

Shine (That's Why They Call Me Shine)

lyrics by Ceceil Mack and music by Ford Dabney. Later lyrics by Lew Brown (1910)

C Cm^(1/2) F#dim7^(1/2) G7 G7
'Cause my hair is curly
C Cm^(1/2) F#dim7^(1/2) G7 G7
'cause my teeth are pearly
Em^(1/2) Bm^(1/2) E7 Am7 Am7
Just be cause I always wear a smile
D7^(1/2) Am^(1/2) D7 G7 G7
Like to dress up in the latest style

C Cm^(1/2) F#dim7^(1/2) G7 G7
Cause I'm glad I'm livin'
E7 E7 Am7^(1/2) E^(1/2) Am7
Take my troubles always with a smile
Dm6 Dm6 C A7
Just because my color's shady, is a wee bit diff'rent maybe
Dm^(1/4) A7^(1/2) Dm^(1/4) G7^(1/2) Gaug^(1/2) C
that's why they call me Shine

Shine, sway your blues'ies.

Why don't you shine?

Start with your shoes'ies.

Shine each place up, make it look like new.

Shine your face up, I want to see you wear a smile or two.

Why don't you shine your these and thoseies?

You'll find everything gonna turn out right fine

Folks will shine up to ya'

Everybody's gonna howdy doody do-ya'

You'll make the whole world shine

When I was born they christened me plain Samuel Johnson Brown.

I hadn't grown very big fore some folks in the town

Had changed it 'round to "Sambo"; I was "Rastus" to a few.

Then "Chocolate Drop" was added by some others that I knew.

And then to cap the climax, I was strolling down the line

When someone shouted, "Fellas, hey! Come on and pipe the shine!"

But I don't care a bit. Here's how I figure it:

A rose they say by any other name would smaell as sweet,

If that's not right why should a nick name take me offy feet?

Ev'ry thing that's precious from a gold piece to a dime

And diamond, pearls and rubies ain't no good unless they shine

So when these clever people call me shone or coon or smoke,

I simply smile then smile some more and vote them all a joke

I'm thinking just the same; what is there in a name?

Cause my hair is curly, (man's got curly hair)

Now just because my teeth are pearly, (also got pearly teeth)

Just because I always wear a smile, (oh keep on smiling)

Like to dress us, babe, in the latest style.

Cause I'm glad I'm livin'

I take these troubles all with a smile

Now just because my color's shady (you's a shady baby)

That's the difference, maybe, why they call me...

'Cause my hair is curly

'Cause my teeth are pearly

Just because I alway wear a smile

Like to dress up in the latest style*

'Cause I'm glad I'm livin'

Take troubles smiling, never whine

Just because my color's shaded

Slightly diff'rent maybe

That's why they call me shine.