplify the South's relationship to alcohol, in effect absorbing it into narratives of southern exceptionalism that persist to this day. From Edgar Allan Poe to Richard Wright, Bessie Smith to Johnny Cash, Bourbon Street tourism to post-Katrina disaster capitalism and more, *Southern Comforts: Drinking and the U.S. South* uncovers the reciprocal relationship between mythologies of drinking and mythologies of region.

**the grand tour george jones:** *Cocaine and Rhinestones* Tyler Mahan Coe, 2024-09-03 From the creator of the acclaimed country music history podcast *Cocaine & Rhinestones*, comes the epic American saga of country music's legendary royal couple—George Jones and Tammy Wynette. By the early 1960s nearly everybody paying attention to country music agreed that George Jones was the greatest country singer of all time. After taking honky-tonk rockers like “White Lightning” all the way up the country charts, he revealed himself to be an unmatched virtuoso on “She Thinks I Still Care,” thus cementing his status as a living legend. That’s where the trouble started. Only at this

new level of fame did Jones realize he suffered from extreme stage fright. His method of dealing with that involved great quantities of alcohol, which his audience soon discovered as Jones more often than not showed up to concerts falling-down drunk or failed to show up at all. But the fans always forgave him because he just kept singing so damn good. Then he got married to Tammy Wynette right around the time she became one of the most famous women alive with the release of "Stand by Your Man." Tammy Wynette grew up believing George Jones was the greatest country singer of all time. After deciding to become a country singer herself, she went to Nashville, got a record deal, then met and married her hero. With the pop crossover success of "Stand by Your Man" (and the international political drama surrounding the song's lyrics) came a gigantic audience, who were sold a fairy tale image of a couple soon being called The King and Queen of Country Music. Many fans still believe that fairy tale today. The behind-the-scenes truth is very different from the images shown on album covers. Illustrated throughout by singular artist Wayne White, *Cocaine & Rhinestones* is an unprecedented look at the lives of two indelible country icons, reframing their careers within country music as well as modern history itself.

**the grand tour george jones:** *The Encyclopedia of Country Music* Michael McCall, John Rumble, Paul Kingsbury, 2012-02-01 Immediately upon publication in 1998, the Encyclopedia of Country Music became a much-loved reference source, prized for the wealth of information it contained on that most American of musical genres. Countless fans have used it as the source for answers to questions about everything from country's first commercially successful recording, to the genre's pioneering music videos, to what conjunto music is. This thoroughly revised new edition includes more than 1,200 A-Z entries covering nine decades of history and artistry, from the Carter Family recordings of the 1920s to the reign of Taylor Swift in the first decade of the twenty-first century. Compiled by a team of experts at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, the encyclopedia has been brought completely up-to-date, with new entries on the artists who have profoundly influenced country music in recent years, such as the Dixie Chicks and Keith Urban. The new edition also explores the latest and most critical trends within the industry, shedding light on such topics as the digital revolution, the shifting politics of country music, and the impact of American Idol (reflected in the stardom of Carrie Underwood). Other essays cover the literature of country music, the importance of Nashville as a music center, and the colorful outfits that have long been a staple of the genre. The volume features hundreds of images, including a photo essay of album covers; a foreword by country music superstar Vince Gill (the winner of twenty Grammy Awards); and twelve fascinating appendices, ranging from lists of awards to the best-selling country albums of all time. Winner of the Best Reference Award from the Popular Culture Association Any serious country music fan will treasure this authoritative book. --The Seattle Times A long-awaited, major accomplishment, which educators, historians and students, broadcasters and music writers, artists and fans alike, will welcome and enjoy. --The Nashville Musician Should prove a valuable resource to those who work in the country music business. But it's also an entertaining read for the music's true fans. --Houston Chronicle This big, handsome volume spans the history of country music, listing not only artists and groups but also important individuals and institutions. --San Francisco Examiner Promises to be the definitive historical and biographical work on the past eight decades of country music. Well written and heavily illustrated an unparalleled work, worth its price and highly recommended. --Library Journal

**the grand tour george jones: Buddy Emmons** Steve Fishell, 2022-09-06 A No Depression Most Memorable Music Book of 2022 The acknowledged maestro of the pedal steel guitar, Buddy Emmons lent his unparalleled virtuosity to over five decades of hit recordings and set standards that remain the benchmark for musicians today. Steve Fishell's merger of biography and memoir draws extensively on in-depth interviews with Emmons and the artist's autobiographical writings. Emmons went from playing strip clubs to a Grand Ole Opry debut with Little Jimmy Dickens at age 18. His restless experimentation led to work with Ernest Tubbs and Ray Price--and established him in a career that saw him play alongside a who's who of American music. Fishell weaves in stories and anecdotes from Willie Nelson, Brenda Lee, Linda Ronstadt, Pat Martino, and many others to provide

a fascinating musical and personal portrait of an innovator whose peerless playing and countless recordings recognized no boundaries. A one-of-a-kind life story, Buddy Emmons expands our view of a groundbreaking artist and his impact on country music, jazz, and beyond.

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**the grand tour george jones: Tammy Wynette** Jimmy McDonough, 2010-03-04 The first full-scale biography of the enduring first lady of country music The twentieth century had three great female singers who plumbed the darkest corners of their hearts and transformed private grief into public dramas. In opera, there was the unsurpassed Maria Callas. In jazz, the tormented Billie Holiday. And in country music, there was Tammy Wynette. Stand by Your Man, D-I-V-O-R-C-E, Take Me to Your World are but a few highlights of Tammy's staggering musical legacy, all sung with a voice that became the touchstone for women's vulnerability, disillusionment, strength, and endurance. In Tammy Wynette, bestselling biographer Jimmy McDonough tells the story of the small-town girl who grew up to be the woman behind the microphone, whose meteoric rise led to a decades-long career full of tragedy and triumph. Through a high-profile marriage and divorce, her dreadful battle with addiction and illness, and the struggle to compete in a rapidly evolving Nashville, Tammy turned a brave smile toward the world and churned out masterful hit songs though her life resembled the most heartbreaking among them. Tammy Wynette is an intimate portrait of a music icon, the Queen of Heartbreak, whose powerful voice simultaneously evoked universal pain and longing even as it belied her own.

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**the grand tour george jones: All Music Guide** Vladimir Bogdanov, Chris Woodstra, Stephen Thomas Erlewine, 2001-11 Arranged in sixteen musical categories, provides entries for twenty thousand releases from four thousand artists, and includes a history of each musical genre.

**the grand tour george jones: My Country Roots** Alice Randall, Carter Little, Courtney Little, 2006 Containing 100 recommended playlists for downloading, this book is the best and most unique way to explore the Country music genre in a modern easy, convenient way. Each playlist walks you through the history, culture, and relevance of Country music, revealing the authenticity and raw truth that represents Country.

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**the grand tour george jones: Encyclopedia of Great Popular Song Recordings** Steve Sullivan, 2013-10-04 From John Philip Sousa to Green Day, from Scott Joplin to Kanye West, from Stephen Foster to Coldplay, The Encyclopedia of Great Popular Song Recordings, Volumes 1 and 2 covers the vast scope of its subject with virtually unprecedented breadth and depth. Approximately 1,000 key song recordings from 1889 to the present are explored in full, unveiling the stories behind the songs, the recordings, the performers, and the songwriters. Beginning the journey in the era of

Victorian parlor balladry, brass bands, and ragtime with the advent of the record industry, readers witness the birth of the blues and the dawn of jazz in the 1910s and the emergence of country music on record and the shift from acoustic to electrical recording in the 1920s. The odyssey continues through the Swing Era of the 1930s; rhythm & blues, bluegrass, and bebop in the 1940s; the rock & roll revolution of the 1950s; modern soul, the British invasion, and the folk-rock movement of the 1960s; and finally into the modern era through the musical streams of disco, punk, grunge, hip-hop, and contemporary dance-pop. Sullivan, however, also takes critical detours by extending the coverage to genres neglected in pop music histories, from ethnic and world music, the gospel recording of both black and white artists, and lesser-known traditional folk tunes that reach back hundreds of years. This book is ideal for anyone who truly loves popular music in all of its glorious variety, and anyone wishing to learn more about the roots of virtually all the music we hear today. Popular music fans, as well as scholars of recording history and technology and students of the intersections between music and cultural history will all find this book to be informative and interesting.

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**Grand Definition & Meaning | YourDictionary** Grand definition: Of a haughty or pretentious nature

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**Grand Definition & Meaning | Britannica Dictionary** When they bought the house, they had grand [= big] plans for renovating it. Something that happens or is done on a grand scale involves a great amount of money, effort, space, people,

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