

Buddy Bolden's Blues

music by Buddy Bolden and lyrics by

Jelly Roll Morton (1923) Charles "Buddy" Bolden pioneered jazz cornet before the turn of the century. Frankie Dusen was a trombonist in Buddy's band who took over when Buddy was committed to an asylum. Mamie Desdoumes was a blues singer and pianist with three fingers on her right hand. Judge J.J. Fogarty was a New Orleans judge who reportedly had a vendetta against Bolden and the boys in his band.

C *Cdim*^(½) *G7*^(½) *C* *C7* *Cdim7=Ebdim7*
 I thought I heard Buddy Bolden say
F *Ebdim* *C* *C7*
 You're nasty, you're dirty, take it away
F *Ebdim* *C* *A7*
 You're terrible, you're awful, take it away
D^(½) *Eb*^(½) *A7*^(½) *D7*^(½) *G* *G7*
 I thought I heard him say

C^(½) *C7*^(½) *Cdim* *Ddim* *C* *C9* *sub Ddim for G7*
 I thought I heard Buddy Bolden shout
F *Ebdim* *C* *C7*
 Open up the window, let that bad air out
F *Ebdim* *C* *A7*
 Open up the window, let that bad air out
D7^(½) *D7b9*^(½) *G7* *C* *C*
 I thought I heard Billy Bolden shout

I thought I heard Buddy Bolden say
 Stinky butt funky butt, take it away
 Stinky butt funky butt, take it away
 I thought I heard him say

I thought I heard Judge Fogarty say
 Give him thirty days in the market, take him away
 Give him a good broom to sweep with, take him away
 I thought I heard him say

I thought I heard Frankie Dusen shout
 Gal, give me that money or I'm gonna beat it out
 Give me that money, I explain you, or I'm gonna beat it out
 I thought I heard Frankie Dusen say

I thought I heard Mamie Desdoumes play,
 The blues, I understood every word she say
 I understood every word she say
 I thought I heard Mamie Desdoumes play