

petey wheatstraw the devils son in law

Petey Wheatstraw the Devil's Son-in-Law: A Deep Dive into the Blues Legend

petey wheatstraw the devils son in law is a phrase that immediately takes you back to the golden age of blues and the fascinating folklore that accompanies it. If you've ever been intrigued by the mystique of blues music, the story behind Petey Wheatstraw and his infamous title as "the Devil's Son-in-Law" is something that beckons exploration. This character is not just a fictional creation but a symbol of a rich cultural tapestry woven with themes of deals with the devil, supernatural prowess, and the raw emotion that defines the blues genre.

Who Was Petey Wheatstraw?

Petey Wheatstraw was a stage persona created by Roosevelt Sykes, a renowned blues pianist and singer. However, the name and character gained their own identity largely through the 1940s recordings by singer and pianist Robert "Ragtime Texas" Thomas, who popularized Petey Wheatstraw in a series of songs that blended humor, bravado, and devilish folklore. The persona embodied a larger-than-life figure—confident, cunning, and seemingly empowered by a pact with the devil.

The Origin of "The Devil's Son-in-Law" Moniker

The nickname "the Devil's Son-in-Law" comes from the lore surrounding Petey Wheatstraw's character. In blues tradition, the concept of making a deal with the devil at the crossroads for talent or fortune is a recurring theme. Petey Wheatstraw took this narrative a step further by claiming familial ties to the devil himself, positioning himself as the son-in-law. This imaginative twist added a layer of supernatural flair to his music and persona, making him an iconic figure within the genre.

This title wasn't just for show—it served as a clever marketing tool and a storytelling device that allowed Petey Wheatstraw's music to stand out in a crowded field of blues musicians. The devilish association gave his tracks a memorable edge, combining dark humor with the struggles and triumphs of African American life in the early 20th century.

The Music and Style of Petey Wheatstraw

Petey Wheatstraw's songs often featured a mix of upbeat rhythms and witty, sometimes risqué lyrics. The musical style was deeply rooted in traditional blues, but it also incorporated elements of jazz and boogie-woogie, making the sound lively and engaging. His recordings from the late 1930s to the early 1940s show a unique blend of storytelling and musicianship that resonated with audiences looking for both entertainment and authenticity.

Some of the most famous tracks include:

- "The Devil's Son-in-Law"
- "Petey Wheatstraw's Blues"
- "I'm the Devil's Son-in-Law"
- "Petey Wheatstraw's Last Will and Testament"

Each song tells a story that ranges from humorous boasts to reflections on life's hardships, all underpinned by the devilish motif that defines the character.

Understanding the Cultural Significance

Petey Wheatstraw the devil's son in law is more than just a catchy nickname—it's a reflection of the African American experience during a time when blues music was a vital outlet for expression. The devil motif can be interpreted in many ways: as a symbol of rebellion against societal norms, a metaphor for personal struggle, or even a representation of the duality between sin and salvation.

The character also fits into a broader tradition of "deal with the devil" stories found in folklore around the world, especially the American South. These narratives often explore themes of ambition, temptation, and consequence, which resonate deeply with listeners who understood the real-life challenges behind the music.

How Petey Wheatstraw Influenced Modern Music

The legacy of Petey Wheatstraw the devil's son in law extends beyond the blues. His influence can be seen in later musical genres such as rock 'n' roll, rhythm and blues, and even hip-hop, where storytelling and persona-building remain crucial elements.

Artists like Robert Johnson, who famously sang about making a deal with the devil at the crossroads, share thematic similarities with Petey Wheatstraw. Meanwhile, modern musicians who adopt alter egos or mythic personas owe a debt to pioneers like Petey Wheatstraw for demonstrating how storytelling and image can amplify music's impact.

Tips for Exploring Petey Wheatstraw's Music Today

If you're new to Petey Wheatstraw the devil's son in law or the blues in general, here are some ways to dive deeper into this fascinating slice of musical history:

1. ****Listen to Original Recordings****: Seek out compilations of Petey Wheatstraw's songs from the late 1930s and early 1940s. Many are available through blues archives, streaming platforms, and specialty record collections.
2. ****Read Blues History Books****: Books that cover the history of blues music often discuss Petey Wheatstraw and his contemporaries. This will give you context about the era and the social conditions that shaped the music.

3. ****Watch Documentaries****: Visual documentaries on blues history can bring Petey Wheatstraw's story and the larger cultural backdrop to life.
4. ****Explore Related Artists****: Listen to other musicians who used devil imagery or storytelling in their work, such as Robert Johnson, Tommy Johnson, and later blues revival artists.
5. ****Attend Blues Festivals****: Many festivals celebrate the roots of blues music and often feature performances inspired by or covering songs from the era of Petey Wheatstraw.

The Enduring Mystique of the Devil's Son-in-Law

What makes Petey Wheatstraw the devil's son in law stand out is the perfect storm of vibrant storytelling, musical talent, and the cultural weight of the blues tradition. His persona embodies the spirit of resilience and wit, often using humor to confront darker themes. The devilish angle adds a layer of theatricality that keeps his legend alive in the collective memory of blues enthusiasts.

Exploring Petey Wheatstraw's music is like stepping into a world where myth and reality blend seamlessly, providing not only entertainment but also insight into a pivotal chapter in American music history. Whether you're a die-hard blues fan or a curious newcomer, the tale of the devil's son-in-law offers a compelling journey through sound, story, and culture.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Petey Wheatstraw in the film 'Petey Wheatstraw: The Devil's Son-in-Law'?

Petey Wheatstraw is the main character in the film, portrayed as a humorous and charismatic figure who makes a deal with the devil and becomes known as the Devil's Son-in-Law.

What is the plot of 'Petey Wheatstraw: The Devil's Son-in-Law'?

The film follows Petey Wheatstraw, a nightclub comedian who is killed and then makes a pact with the devil to get revenge on those who wronged him, gaining supernatural powers in the process.

When was 'Petey Wheatstraw: The Devil's Son-in-Law' released?

The movie was released in 1977.

Who directed 'Petey Wheatstraw: The Devil's Son-in-Law'?

The film was directed by Cliff Roquemore.

What genre does 'Petey Wheatstraw: The Devil's Son-in-Law' belong to?

It is a blaxploitation comedy film with elements of fantasy and horror.

Why is 'Petey Wheatstraw: The Devil's Son-in-Law' considered a cult classic?

The film is considered a cult classic due to its unique blend of comedy, supernatural elements, and blaxploitation style, as well as its memorable performances and quotable dialogue.

What role does the devil play in 'Petey Wheatstraw: The Devil's Son-in-Law'?

The devil enters into a pact with Petey Wheatstraw, granting him powers in exchange for certain conditions, making Petey the devil's son-in-law through this supernatural agreement.

How does humor influence the story of 'Petey Wheatstraw: The Devil's Son-in-Law'?

Humor is central to the film, with Petey Wheatstraw's witty and comedic personality driving much of the narrative and providing a lighthearted take on the supernatural themes.

Has 'Petey Wheatstraw: The Devil's Son-in-Law' influenced modern pop culture or music?

Yes, the character Petey Wheatstraw and the film have been referenced and sampled in various hip-hop songs and other media, highlighting its lasting impact on pop culture.

Additional Resources

Petey Wheatstraw The Devil's Son-in-Law: An In-Depth Exploration of a Cult Blaxploitation Classic

petey wheatstraw the devils son in law stands as a fascinating artifact within the realm of 1970s blaxploitation cinema, blending supernatural elements with the archetypal revenge narrative. This 1978 film, directed by and starring the multi-talented Rudy Ray Moore, encapsulates a unique fusion of comedy, horror, and urban folklore that has captivated cult audiences for decades. To understand its enduring appeal and cultural

significance, it is essential to analyze the thematic content, production context, and stylistic devices that define *Petey Wheatstraw The Devil's Son-in-Law*.

Context and Origins of Petey Wheatstraw The Devil's Son-in-Law

Emerging during the height of the blaxploitation era—a period marked by African American filmmakers creating movies that centered on Black protagonists and urban culture—*Petey Wheatstraw The Devil's Son-in-Law* stands apart due to its supernatural premise. Unlike more straightforward crime dramas or action films of its genre, this movie incorporates elements of fantasy and folklore, which adds layers of complexity to its storytelling.

Rudy Ray Moore, renowned for his comedic prowess and larger-than-life stage persona, crafted the character Petey Wheatstraw as a hustler and ladies' man whose life takes a supernatural turn after making a pact with the devil. This narrative device is reminiscent of classic Faustian bargains and African American folk tales involving trickster figures and moral lessons. The film's mixture of dark humor and moral allegory reflects the era's experimental approach in blaxploitation cinema, pushing genre boundaries beyond conventional storytelling.

Plot Overview and Thematic Exploration

Petey Wheatstraw The Devil's Son-in-Law chronicles the story of Petey Wheatstraw, a nightclub comedian and con man who is betrayed and murdered by his rivals. In the afterlife, he strikes a deal with the devil himself, gaining supernatural powers and a second chance to avenge his death. However, this bargain comes with a twist: Petey must marry the devil's daughter, setting up a narrative that explores themes of loyalty, power, and identity.

The Faustian Bargain and Its Cultural Resonance

The motif of making a pact with the devil has deep roots in global folklore, but *Petey Wheatstraw The Devil's Son-in-Law* uniquely contextualizes this within African American cultural narratives. The film cleverly appropriates the Faustian bargain to symbolize the complex relationship between ambition and morality, particularly in the context of systemic oppression faced by Black communities. This allegorical framework allows the audience to engage with issues of empowerment and consequence through the lens of supernatural drama.

Blaxploitation and Genre Hybridization

While firmly situated in the blaxploitation tradition, the film distinguishes itself by

integrating horror and supernatural fantasy, a relatively rare combination at the time. This hybridization contributes to its cult status, appealing to fans of multiple genres. The use of dark comedy, coupled with exaggerated characters and stylized dialogue, creates an atmosphere that oscillates between the eerie and the absurd, reinforcing the film's unique tone.

Production and Cinematic Techniques

The production of *Petey Wheatstraw The Devil's Son-in-Law* reflects the low-budget, independent filmmaking ethos typical of blaxploitation films. Operating with limited resources, Rudy Ray Moore not only starred in the film but also directed and co-produced it, showcasing his multifaceted talent and dedication to the project.

Visual Style and Set Design

Despite budget constraints, the film employs vivid set designs and costuming to evoke a supernatural ambiance. The devil's realm and the earthly settings are contrasted through lighting and color schemes that underscore the film's thematic dichotomies. The use of practical effects and makeup, while modest by contemporary standards, effectively convey the film's otherworldly motifs.

Performance and Characterization

Rudy Ray Moore's portrayal of Petey Wheatstraw is central to the film's appeal. His charismatic performance combines sharp wit, brash confidence, and a distinctive comedic style that resonates with audiences. Supporting characters, including the devil's daughter and Petey's antagonists, are intentionally exaggerated to enhance the film's mythic quality and inject humor into the narrative.

Legacy and Impact on Popular Culture

Petey Wheatstraw The Devil's Son-in-Law has garnered a cult following over the decades, influencing subsequent filmmakers and musicians who draw inspiration from its unique blend of supernatural storytelling and urban vernacular. Its impact extends beyond cinema, permeating hip-hop culture and comedy, where Rudy Ray Moore's persona and catchphrases have been sampled and referenced extensively.

Influence on Music and Comedy

The character of Petey Wheatstraw and the film's dialogue have inspired numerous hip-hop artists, who often cite Rudy Ray Moore as a foundational figure in their artistic

development. The film's blend of humor and supernatural bravado has informed the styles of comedians and performers exploring themes of identity, resistance, and empowerment within African American communities.

Comparative Analysis with Other Blaxploitation Films

When compared to contemporaries such as *Shaft* or *Super Fly*, *Petey Wheatstraw The Devil's Son-in-Law* occupies a niche within the genre. Its supernatural elements and comedic tone differentiate it from the predominantly crime-focused narratives common in blaxploitation. This divergence has allowed it to maintain relevance and intrigue among niche audiences, preserving its status as a cult classic.

Pros and Cons of Petey Wheatstraw The Devil's Son-in-Law in Modern Viewership

- **Pros:** Unique genre fusion; charismatic lead performance; culturally significant themes; cult classic status.
- **Cons:** Low production values; dated special effects; uneven pacing; niche appeal limiting mainstream accessibility.

These factors contribute to the film's polarizing reception but also underscore its importance as a cultural artifact. For enthusiasts of blaxploitation and cult cinema, *Petey Wheatstraw The Devil's Son-in-Law* offers an invaluable glimpse into a creative and experimental period of African American filmmaking.

The enduring fascination with *Petey Wheatstraw The Devil's Son-in-Law* highlights the film's ability to transcend its origins. It continues to serve as a touchstone for discussions about genre innovation, cultural expression, and the intersection of folklore and urban storytelling in American cinema. As such, it remains a significant subject of study and appreciation for film scholars, fans, and creatives alike.

[Petey Wheatstraw The Devils Son In Law](#)

petey wheatstraw the devils son in law: *The Devil's Son-in-law* Paul Garon, 2003 Peetie Wheatstraw (1902 - 1941) was the name adopted by blues singer William Bunch. In the 1930s, he was a popular singer, guitarist and also had an idiosyncratic piano style. He was one of the most recorded blues singers and accompanists with a total of 161 recorded songs. His strength was not so much his instrumental ability, but his singing and lyrics, which dealt with topics such as alcohol, loose women, supernaturalism, gambling, suicide and murder.

petey wheatstraw the devils son in law: The Devil on Screen Charles P. Mitchell,

2015-06-08 The Devil has been represented in many film genres, including horror, comedy, the musical, fantasy, satire, drama, and the religious epic, and in these works has assumed many shapes and forms. This book begins with a discussion of how the devil has been portrayed on stage, how that portrayal carried over to the big screen, and what are the standard elements of a satanic plot. Each entry in the filmography includes year of production, running time, writer, editor, cinematographer, producer, and director, evaluative rating, annotated cast list, plot synopsis, overall appraisal, and a spotlight on the actor playing Satan.

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petey wheatstraw the devils son in law: Spinegrinder Clive Davies, 2015-03-06 First came video and more recently high definition home entertainment, through to the internet with its streaming videos and not strictly legal peer-to-peer capabilities. With so many sources available, today's fan of horror and exploitation movies isn't necessarily educated on paths well-trodden — Universal classics, 1950s monster movies, Hammer — as once they were. They may not even be born and bred on *DAWN OF THE DEAD*. In fact, anyone with a bit of technical savvy (quickly becoming second nature for the born-clicking generation) may be viewing *MYSTICS IN BALI* and *S.S. EXPERIMENT CAMP* long before ever hearing of Bela Lugosi or watching a movie directed by Dario Argento. In this world, H.G. Lewis, so-called "godfather of gore," carries the same stripes as Alfred Hitchcock, "master of suspense." *SPINEGRINDER* is one man's ambitious, exhaustive and utterly

obsessive attempt to make sense of over a century of exploitation and cult cinema, of a sort that most critics won't care to write about. One opinion; 8,000 reviews (or thereabouts).

petey wheatstraw the devils son in law: E. C.'S Finest Fat Mack, 2016-03-19 In the early 70s in Cleveland, Ohio, I was told that suburbs were beautiful where the high societies and rich folks had lived, such as Shaker Heights, Garfield Heights, Warrensville Heights, and others. But mostly white citizens of these communities had kept their lawns and home up to par like they were in a contest to see whose yards and gardens were the prettiest. And the heights police had made sure that these places had stayed this way by keeping lower-standard living people and crooks out, making sure that their communities where they lived stayed colorless. You may have seen a few blacks here and there in Shaker Heights or any of the heights, but you best believe that they were either lawyers, doctors, or professionals with degrees; most of these blacks probably had a white spouse who had produced mixed children.

petey wheatstraw the devils son in law: [Catalog of Copyright Entries](#) , 1936

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of criminal self-representation from the Harlem Renaissance to contemporary gangsta culture. In this lively exploration, Jonathan Munby takes a uniquely broad view, laying bare the way the criminal appears within and moves among literary, musical, and visual arts. Munby traces the legacy of badness in Rudolph Fisher and Chester Himes's detective fiction and in Claude McKay, Julian Mayfield, and Donald Goines's urban experience writing. Ranging from Peetie Wheatstraw's gangster blues to gangsta rap, he also examines criminals in popular songs. Turning to the screen, the underworld films of Oscar Micheaux and Ralph Cooper, the 1970s blaxploitation cycle, and the 1990s hood movie come under his microscope as well. Ultimately, Munby concludes that this tradition has been a misunderstood aspect of African American civic life and that, rather than undermining black culture, it forms a rich and enduring response to being outcast in America.

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and hundreds more were injured due to white retaliation and wild celebrations in the streets. Public screenings received instantaneous protests and hundreds of cities barred the film from being shown. Congress even passed a law making it a federal offense to transport moving pictures of prizefights across state lines, and thus the most powerful portrayal of a black man ever recorded on film was made virtually invisible. This is but one of the hundreds of films covered in *The A to Z of African American Cinema*, which includes everything from *The Birth of a Nation* to *Crash*. In addition to the films, brief biographies of African American actors and actresses such as Sidney Poitier, James Earl Jones, Halle Berry, Eddie Murphy, Whoopi Goldberg, Denzel Washington, and Jamie Foxx can be found in this reference. Through a chronology, a list of acronyms and abbreviations, an introductory essay, a bibliography, appendixes, black-&-white photos, and hundreds of cross-referenced dictionary entries on actors, actresses, movies, producers, organizations, awards, film credits, and terminology, this book provides a better understanding of the role African Americans played in film history.

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Discover and stream a wide selection of movies and TV shows on MyFlixbster

Buy ID with PHP - ID to PHP Calculator | Binance How to Buy Crypto 1. Enter Amount & Select Payment Enter the amount, select the available payment method, and choose the payment account or bind the payment card

WB Digital Code Redemption - Warner Bros. How do I redeem my WB Digital Code? What if the Digital Code insert is missing or blank? My code won't work / My code is not recognized What if I'm getting an error that my Digital Code

How to Redeem (US and Canada) - The UV Collector However if you purchase a UV Canadian code and live in the US it can still be redeemed but you will need to have use a proxy server to redeem the code but it will be put into your UV locker

Here is a first look at my A3 - K J Bruce Photography | Facebook Here is a first look at my A3 Scene's of Fife calendar £12 with free local delivery £6.50 postage anywhere else in the UK. These will also be available to purchase locally, update to follow.

Flixster 2025 Company Profile: Valuation, Investors, Acquisition Information on acquisition, funding, cap tables, investors, and executives for Flixster. Use the PitchBook Platform to explore the full profile

Heads Up: For anyone with a flixbster digital library, the - Reddit So my question is if you had Flixbster and were connected to a UV account: Did Flixbster have shows or movies that you could buy that were NOT UV compatible? For example

Flixster Promo Code & Coupon - 20% OFF - September 2025 Use code "UVMTRX5" to enjoy hand-tested Flixster Coupon to save up to 20% OFF. Use 10 active codes & deals for 20% off, 10% off, free trial and more today! Verified

CARD AND YOUR PICTURE ID If you elect to pick up your tickets at the theater, or for Concessions, certain theaters may

Flixtor - Stream Your Favorite Movies Online in HD, Absolutely Free! Flixtor is a free streaming site with minimal ads, allowing you to watch movies and TV shows online without registration or fees. With thousands of titles available in HD and 4K, Flixtor lets

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Flixster Digital Copy - Mga App sa Google Play Sa Flixster Video, ang iyong mga digital na koleksyon ng pelikula ay laging sa iyo. I-stream at I-download full-length na pelikula at palabas sa TV sa iyong Android device

Flixster for Android - Download the APK from Uptodown Flixster is an application aimed exclusively at film lovers, who'll easily get access to all the latest information on premiers, new DVDs, and the latest news related to the world of

Flixster Digital Copy - Appar på Google Play Med Flixster Video, är din digitala filmsamling alltid med dig. Stream och Ladda ned hela långfilmer och tv-program på din Android-enheter Uppdaterades den 26 juni 2018 Underhållning

Flixster - Showtimes + Tickets by Flixster, Inc. Flixster helps you find them all by using your geolocation data and pulling up all nearby theaters within your vicinity. Everything is sorted and grouped by distance, so it's super

visual studio - Web Developer Tools option must be installed I have a similar problem in Visual Studio 2015. I uninstalled it a couple of months back, and now after doing a full reinstall, with Web Developer Tools enabled, I cannot create

Visual Studio thinks `Microsoft Web Developer Tools` is installed 18 Symptoms Visual Studio syntax highlighter and Intellisense for Javascript and Razor views are not working. There is no Web templates installed when creating a new project. When I try to

"Open webview developer tools" not working in VS Code 1.56+? 2 I'm developing a VS Code extension that uses a webview. Previously I could inspect and debug my webview using the Developer: Open webview developer tools

How to force Chrome browser to reload .css file while debugging I'm currently editing a .css file inside of Visual Studio 2012 (in debug mode). I'm using Chrome as my browser. When I make changes to my application's .css file inside of

How to enable Web Development feature in Visual Studio 2015? Given the situation, the issue is most probably that the relevant modules for Web Development weren't installed when Visual Studio was installed. Those modules are not

How do I install the Visual Web Developer feature for Visual Studio Run the Visual Studio installer and double check the installed components. Make sure Web Developer is enabled (Web Developer should be part of the standard installation for

c# - What is the difference between "Microsoft Office Developer The Office developer tools provide features that help you create Office solutions to suit a variety of business needs. The tools include project templates to help you create Office solutions by

Cannot install silverlight 4 tools on visual studio 2010 sp1 "Visual Studio 2010 or Visual Web Developer Express 2010 or Visual Phone Developer Express 2010 that matches the language version of Silverlight Tools 4 must be

How to set Edge or Chrome to open with DevTools already 4 So I do quite a bit of web development using Visual Studio, therefore my web app will launch using Edge each time I am debugging, but I still have to manually open the

Can I use the VS Code Edge Dev Tools with a URL and - Stack Yes, you can open a custom URL with VS Code Edge DevTools. First, you need to install the DevTools extension for VS Code following this guide: Installing the DevTools

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