

BLUES BACK TO BACK

The Birth of the Blues • Blues in the Night

for S.A.T.B. voices and piano
with optional SoundPax and SoundTrax CD*

Performance time: approx. 5:15

Arranged by
KIRBY SHAW

Easy swing (♩ = ca. 88)

SOPRANO
ALTO

TENOR
BASS

PIANO

Easy swing (♩ = ca. 88)

N.C.

C⁹

E♭ma⁷/F

F⁹

mf

THE BIRTH OF THE BLUES

They heard the breeze _____ in the trees_

mf

B♭⁶

B♭/A♭

E♭/G

G♭

F¹³

B♭

Bdim⁷

* Also available for S.A.B. (45515) and S.S.A. (45516). SoundTrax CD available (45517).
Digital SoundPax available (DIGPX00031) - includes score and set of parts for Tenor Saxophone, 2 Trumpets, Trombone,
Guitar, Bass, and Drumset. Visit alfred.com/choral for more information.

Words by B.G. DeSylva and Lew Brown Music by Ray Henderson

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6

— sing - in' weird mel - o - dies, — and they

Cm⁷ F7(b13) Bbmaj⁹ D⁷ Eb 3 C/E

9

named that the start of the blues

F Bb/F F F13 Bb Bb/D Eb 3 Edim⁷ Bb/F

12

13

From a jail, — came the wail —

And from a jail — came the wail — of a

F¹³ Edim⁷/G F⁷/A Bbmaj⁹ Bdim⁷ Cm⁷ F⁹(b13)

15

of a down heart - ed frail,

down heart - ed frail, and they

Fm7 Bb9 Ebmaj7 C9

17

and they played that as part of the blues.

played that as part of the blues.

F Bb/F F F# Bb Bb7/D Eb A7 Bb7

20

From a whip-poor-will out on a hill

D9 Eb9

22

they took a new note. Pushed it through a horn.

D⁹ Eb⁹ D⁹ Eb⁹ D⁹ Eb⁹

25

un - til it was worn in - to a

G⁹ Ab⁹ G⁹

27

blue note! And then they nursed it, re -

29

Bb/C C⁹ F¹³ Bbmaj⁹ Bdim⁷

f *mf*

30

hearsd it, and gave out the news that the

Cm7 F+ Fm7 Bb13 Ebmaj9 3 C9

33

South - land gave birth to the blues, blues! -

F Bb/F F F/Eb 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

35

gave birth to the blues! They nursed -

grad. cresc.

Dm7(b5) F/G G9

grad. cresc.

37

it, re - hearsed it,

They nursed it, re - hearsed it,

Eb 3 3 3 3 Edim7 3 3 3 3 grad. cresc.

39

and gave out the news that the South-

Bb 3 3 3 3 C 3 3 3 3

41

land gave birth to the

C7 3 3 3 3 Eb/F F13

43

f blues! *mf* Gave birth to the blues!

f *mf*

B \flat B \flat /D E \flat Edim 7 B \flat /F

46

A \flat 7 A7 B \flat 7 N.C. B \flat 9

48

opt. SOLO *mf*

My

E \flat 9 G \flat 9 F 9 B \flat m 9 E \flat 13

51

BLUES IN THE NIGHT

ma-ma done tol' me _____ when I was in pig - tails, _____ my

N.C. Ab^{13} N.C. Db^{13}

f

53

ma-ma done tol' me, _____ Hon! _____ A

N.C. Ab^{13}

mf

55

man's gon - na sweet talk, _____ and give you the big eye, _____

Db^{13} Gb^{13} Gb^7

Lyrics by Johnny Mercer Music by Harold Arlen
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57

but when the sweet talk-in's done — a man is a two-face, _ a

Ab9 Eb9

60

wor-ri-some thing who'll leave ya t' sing the blues in the

Bb7(b9) Eb7 Ab13

62

(end solo) **mf**

night Now the rain's a fall-in', hear the train a call-in',

Ab9 Db9

65

who - ee, — my ma - ma done tol' me. —

Ab7 Db/Ab Ab7 Db/Ab Ebm/Ab Db/Ab Ab7

67

Hear that lone - some whis - tle blow - in' cross the tres - tle,

Db9 Gb7

69

who - ee, — my ma - ma done tol' me. — A

Ab7 Db/Ab Ab7 Db/Ab Ebm/Ab Db/Ab Ab7

71

whoo-ee-duh-who-ee, — ol' click-i-ty clack's a ech-o-in' back the

Eb7 Bb7(b9) Eb13(#9) Eb7

73 mel. 3 75

blues in the night. The eye nin' breeze - 'll start the

Ab7 Db/Ab Ab Db/Ab Ebm/Ab Db/Ab A7 8va 1 Abm9 Db9

76

trees to cry-in' and the moon 'll hide its light,

Bbm7(b5) Eb9 F#m7 B7(b9) Emaj9 E6

79

when you get the blues in the night.

Cm7(b5) F7(b9) F7 Bb9 Db/Eb Bbm9

82

83

Take my word, the mock-er - bird - 'll sing the

Dbmaj7/Eb Eb13 Eb9 Abm9 Db9 Bbm7(b5) Eb9

85

sad - - - - - est kind of song,

F#m9 B7(b9) Emaj9 E6

87

he knows things are wrong _____ and he's right.

Cm7(b5) F7(b9) Bb9 Db/Eb Bbm9

90 *f* 91 3

From Nat-chez to Mo - bile, _____ from

Eb13 Ab Bbm/Ab Ab7

f 3 3 3 3

92 3

Mem-phis to Saint Joe, _____ wher - ev - er the four winds, _____

wher-ev - er the four winds,

Abm/Db Bbm/Db Cb/Db Ab Db/Ab Ab7 Bbm/Ab

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

blow.

94

four winds blow. I been in some big towns an'

3

Ab¹³ A¹³ Ab¹³ D^b Ebm/D^b D^b7

3

96

heard me some big talk, but there is one thing I know,

3

G^b Abm/G^b G^b7 Ab Bbm⁷ Cm⁷

3

98

a man is a two - face, a

mel.

3

F⁷ Eb⁷

3



100

wor-ri-some thing who'll leave ya t' sing the blues in the

Bb7(b9) Eb7(#9) Eb7(b9) Ab Bbm/Ab Abm7 Bbm/Ab

102

night. My

Ab Bbm/Ab Ab N.C. Ab13 N.C. Db13

105

ma-ma was right, there's blues in the night.

Bb13 Bb7(b13) Eb7(#9) Eb7(b13) N.C. Ab13