

YOU CAN'T KEEP A GOOD MAN DOWN

"Hall of Fame" SONG SERIES • "A Celebrity Photo Edition"

Word and Music by
PERRY BRADFORD
"Grand-daddy of the BLUES"



COLLECTOR'S
ITEM NOTES
Recorded Feb. 1920
by MAMIE SMITH and
Her JAZZ HOUNDS
OKEH No. 4113
Featured by
Sophie Tucker
and Jackson-Durante
Trio

Barbalk

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You Can't Keep A Good Man Down

By PERRY BRADFORD

Moderato

PIANO

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand starts with a series of chords and eighth notes, while the left hand plays a simple bass line. The tempo is marked 'Moderato' and the dynamics range from 'f' (forte) to 'mp' (mezzo-piano).

Bb Bb dim F+ Bb Bb dim F7

It's an old ad - age, but it's true, - to mis-treat a good man - will nev - er do -
He may be down, - but nev - er out, - I'll tell you right now he's - a good old scout -

mp

The first system of the song features a vocal melody with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (Bb). The piano part includes chords and a bass line. The dynamics are marked 'f' and 'mp'.

D7 Gm C7 F7

It's been said, - time and a - gain - He'll al - ways win in the end, - so
He's al - ways - John - ny on the spot What it takes to please, he's got - so

R.H.

The second system continues the song with a vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The piano part includes a right-hand (R.H.) section with a specific melodic line. The dynamics are marked 'mp'.

F7 Fdim F7 G7 Db7 F7

girls take my ad - vice - - - You bet - ter treat him nice. - - -
girls please bear in mind - - - And al - ways treat him kind. - - -

The third system concludes the song with a vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The piano part includes chords and a bass line. The dynamics are marked 'mp'.

CHORUS

You can't keep a good man down — No mat-ter how you try — An-y time_ he

mp-f

gets in wrong, he'll find a way bye'n bye — No use tryin' to treat him rough, —

'Cause he ain't used to that cave-man stuff (so) Kiss him for break-fast, hug him for lunch, for

din-ner give him lots of lov-in', He's your hon-ey-bunch, 'Cause you can't keep

a good man down. down.

1. Bb Bb dim Bb C F 2. Bb Bb dim Bb C9 F7(b9) Bb