

Ann Elizabeth Tamm -

400 H.

# PRAY FOR THE LIGHTS TO GO OUT

A NEGRO  
SHOUTING SONG

THAT NEW  
"BALLIN THE JACK"  
÷ SONG ÷

AS FEATURED BY  
LEROY "LASSES" WHITE  
THIS SEASON WITH  
NEIL O'BRIEN'S  
MINSTRELS



WORDS & MUSIC BY  
TUNNAH AND  
SKIDMORE



RENTON TUNNAH



WILL E. SKIDMORE

Guy F. Turpin

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# Pray For The Lights To Go Out

Words by  
RENTON TUNNAH

Music by  
WILL E. SKIDMORE  
Composer of "Bug House Rag"  
"Craps Rag" etc.

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It begins with a piano introduction in G major, 2/4 time, consisting of four measures. The first system of piano accompaniment is followed by a vocal line. The second system of piano accompaniment is preceded by the instruction 'TILL READY' and consists of four measures. The third system of piano accompaniment is followed by a vocal line with the lyrics: 'Fa - ther was a dea - con in a hard shell church, Way down / Fa - ther tried to quie - ten down his lov - in' flock, Call'd on'. The fourth system of piano accompaniment is followed by a vocal line with the lyrics: 'South where I was born; \_\_\_\_\_ / all the saints a - bove; \_\_\_\_\_ / Peo - ple used to come to church from / All that he could hear way down there'. The piano accompaniment continues for four more measures.

TILL READY

Fa - ther was a dea - con in a hard shell church, Way down  
Fa - ther tried to quie - ten down his lov - in' flock, Call'd on

South where I was born; \_\_\_\_\_ Peo - ple used to come to church from  
all the saints a - bove; \_\_\_\_\_ All that he could hear way down there

lig - ion com - ing on Just then some bod y got up turn'd the  
got up turn'd on the light, He feels him-self a slip-pin' grabs the

*rit.*

lights all out And you ought to heard that sis ter shout. —  
first gal near, And she sings this sweet song in his ear. —

## CHORUS

She hol-lered Broth-er, — if you want to spread joy, — Just

*p-f*

pray for the lights to  $\left. \begin{matrix} 1^{st} \text{ stay} \\ 2^{nd} \text{ go} \end{matrix} \right\}$  out. — She called on

miles a - round, Just to hear the Ho - ly work go  
in the dark Was ba by, Hon ey, tur - tle

on, Fa - ther grabs a sis - ter 'round the  
dove. Dea - con grabs his bi - ble firm - ly

neck and says, Sis - ter, won't you sing this  
in his hand, Pray'd to be show'd wrong from

song. The sis - ter tells the dea - con that she didn't have time, Felt re -  
right. Just then as if his pray'rs were an - swered from a - bove, Some - one

*rit.*

Dea - con — for to kneel and pray, You ought to heard that sis - ter

shout. — Throw'd up both hands and got way back, Took two steps forw'd and

ball'd the Jack, She hol-lered Broth-er, — if you want to spread joy, — Just

pray for the lights to {stay go} out. — She hol-lered out. —

