

Gertrude "Ma" Rainey "Barrel House Blues"

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Got the barrel house blues, feeling awfully dry
Got the barrel house blues, feeling awfully dry
I can't drink moonshine 'cause I'm afraid I'd die

Papa likes his sherry, mama likes her port
Papa likes his sherry, mama likes her port
Papa likes to shimmy, mama likes to sport

Papa likes his bourbon, mama likes her gin
Papa likes his bourbon, mama likes her gin
Papa likes his outside women¹, mama likes outside men¹

Note 1: outside women, slang for a mistress or "woman on the side". Outside men, male lover.

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