

# TazMedia, Inc.

## How to Sing the Blues

- 1) Most blues begin "Woke up this morning."
- 2) *"I got a good woman"* is a bad way to begin the blues, unless you stick something nasty in the next line, like *"I got a good woman--with the meanest dog in town."*
- 3) Blues are simple. After you have the first line right, repeat it. Then find something that rhymes. Sort of; *"Got a good woman with the meanest dog in town, she got teeth like Margaret Thatcher --and she weighs 500 pounds."*
- 4) The blues are not about limitless choice. Blues cars are Chevies and Cadillacs. Other acceptable blues transportation is Greyhound bus or a southbound train.
- 5) *Walkin'* plays major part in the blues lifestyle. So does *fixin'* to die.
- 6) Teenagers can't sing the blues. Adults sing the blues. Blues "adulthood" means old enough to get the electric chair if you shoot a man in Memphis.
- 7) You can have the blues in New York City, but not in Brooklyn or Queens. Hard times in Vermont or North Dakota are just a depression. Chicago, St. Louis and Kansas City are still the best places to have the blues.
- 8) The following colors do not belong in the blues:
  - a) violet
  - b) beige
  - c) mauve
- 9) You can't have the blues in an office or a shopping mall, the lighting is wrong.
- 10) Good places for the Blues:
  - a) the highway
  - b) the jailhouse
  - c) the empty bed
- 11) Bad places: Ashrams, Gallery openings, the cottage or *"the club."*
- 12) No one will believe it's the blues if you wear a suit, unless you happen to be an old black man.
- 13) Do you have the right to sing the blues? Yes, if:
  - a) your first name is a southern state--like Georgia
  - b) you're blind
  - c) you shot a man in Memphis.
  - d) you can't be satisfied.

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- 14) No, if:
- a) you were once blind but now can see.
  - b) you're deaf
  - c) you have an IRA
- 15) Neither Julio Iglesias nor Barbra Streisand can sing the blues.
- 16) Blues beverages are NOT:
- a) Any mixed drink
  - b) Any wine kosher for Passover
  - c) Sports drinks
- 17) If you ask for water and baby gives you gasoline, it's the blues. Other blues beverages are:
- a) wine
  - b) Irish whiskey
  - c) muddy water
- 18) Some Blues names for Women
- a) Sadie
  - b) Big Mama
  - c) Bessie
- 19) Some Blues Names for Men
- a) Joe
  - b) Willie
  - c) Little Willie
  - d) Lightning
- 20) Persons with names like Sierra, Sequoia, Thad, Dawn, Heather or Buffy will not be permitted to sing the blues no matter how many men they shoot in Memphis.

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