

Billie's Blues

(I Love My Man)

Words and Music by
BILLIE HOLIDAY

Slow blues

The piano introduction is in 12/8 time, marked 'Slow blues' and 'mf'. It features a melodic line in the right hand with several triplet figures and a steady bass line in the left hand.

Refrain

Ab

D7

Db7

Eb7

Ab

I love my man,

I'm a li - ar if I say I don't.

The piano accompaniment for the first refrain is marked 'mp-mf'. It features a melodic line in the right hand with triplet figures and a bass line in the left hand. Chords are indicated above the staff.

Ab7

Db9

Ab

Bbm7 Bm7

I love my man,

I'm a li - ar if I say I don't.

The piano accompaniment for the second refrain features a melodic line in the right hand with triplet figures and a bass line in the left hand. Chords are indicated above the staff.

Cm7

Bbm7

Eb7

A7

Ab6

Fm7

But I'll quit my man,

I'm a li - ar if I say I won't.

The piano accompaniment for the third refrain features a melodic line in the right hand with triplet figures and a bass line in the left hand. Chords are indicated above the staff.

Bbm7 Eb7 Ab D7 Db9 Eb7

I've been your slave, ba-by, ev-er since I've been your

Ab Ab7 Db9 D9 Db9 Eb7

babe. I've been your slave, ev-er since I've been your

Ab Bbm7 Bm7 Cm7 Bm7 Bbm7 Eb7

babe. But be - fore I'd be your dog, I'd see you in your

Ab Abdim Bbm7 Ab

grave. My man would-n't give me no break - fast,

Db9 Ab D9

Would-n't give me no din-ner, squawked a-bout my sup-per, then he put me out-doors.

Detailed description: This system contains the first line of the song. The vocal line starts with a triplet of eighth notes on 'Would-n't', followed by another triplet on 'din-ner'. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand that mirror the vocal melody.

Db9 Ab Bbm7 Bm7

Had the nerve to lay a match-box on my clothes.

Detailed description: This system contains the second line of the song. The vocal line has a long note on 'Had' and another long note on 'clothes'. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and a bass line.

Cm7 F7m9 Bbm7 Eb7 Bbm7 Ddim Eb7

I did-n't have so man-y, but I had a long, long way to

Detailed description: This system contains the third line of the song. The vocal line has a long note on 'I' and another long note on 'way'. The piano accompaniment features a bass line and chords that change frequently to support the vocal melody.

Ab Ab7 Db E7 1. Ab E9 Eb9 A7 2. Ab A13 Ab13

go.

Detailed description: This system contains the fourth line of the song. The vocal line has a long note on 'go.'. The piano accompaniment features a bass line and chords that change frequently to support the vocal melody. There are first and second endings indicated by the numbers 1. and 2.