

# Mother Blues

Ray Wylie Hubbard

When I was a young man  
About 21 years old y'all  
All I wanted was a stripper girlfriend  
And a Gold Top Les Paul  
Be careful of the things you wish for  
You might get 'em

There was a night club in Dallas  
Called Mother Blues  
It's where Lightning Hopkins played  
And Freddy King even payed some dues

All the dealers and gamblers  
And young white hipsters, they all made the scene  
The girl at the door who checked ID's  
Was just 16

Aw, it was not a place for law bidding citizens  
Jackie Jones he had 'em a habit, he just couldn't stop  
Aaid give me 500 dollars  
And I'll sell you my Les Paul God Top

I drove my daddy's car down to Ross Avenue  
And I sold it  
I guess I should have told him  
He eluded to the police someone stole it

It was just the first of many bad decisions  
I was to make for the next 20 years  
Oh, but I had me a guitar

Everybody knows  
That the real nightlife  
Begins after the clubs close  
What they call after hours

It's 2 a.m. and everybody's gone  
But the band, the dealers and Jack Jones  
And then the girls from the landing strip club come over  
After they put their clothes back on

So I'm at Ma Blues and I'm sitting on an amp  
I'm playing "Twist and Shout"  
And this tall drink of water walks in  
Like she might have to shoot her way out

She come up to me and she said  
"You know anything good on that guitar?"  
I didn't say nothing, I just kept on playing  
She said, "Have you ever heard this song  
Called Polk Salad Annie?" I just kept playing

She said, "Every time I hear that song  
My insides feel like warm butter  
And I just wanna take off my clothes  
And dance around in my underwear"

I said, "Down in Louisiana  
Where the alligator grow so mean"  
That's all I knew of it and it was enough

So we hit it off, me and this dancer  
We hit it off like a metaphor  
Like a metaphor for a hydrogen bomb  
We was enriched uranium, super critical mass  
We was a chain reaction, it was love and lust  
Aw, mostly lust but a mutual attraction

So there I was boys at 21 years old, I had it all  
I had a fine stripper girlfriend and a Gold Top Les Paul  
Aw, the future, it looked promising  
Oh but there were dark clouds on the horizon

She was a beautiful girl  
But she liked to drink Tequila and that ain't all  
I come home 4 or 5 times  
And she pawned my Les Paul

We broke up and she went to Hollywood  
She married an actor

She got a job dancing on the Hudson Brothers TV show  
And modern lipstick from Max Factor  
I got over her, I'm glad she done alright  
I'm glad she done alright, oh yes, I am

Well now me, I never busted through the gates  
Into the big time as a rock and roll star  
For 40 years I just carried around an old Gold Top guitar

But love and fate are mysterious things  
In this funky old world  
It was 20 years ago I ended up marrying  
That Mother Blues door girl

We had us a boy, he's 18 years old now, he's playing guitar  
He ended up with that Les Paul Gold Top, yes, he did  
Now I don't know if he's gonna hang his life on it or not  
But I'm very grateful for the time I get to share the stage with him

I'm grateful for the time I get to play with musicians  
Like George Reiff and Rick Richards  
I'm grateful that I get to write these old songs  
And travel around the world and play them for people

And they come out and hear me play  
And the days that I keep my gratitude  
Higher than my expectations  
Well, I have really good days