

## 2013 Rolls -Royce Series II saloon

### Driving A Real Dream Car... Died and Gone to Heaven

by Bob Kocher

A few days ago while attending the annual M.A.M.A. Spring Rally at Road America near Elkhart Lake WI, I was privileged to drive one the truly great "Dream Cars" of the world on a local road. It was the 2013 Rolls-Royce Phantom Series II saloon.

When I requested the drive, I was thinking I would need to sign over my firstborn to cover the cost if something went wrong. But the gentleman from Rolls said I needn't do that and only asked me to drive carefully and to be sure to buckle up. Wow, I was starting to wonder if the hot sun was getting to the man!



Before I tell you about the car, I want to tell you about the dream... Yes I dream I had died and gone to heaven as I waited for a few minutes before I slid into the luxury driver's seat.

I was driving the Rolls-Royce up to the very large, dazzling Pearly White Gates and a distinguished golden haired man in a white tux approached the Rolls-Royce--Saint Peter, I assume.

As I rolled down the window, he said, " I am sorry to inform you, sir, but our parking lot for Luxury Sedans is full right now. He went on, "In years past the lot contained mostly Cadillac's and a handful of Rolls-Royces like yours, but times have changed."

“With Cadillac changing its direction to build high-end performance and race cars, the Chrysler 300s have taken over the luxury sedan market. And they have been selling many, many of them and, you guessed it, our parking lot is busting at the seams with the 300s and there is no room for another great luxury sedan like your Rolls-Royce Phantom.”

Well, I awoke, a little in the fog, cleared my head and began my real Rolls-Royce drive. And not surprising it's all and more than I thought it would be. Never have I enjoyed such comfort while driving. Quiet is an understatement. While royalty has enjoyed the comfort of the cars Rolls-Royce builds, I believe that even the Hatfields and the McCoys would have lived in peace forever if they had been driving Rolls-Royce cars to get around in. The car is humbling while exuding pure elegance.

Did I mention the ease of driving this roomy saloon, so much room you need a guide dog to find your kids if they are along for the trip. And to say it again, driving is like a dream, for real!

Performance is just awesome and a bit refreshing for such a giant of a sedan. Yes, it drives and handles like a top-end dream sedan should--luxury in every touch. It doesn't get any better. A true example of what every sedan built should use as a benchmark. Nice job, Rolls-Royce.

The price on my test-drive Rolls-Royce came in at just \$398,970. Not many add-ons needed.

Leather is real natural grain and beautiful. The dash, high gloss black, was inlaid with stainless steel stripes and fitted with classic instrumentation and white dials. There was even a humidifier in the glovebox. There was much more in luxury than I can even list!

Fully polished 21' eleven spoke wheels are used to roll down the road, and roll it will from the power of it's 453 bhp V 12. How about zero to 60 in 5.7 sec and on to 100 mph in .2 sec. more. Wow! Top speed on this just under three-ton saloon is a mere 149 mph.

Yes, I know not many can afford this dream car, but if that day ever comes, I want you to remember I told you it drives and performs like

you died and went to Heaven. And don't forget to tell the salesperson that Car Bob sent you!