

## Les Mckeown

### "The Blues"

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I sing the BLUES in the hull of a ship  
beneath the sting of a slavemaster's whip  
I sing the BLUES on a ship anchored to dock  
my family being sold on a slave block  
I sing the BLUES being torn from my first born  
and hung my head and cried  
when my wife took his life  
and then committed suicide  
I sing the BLUES on a slavemaster's plantation  
helpin him build his free nation  
I sing the BLUES in the cotton field  
hustlin to make the daily yield  
I sing the BLUES when he forced my woman to bed  
lawd KNOWS how I wish he was dead  
I sing the BLUES on the run.. {\*fades out\*}

[Andreas 13]

{It-it-it, it takes, it-it ta-it  
It takes..} solitude, to contemplate a dope rhyme  
Drop the bass as I go for mine  
13, and I'm chillin with the X Man  
I choose to spews the blues, so you can understand  
I'm harder than the steel forged in a hot fire  
The Prince of Power, the ink of desire  
Engagin Andreas in the muck or the mire  
I got a storm - and she is a live one  
Singin in the background, promisin the stars the moon  
and the sun sayin, "Dre' I got a new life  
and I've just begun, a rerun might be fun"  
Now I play to win the game, to be put on  
This is what, gives me the blues, word is bond  
So now I'm gone..

{That's why I sing the blues..}  
{That's why I sing the blues..}  
{That's why I sing the blues..}

[Andreas 13]

Now, it's the blues, so don't snooze, check out how I  
kick it  
A def beat that's dope wild and wicked

A mad brother, that is God gifted  
So tell me why am I another statistic  
Payin all my bills and still bein evicted  
Slum lord brought a rate height and I ripped it  
Broken lights, and no hot water  
You got nerve in here, beggin for a quarter  
Burn this bitch down, is what I oughta do  
and that's comin from the workin man's point of view  
The first of the month and all my bills are due  
I pay the light bill and pay the phone bill do  
because if I don't, my po' ass is through  
My po' ass is through

{That's why I sing the blues..}

{That's why I sing the blues..}

{That's why I..}

[Andreas 13]

I got a job - workin and smirkin for Apartheid County  
It takes two weeks to step collect my bounty  
and damn, I can't believe the way they tax me  
A third of my pay G? Exactly!  
Yeah they think they got me, sweatin for a paycheck  
Hearin my boss riff with empty threats  
But I don't worry, and I don't fret  
Just daydream about regrets  
Would I do it all over again? No words  
Cause workin everyday, and still bein broke..  
.. is strictly to the curb!

{That's why I sing the blues..}

{That's why I sing the blues..}

{That's why I sing the blues..}

[Andreas 13]

Now my girl, I tell her that I love her  
She says if you do, you must suffer - SUCKA  
So she moves in with another - brother  
Claimin to me, she needs two lovers  
One for the sex, and one for the money  
You know which one I was, but not to be funny  
Let me tell you all about this sourpuss honey  
Was she slick, and was she crummy  
cause I believed her when she said she loved me  
Oh boy, what a dummy  
because behind the back, everyone ain't true  
You see I live with someone, and scummy does too  
She said, "It's good for me.. if it's good for you"

{That's why I sing the blues..}

{That's why I, I have to sing the blues..}

{Ahhh-hahhh, that's why I.. that's why I..}  
{That's why I got to sing the blues..}  
{ooooo-hooooo.....}

{\*continues in background w/ variations}

I sing the BLUES in church on Sunday  
slavin on Monday, misused on Tuesday  
abused on Wednesday, accused on Thursday  
fried alive on Friday, and died on Saturday  
sho' nuff singin the blues  
I sing the BLUES that a sucka thought we couldn't bring  
I tell him sho' nuff the blues is my thing  
I sing the backwater BLUES, rhythm and BLUES  
gospel BLUES, St. Louis BLUES, North Carolina BLUES  
Chicago BLUES, Mississippi god-DAMN BLUES  
The Watts BLUES, Harlem BLUES, ?? BLUES  
Gut-funky BLUES, funky chunky BLUES  
I sing the up North cigarette cough BLUES  
The down South strung out the side of my mouth  
BLUES  
I sing the BLUES black  
I sing the BLUES blacker  
I sing the BLUES blackest..

{That's why I sing the blues..}  
{That's why I..}  
{That's why I sing the blues..}

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