

## Irving Berlin

# "Ephraim Played Upon The Piano 20 Jun 1911"

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Words and music by Irving Berlin and Vincent Bryan]

[1st verse:]

Down below the Dixie line in Alabam'  
Lived a lovin' piano player, Ephraim  
'Cause he never took a lesson  
He had ev'rybody guessin'  
How he played with such a lovin' tone  
Any old piano that he could annoy  
Ephraim would call an instrument of joy  
When it came to make a piano  
Cry out in a fancy manner  
Ephraim was in a class alone

[chorus:]

Ephraim played upon the piano  
Ephraim, he had a great left hand  
Ephraim in his fancy manner  
Made an upright sound like a "Baby Grand"

[2nd verse:]

Any kind of music he could understand  
Still he didn't play by ear, he played by hand  
When he started fishin'  
For the tune that you'd been wishin'  
Ev'ry other good musician stepped aside  
Ephraim was never known to lose his head  
I remember once a certain lady said  
"Can you play a fiddle, Mister?"  
He looked up and answered, "Sister  
I don't know because I never tried

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