

Bessie Smith

"Charlie Green, Play That Thing"

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I know a fool who blows a horn
He comes from way down south
You never heard such blowin' since you was born
When he puts that trombone to his mouth
He cries and moans, he grunts and groans
He sounds just like a cow
Ain't no one doin' his stuff
'Cause he won't show 'em how

Charlie Green! Blow that thing!
I mean that slide trombone
Make it talk, make it sing
Where did you get that tone?
If Gabriel could hear you blow
He'd let you lead his band, I know
Oh Charlie Green, blow that thing!
I mean that slide trombone

Charlie Green! Blow that thing!
I mean that slide trombone
You could even make a king
Jump right off his throne
And he'd break a leg, I know
Doin' the Charleston¹ when you blow
Oh Charlie Green. Blow that thing!
I mean that slide trombone

Charlie Green! Blow that thing!
I mean that slide trombone
Make it talk, make it sing
I mean that slide trombone
You never saw such a shakin' of the hips
Like when he's got it to his lips
Oh Charlie Green. Blow that thing!
I mean that slide trombone

Note: Charlie Green was Bessie's Trombone player so it could be a Bessie Smith song. However, I could not find this song or any song that has a similar title on any of the 5 Complete Recordings albums. If anyone knows

more about this song please mail me, thanks;
Note 1: charleston, a popular dance of the twenties.

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