

The Darktown Strutter's Ball

Shelton Brooks - 1917

Verse 1:

[C]I've got [Cdim]some [Dm]good [G7]news Honey
[C]An invitation [Cdim]to the [Dm]Dark-[G7]town Ball
[Cm6]It's a [G]very swell [Gdim]af-[G]fair [B7][E7]
All the [Am]High [Cm6]Browns" [Bm]will [D7]be
[G]there. I'll [D7]wear [G7]my [C]high silk hat
[Cdim]and a [Dm]frock [G7]tail coat
You [E7]wear your Paris gown and your [Am]new silk shawl
[Gdim]There [G]ain't no [G+]doubt about it, [E7]babe
We'll be the [Am]best dressed [D7]in the [G]hall

Chorus:

I'll be [C]down to get you in a taxi, [A7]Honey
You [D7]better be ready about half past eight
[G7]Now dearie don't be late
I want to [C]be there when [Cdim]the [Dm]band [G7]starts playing
Re-[C]member when we get there [A7]Honey
The [D7]two-steps, I'm goin to have 'em all
Goin' to [Dm]dance out both my [Cdim]shoes
When they [C]play the "Jel-[E7]ly Roll [A7]Blues,"
To-[D7]morrow night at the [G7]Darktown Strutter's
[C]Ball. [Ebdim][G7]

Verse 2:

[C]We'll meet [Cdim]our [Dm]high [G7]toned neighbors
[C]An exhibition [Cdim]of the [Dm]"Ba-[G7]by Dolls"
[Cm6]And each [G]one will do [Gdim]their [G]best [B7][E7]
Just to [Am]out [Cm6]class [Bm]all [D7]the [G]rest
And [D7]there'll [G7]be [C]dancers from
[Cdim]ev'ry [Dm]for-[G7]eign land
The [E7]classic, buck and wing, and the [Am]wooden clog
[Gdim]We'll win that [G+]fifty [Em]dollar [E7]prize
When we step [Am]out and [D7]"Walk the [G]Dog" [Gdim][G7]