

THE BIRTH OF THE BLUES

Three-Part Mixed, accompanied, with optional guitar, bass and drums

Words by B.G. DeSYLVA and LEW BROWN

Music by RAY HENDERSON

Arranged by CARL STROMMEN

Performance time: 3:45

Slowly and freely (ad lib. tempo)

Oh _____ they say some peo - ple long a -

Oh _____ Oo _____ Oo, _____

Oh _____ Oo _____

Slowly and freely (ad lib. tempo)

N.C.

PIANO (Guitar, Bass) *

Drums tacet until meas. 17

go _____ unis. _____ unis. _____

go _____ were search - ing for a dif - ferent tune; one that they could

long a - go _____

Ab7 G7 Ab7

* Guitar: Play ad lib. from chord symbols in piano part.

Bass: Double bottom notes in left hand of piano part, adjusting octaves as necessary.

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can, as — they can. *unis.*

croon as on - ly they can. — They on - ly had the rhy - thm

can, as — they can.

*G*⁶ *A*^b7 *G*9 N.C.

9 so — *unis.*

so, the rhy - thm so they start - ed sway - ing to and fro.

9

unis.

They didn't know just what to use. That is how the

*G*⁶ *A*^b7

be - gan, real - ly be - gan. *unis.*

blues real - ly be - gan. They heard the

be - gan, real - ly be - gan.

G⁶ Ab7 G9 N.C.

17 Easy, relaxed swing $\text{♩} = 76-80$ ($\text{♩} = \text{♩}^3$)

mp

breeze in the trees sing - ing weird mel - o - dies

mp

17 Easy, relaxed swing $\text{♩} = 76-80$ ($\text{♩} = \text{♩}^3$)

Cmaj7

C[♯]dim7

Dm7

B/D[♯]

Em7

E7

Fmaj7

Susp. Cymbal *mp* continue pattern

and they made that the start of the

D7/F[♯]

G

Am7 A[♯]dim7 G/B

blues. _____

25

blues, start of the blues. And from a jail came the wail—

C

Em/F Ebm/E Dm/Eb 25 Cmaj7

C#dim7

Dm7

_____ of a down - heart - ed frail. and they

B/D#

Em7

E

Fmaj7

D7/F#

blues. _____

played that _____ as part of the blues, of the

G

Am7 A#dim7 G/B

C

L.V.

blues. From a whip-poor - will, out on a hill, — they took a new—

N.C. 33 E7 Bm7(b5) E7 Bm7(b5)

note. — Pushed it through a horn 'til it was worn—

E F#m7 Gdim7 E/G# A Bm7(b5)

rit. *mf* *unis.* note. And then they

Cdim7 C#m6 Am7 D9 G6/9 N.C. Gb(b13) F(b13)

mf *rit.*

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41 Strong and "bluesy"

a tempo

nursed it, re - hearsed it, and gave —

41

C

C#dim7

Dm7

B7/D#

a tempo

out the news that the

South land gave birth to the blues!

Em7

E7

D7/F#

G Am7 A#dim7 G/B

L.V.

cresc. *unis. f*

cresc. *f*

They—

Esus/B E7

cresc.

49

nursed it, re - hearsed it, and—

49 F F#dim7

unis.

gave, gave out the news that the South-land—

C B Bb A N.C.

L.V.

unis.
that the South - land gave, _____ gave _____ birth to the blues!_

Dm7 Am/E F F#dim G7
L.V.

They nursed it, re - hearsd it, the blues!

F7/C Am/E F7 F#dim N.C.

Blues!

Solo

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