

Antique or Junque: Elvis album houses colossal hits, not bucks

by Anne McCollam

Q: I have an old Elvis Presley 45 RPM record that I purchased in the 1950s. Enclosed is a photo of the paper record cover. One side of the record is the song "Jailhouse Rock" and the flip side is "Treat Me Nice." The corner of the cover is damaged but the record is in very good condition.

KING LIVES ON - Elvis Presley collectibles, such as this 'Jailhouse Rock' album are very desirable. This 1957 record would probably be worth \$20 to \$25. CNS Photo. ROYAL DOULTON MARK - The Royal Doulton company of Staffordshire, England, has made earthenware, stoneware and porcelain since 1853. CNS Illustration. What can you tell me about my record?

A: Your record was released on Sept. 24, 1957 to coordinate with the opening of Elvis Presley's motion picture "Jailhouse Rock." Both sides of the record were colossal hits and remained on the charts for weeks. Over the past five decades "Jailhouse Rock" has been recorded by more than a few artists from ABBA to ZZ Top.

Your record would probably be worth \$20 to \$25.

Q: This mark is on the bottom of a pitcher that has been in my husband's family for years. The pitcher stands 8 inches tall and is in excellent condition. It is decorated with men wearing long cloaks and some are carrying lanterns. On one side are the words "1st Watch - This Man - Sir - Said That Don John - the Prince's Brother - Was a Villain." Also on the inside of the top are the words "Doc Berry's Watch."

Anything you can tell me about it and its value will be appreciated.

A: You have an example of the Night Watchman series that was made by Royal Doulton in Staffordshire, England. They have produced earthenware, stoneware, and porcelain since 1853. The series was introduced in

1901 and depicted scenes of night watch men on duty.

Your pitcher was made around 1901 and would probably be worth \$225 to \$325.

Q: I inherited a gravy boat from my paternal grandfather. He came to this country from Italy in the early 1900s with his bride from France. I don't know if they brought it with them or bought it in the U.S. The dish is oval, has an attached plate, and is decorated with purple flowers and birds against a cream background. Marked on the bottom are the words "Bristol - Crown Ducal - England - Rd. No. 762055."

Anything you can tell me will be much appreciated.

A: A. G. Richardson and Co. made your gravy boat and "Bristol" is the name of the pattern. "Rd. No. 762055" shows the design was registered with the British government in 1931. Richardson and Co. has made Crown Ducal earthenware in Staffordshire, England, since 1915.

Most pieces that were marked with the country of origin were made for export. That said, your grandparents very likely purchased the dish after they arrived in the United States. Its value is probably priceless to you, but would sell in antiques shops in the range of \$50 to \$75.

BOOK REVIEW

"Kovels' American Collectibles 1900-2000" by Ralph and Terry Kovel is the ultimate guide to 20th century American collectibles. If you have ever wondered how technology impacted furniture construction methods, how lifestyle changes led to new designs for household furnishings and serving dishes, why manufacturers began making plates without rims, and about the evolution of industrial designers, the Kovels have all the

answers.

This guide is packed with information on factory and artist marks, jewelry, silver, kitchenware, pottery, glass, toys, and includes hundreds of color photos.

Seasoned or beginner collectors, as well as historians, will find this resource to be not only informative, but also fascinating and hard to put down. It's a classic!

It is published by Random House and available in bookstores for \$28.

Address your questions to Anne McCollam, P.O. Box 247, Notre Dame, IN 46556. Items of a general interest will be answered in this column. Due to the volume of inquiries, she cannot answer individual letters.

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