

Hesitation Blues

(original version)

Original Words & Music:
Art "The Whispering Pianist" Dillham

Dick Rosemont has discovered that the original version of this was by Art Gillham (aka "The Whispering Pianist") & recorded in 1925, not Rev. Gary Davis.

Am E7 Am E7
I'm going down to the levee, take a rocking chair.
Am E7 C C7
The blues don't leave me, go rocking with them there.

CHORUS:

F Fm C A7
Baby, how long, how long I have to wait?
D7 G7 C G7 C E7
Can I get you now, or must I hesitate?

I had a sweet mama, so bashful and shy.
When she moved her underwear, she plugged the needle's eye.

CHORUS:

A doctor's in love with my girl, they say.
I got her eating apples just to keep him away.

CHORUS:

I've met girls on levee trains and on the riverboats.
But, my good woman got what makes a good mule eat his oats.
Tell me honey, tell your papa, how come you make him do like you do?
Can I get you now, or must I hesitate?

Well you must love your neighbors, what the good book say.
But that don't mean to love her, when her husband's away.

CHORUS:

When I got home last night, I wasn't there at all.
I looked through the trash, another mule in my stall.

CHORUS:

I've got my hands on my knees, I may be awful dumb.
But I got more ideas of loving than Wrigley has gum.

CHORUS:

Ashes to ashes, dust to dust.
I got a black haired mama that the rain can't rust.
Tell me honey, tell your papa, how come you do things you do?
Can I get you now, or must I hesitate?

I was born down in Georgia, I was raised in Tennessee.
When I get hesitation blues, my mama takes them away from me.

CHORUS:

