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edited by
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MELROSE MUSIC CORP.

1619 Broadway • New York 19, N. Y.

HESITATION BLUES

By BILLY SMYTHE and J. SCOTT MIDDLETON

This number is probably less known by title than by the lyric: "Ashes to ashes, dust to dust, if the whiskey don't get you the women must," which is familiar to almost everyone.

BEST KNOWN RECORDINGS:

James P. Johnson—Asch 5512

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Slow Blues Tempo

The piano introduction is in F major, 4/4 time. It begins with a *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic. The melody is played in the right hand, featuring eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with octaves and chords. The piece concludes with a *poco rit.* (slightly slower) marking and a final chord.

Chords: Fdim, F7, Bb7, F, C7(+5), Fdim, F7, Bb7

Voice: Some-thing's sure— gone wrong, I'm blue all— day
Whyd you ev - er leave? You know I — would

The first vocal line is in F major, 4/4 time. The melody is in the right hand, with lyrics underneath. The piano accompaniment is in the left hand, featuring chords and a steady bass line. The dynamics are *p* (piano) and *fz* (forzando).

Chords: F, F9, F7(+5), Bbdim, Bb, Eb7, Bb6, Gm7

Voice: long grieve. With you 'round— me, No one ev - er
All I do— is cry for you; I

The second vocal line continues the melody in F major, 4/4 time. The piano accompaniment features chords and a steady bass line. The dynamics are *p* (piano) and *fz* (forzando).

Chords: G7, G7, C7

Voice: had found— me sad, Was al - ways glad, Since you've gone— a - way, I
just miss— you so, Why did— you go? Must I sit — and wait, Hon'

The third vocal line concludes the melody in F major, 4/4 time. The piano accompaniment features chords and a steady bass line. The dynamics are *p* (piano) and *fz* (forzando).

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on - ly sigh - and say I'm blue. So aw - fully blue.
 With these HES - I - TA - TION BLUES, I mean those blues.

Chorus Tacit
 I'm go - in' down to the lev - ee, Take an old rock - in' chair, - If the
 Ash - es to ash - es and - dust - to dust, -

blues does - n't leave - I'm goin' to rock a - way from here, Ba - by, How long,
 Show me a man that a wo - man can trust, Ba - by, How long,

- How long do I have to wait? Oh! Can I get you now,
 - How long do I have to wait? Oh! Can I get you now,

Or must I hes - i - tate? I'm go - in'
 Or must I hes - i - tate?

Chords: C7, Eb6, E6, F6, C7, Eb6, E6, F6, F6, Am, C7, F7, Cm7, F7(+5), Bb6, Bb, Bb, Bbm6, Fb, Bb9, F6, E6, F6, Fdim, C7, Db7, C, F, Db9, C9, F6, Cdim, C7, F6, E6, F6.