

Arbeitsblatt

B.B. King: Why I sing the Blues (Text)

Everybody want to know
why I sing the blues.
Yes, I say everybody wanna know
why I sing the blues.
Well, I've been around a long time.
I really have paid my dues.

(to be around a long time: schon lange da sein)
(pay one's dues: seine Verpflichtungen erfüllen)

When I first got the blues
they brought me over on a ship.
Men were standing over me
and a lot more with a whip.
And everybody wanna know
why I sing the blues.
Well, I've been around a long time.
Mm, I've really paid my dues.

I've laid in a ghetto flat,
cold and numb.
I heard the rats tell the bedbugs
to give the roaches some.
Everybody wanna know
why I'm singing the blues.
Yes, I've been around a long time.
People, I've paid my dues.

(cold and numb: vor Kälte taub)
(bedbugs: Bettwanzen)
(to give the roaches some: den Kakerlaken etwas abzugeben)

I stood in line
down at the County Hall.
I heard a man say, "We're gonna build
some new apartments for y'all".
And everybody wanna know,
yes, they wanna know
why I'm singing the blues.
Yes, I've been around a long, long time.
Yes, I've really, really paid my dues.

(stay in line: in der Schlange stehen)
(County Hall: (hier etwa) Rathausaal)

(y'all: all of you)

(Now I'm gonna play Lucille...)

My kid's gonna grow up,
gonna grow up to be a fool.
'Cause they ain't got no more room,
no more room for him in school.
And everybody wanna know,
everybody wanna know
why I'm singing the blues.
I say I've been around a long time.
Yes, I've really paid some dues.

Yeah, you know the company told me
guess you're born to lose.
Everybody around me, people,
it seems like everybody got the blues.
But I had 'em a long time
I've really, really paid my dues.
You know I ain't ashamed of it, people
I just love to sing my blues.

(company: Firma, (hier auch allgemein) Gesellschaft)

I walk through the cities, people,
on my bare feet.
I had a fill of catfish and chitterlings
up and down Beal Street.
You know I'm singing the blues,
yes, I really I just have to sing my blues.
I've been around a long time.
People, I've really, really paid my dues.

(fill of catfish and chitterlings: eine Portion Wels und
Innereien)

Now Father Time is catching up with me,
gone is my youth.
I look in the mirror everyday
and let it tell me the truth.
I'm singing the blues.
Mm, I just have to sing the blues.
I've been around a long time
Yes, yes, I've really paid some dues.

(hier: die Zeit hat mich eingeholt)

Yeah, they told me everything
would be better out in the country.
Everything was fine.
I caught me a bus uptown, baby,
and every people, all the people
got the same trouble as mine.
I got the blues, huh, huh.
I say I've been around a long time.
I've really paid some dues.

(out in country: draußen auf dem Land)

(uptown: (hier etwa) ins Villenviertel)

(One more time, fellows...)

Blind man on the corner
begging for a dime,
the rollers come and caught him
and throw him in the jail for a crime.
I got the blues.
Mm, I'm singing my blues.
I've been around a long time.
Mm, I've really paid some dues.

(dime: Zehncentstück)
(rollers: (Slang) Polizisten)

(Can we do just one more?)

Oh, I thought I'd go down to the welfare
to get myself some grits and stuff.
But a lady stand up and she said
"You haven't been around long enough".
That's why I got the blues,
mm, the blues.
I say, I've been around a long time.
I've really, really paid my dues.

(welfare: (hier etwa) Sozialhilfeorganisation)
(grits and stuff: (hier etwa) etwas zu essen und
anzuziehen)

(Fellows, tell them one more time...)

(Ha, ha, ha. That's all right, fellows. Yeah!)