



Parr, Charlie
Rooming House

Cat-Ref.	SFW40274
Barcode	093074027424
Release date	16.10.2026
Label	Smithsonian Folkways (LC-09628)
Style	World Music / USA / Folk

“These folks here, in this record, have no idea what’s wrong. Or how to help. They are sick with the longing to make everything better. And they can’t. Tiny things are important. This house could be anywhere. These things could happen to anyone.” With this reflection, Charlie Parr introduces the characters of Rooming House, a conceptual folk opera that chronicles the lives of Upper Midwesterners through his quietly raucous, deeply rooted, and empathetic blues. These are songs of lost memories and hardship, but also of the improvised acts of kindness that help neighbors make do. Joined by celebrated drummer and fellow Minnesotan Dave King (The Bad Plus, Happy Apple), Parr cements his role as one of the great troubadours of our time with an album that becomes its own small yet profound offering of care.

- “A gritty blend of Delta blues and Depressionera roots music soaked in his hardscrabble voice. It’s a sacred realm of folk wisdom and sorrowful vulnerability.” — Rolling Stone
- “Expertly-picked resonator guitar and lyrics that puncture the soul” — NPR
- “Arguably America’s finest living troubadour.” — Songlines (UK)

Band member

Charlie Parr	guitars and vocals
Dave King	drums
Jacqueline Ultan	cello

Producer

Charlie Parr

Mixer

Tom Herbers

aufnahmestudio

Creation Audio in
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Mastering

Rare Form Mastering,
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Cover Artwork

Danny Duffy

Tracklist

1.	Duluth 1964 M: Charlie Parr	07:32
2.	Rooming House M: Charlie Parr	04:24
3.	Mother Sara M: Charlie Parr	03:44
4.	(what's so funny about) Universal Healthcare M: Charlie Parr	03:25
5.	Bank Robber M: Charlie Parr	04:16
6.	Duluth 2026 M: Charlie Parr	02:55
7.	Lilliput Park M: Charlie Parr	08:44