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The Basement Blues

(Low-downer than any Low-down Blues)

By W. C. Handy

Moderato

f

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand features a melodic line with several triplet figures. The left hand provides a steady accompaniment with chords and eighth notes.

mf

The man I love's got low-down ways fer
He don't gay cat tin' round with dict-y

The vocal line is in a lower register, and the piano accompaniment continues with a consistent rhythmic pattern.

true, The man I love's got low-down ways fer true,
cats, Don't go gay cat-tin' round in buf-fet flats,

The piano accompaniment features more complex chordal textures and melodic lines in the right hand.

Well I am kink-ty and I'm low-down too,
We like our base-ment and our base-ment rats

The piano accompaniment includes several triplet figures in the right hand, mirroring the style of the introduction.

He aint no arn - chy And

The first system of music features a vocal line on a single staff and a piano accompaniment on two staves. The vocal line begins with a half note 'He', followed by a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'i', a quarter note 'n't', a quarter rest, a quarter note 'no', a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'c', a quarter note 'h', a quarter note 'y', and a quarter note 'A'. The piano accompaniment includes a treble clef with a key signature of one flat and a bass clef with a key signature of one flat. It features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests.

I aint tryin' to be He aint no arn-chy I aint tryin' to

The second system continues the musical piece. The vocal line starts with a quarter note 'I', a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'i', a quarter note 'n't', a quarter note 't', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 'y', a quarter note 'i', a quarter note 'n'', a quarter note 't', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'b', a quarter note 'e', a quarter note 'H', a quarter note 'e', a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'i', a quarter note 'n't', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'c', a quarter note 'h', a quarter note 'y', a quarter note 'I', a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'i', a quarter note 'n't', a quarter note 't', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 'y', a quarter note 'i', a quarter note 'n'', a quarter note 't', a quarter note 'o'. The piano accompaniment continues with similar rhythmic patterns.

be. So you can't make no

The third system shows the vocal line starting with a half note 'be.', followed by a quarter note 'S', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'y', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'c', a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'n't', a quarter note 'm', a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'k', a quarter note 'e', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'o'. The piano accompaniment features several triplet markings over the treble clef staff.

arn - chy out of me. For

The fourth system continues with the vocal line starting with a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'c', a quarter note 'h', a quarter note 'y', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'u', a quarter note 't', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'f', a quarter note 'm', a quarter note 'e.', a quarter note 'F', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'r'. The piano accompaniment includes more triplet markings.

B.F.8-36

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 "IN THE GOOD OLD SUMMER TIME" "SIDEWALKS OF NEW YORK"

I was born low-down way, down in the low-ground

Ev'-ry day - I get low as a toad For my home aint here It's fur-ther down the road Down in

PATTER

Ze - ro, Miss - is - sip - pi all my folks is at — An'
 Pap's name is Lowe, Mis - ter B. Lowe if you please — An'
 preach-er man done tole me that "Low" is the way — I'm
 lots of Low Brow, High Brows, I'm tell - in' you a fact, — Too

High Fa - lu - tin' Low brows un - der gobs of paint, — Pre -
 heard 'em say a black-bird nev - er flies so high, — That

col - ored folks can't live much low - er down - er than that. — My
 he can kiss my mam - my with - out bend - ing his knees. — My
 a Nat - ur - al Born Ho - ly Rol - ler, so they say. — There's
 man - y pop - eyed pots a call - in' Bow - leg Kittles black. — And

tend - ing like day is when dey know darn well they aint. — I've
 he dont come down for his with oth - er birds Bym - bye. — So

You keep your at - tics, Take the roof or the air if you

choose, Just keep your at - tics Take the air if you

choose, But my high - est as - pi -

ra - tion is the Base - ment Blues.

B.F. 8 - 36

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