

**THE BIRTH OF THE BLUES**

*Music written by Ray Henderson, recorded in 1927 by "Whispering" Jack Smith*

**They heard the breeze in the trees  
sing-ing weird mel-o-dies,  
and they made that  
the start of the blues.**

**And from a jail came a wail  
of a down-heart-ed frail,  
and they played that  
as part of the blues.**

**From a whip-poor-will out on a hill,  
they took a new note;  
pushed it through a horn 'til it was worn  
in-to a blue note!**

**And then they nursed it, re-hearsed it,  
and gave out the news  
that the South-land gave birth to the blues!**

***[8 x Bar Instrumental]***

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***[Tag]***

**That the South-land gave birth to the blues!**