

# Arkansas Blues

*A Down-Home Chant*



BY ANTON LADA AND  
SPENCER WILLIAMS  
*Writers of "Tishomingo Blues"*



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(A Down Home Chant)

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Slowly

The musical score is written in a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). It consists of a piano accompaniment and a vocal line. The piano part begins with a *mf* dynamic and features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and a more complex melody in the right hand. The vocal line enters in the second measure with the lyrics: "have o-ver-tak-en me, just make me weep and cry,". The piano accompaniment continues with a *p* dynamic. The vocal line then continues with the lyrics: "I'm so wea-ry, Days are full o' gloom, I'm so lone-some Don't know what to do". The piano accompaniment concludes with a *fz* dynamic. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.

Home - sick - ness has got me down in mind  
Miss the good old days that used to be

'Way down in old Ar - kan - sas  
Oh, my, what a fool am I

In old Dix - ie, My log cab - in home,  
To be griev - in', To be feel - in' blue.

Where the Southern folks are good and kind, I find.  
For my mammy's wait - in' pa - tient - ly for me.

## CHORUS

*p* >

I'm on the right track I've got my trunk packed, And I have

*p-f*

asked the good Lord — to take the train back That's

head - in' South and tak - in' me to Dar - da - nelle —

Ain't got no time to lose — I'm tired of roam - in' — I'm tired of

roam - in' I long to see my mam - my and my

The first system of music features a vocal line in the upper staff and piano accompaniment in the lower two staves. The vocal line begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 2/4 time signature. The lyrics are "roam - in' I long to see my mam - my and my". The piano accompaniment includes a right-hand part with chords and a left-hand part with a steady bass line.

home in Old Log Cab - in - land 'Way down there

The second system continues the vocal and piano parts. The lyrics are "home in Old Log Cab - in - land 'Way down there". The musical notation includes various dynamics and articulation marks such as accents and slurs.

in the Dell I've got the Ar-kan-sas Blues,

The third system features the lyrics "in the Dell I've got the Ar-kan-sas Blues,". The piano accompaniment includes a key signature change to two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a dynamic marking of *fz* (forzando).

I've got the Ar-kan-sas Blues. I'm on the

The fourth system concludes the page with the lyrics "I've got the Ar-kan-sas Blues. I'm on the". It includes first and second endings, indicated by the numbers "1" and "2" above the vocal staff.



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