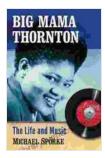
# Big Mama Thornton: The Life and Music of a Blues Legend

Big Mama Thornton was one of the most influential blues singers of all time. Her powerful voice and charismatic stage presence captivated audiences around the world. She was a pioneer in the genre, and her music has inspired generations of artists. This comprehensive and engaging biography tells the story of Thornton's rise from humble beginnings to her status as a global icon.



Big Mama Thornton: The Life and Music by Michael Spörke

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Language	: English	
File size	: 6814 KB	
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled	
Screen Reader	: Supported	
Enhanced typeset	ting : Enabled	
Word Wise	: Enabled	
Print length	: 200 pages	



### **Early Life and Career**

Willie Mae Thornton was born in Ariton, Alabama, on December 11, 1926. She was the daughter of sharecroppers, and she grew up singing in church. At the age of 14, she left home to pursue a career in music. She worked as a maid and a cook, and she performed in local clubs on the weekends. In 1948, she met Johnny Otis, a rhythm and blues singer and producer. Otis helped Thornton develop her sound and style, and he produced her first hit record, "Hound Dog." The song was a huge success, and it helped launch Thornton's career.

#### **Stardom and Success**

In the 1950s, Thornton toured extensively and recorded several hit songs, including "Ball 'n' Chain" and "The Thrill Is Gone." She became one of the most popular blues singers in the world, and she performed on television and radio shows. She also appeared in several films, including *Rock, Rock, Rock!* and *Let the Good Times Roll.* 

## Later Years and Legacy

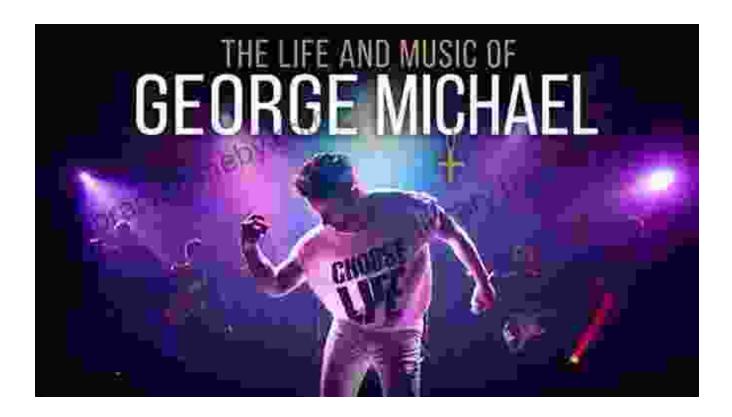
In the 1960s, Thornton's career began to decline. She struggled with personal problems, including alcoholism and drug addiction. She continued to perform and record, but she never regained the success she had achieved in the 1950s. Thornton died in Los Angeles on July 25, 1984. She was 57 years old.

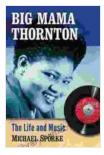
Big Mama Thornton was a true pioneer in the blues genre. She was a powerful singer and a charismatic performer, and she inspired generations of artists. Her music continues to be celebrated today, and she is considered one of the most influential blues singers of all time.

## **Big Mama Thornton: The Life and Music**

Big Mama Thornton: The Life and Music is the definitive biography of one of the most influential blues singers of all time. This comprehensive and engaging book tells the story of Thornton's rise from humble beginnings to her status as a global icon. Drawing on extensive research and interviews with Thornton's family, friends, and colleagues, Big Mama Thornton: The Life and Music is a must-read for fans of blues music and anyone interested in the life of a true musical pioneer.

Free Download your copy today!





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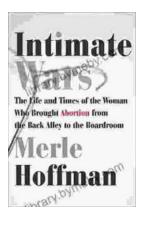
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