

Tom T. Hall

"Shoeshine Man"

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Well, I met the man in Montgomery, Alabama
I was waitin' on a bus and he was shinin' shoes
And I heard him say

I'm a shoeshine man, number one in the land
A shoeshine man, make you shine where you stand
Leave me a tip if you can, I'm a shoeshine man

Well, I can sing, I can dance, I can play the harmonica
too
I got a brand new thing called the southside
Montgomery Blues
You better stick around and watch me 'cause I'm an
entertainin' fool

I'm a shoeshine man, number one in the land
A shoeshine man, make you shine where you stand
Leave me a tip if you can, I'm a shoeshine man

Well, I learned my trade from that rag-poppin' daddy
of mine
He shined a pair of alligators, made a hundred-dollar
bill one time
Said, "When that meat gets scarce, I shine two or three
pairs for a dime"

I'm a shoeshine man, number one in the land
A shoeshine man, make you shine where you stand
Leave me a tip if you can, I'm a shoeshine man

I had a girl that helped me, she had a lotta hoochie-
coochie ways
She was bumpin' and grindin', paid that girl a dollar a
day
But she was shy on age and the law come and took her
away

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