

# PRAY FOR THE LIGHTS TO GO OUT

A NEGRO  
SHOUTING SONG

THAT  
NEW  
"BALLIN'  
THE  
JACK"  
SONG



Guy E. Turpin

WORDS AND MUSIC BY  
**TUNNAH AND  
SKIDMORE**



RENTON TUNNAH



WILL E. SKIDMORE

50¢

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# Pray For The Lights To Go Out

MUSIC BY  
WILL E. SKIDMORE

Words by  
RENTON TUNNAH

Composer of { "It Takes a Long, Tall Brown-Skin Gal  
To Make a Preacher Lay His Bible Down."  
"When My Great Grand-Daddy and My Great Grand-Mommy"  
(Used to Swing by Their Tails in a Coconut Tree) etc.

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand plays a series of chords and eighth notes, while the left hand provides a steady bass line. A bracket above the right staff indicates the phrase "Till ready".

Fa-ther was a dea-con in a hard shell church, Way down South where I was born;  
Fa-ther tried to quieten down his lov-in' flock, Call'd on all the saints a - bove;

Peo-ple used to come to church from miles a - round, Just to hear the Ho-ly work go on,  
All that he could hear way down there in the dark Was ba-by, Hon-ey, tur-tle dove.

Fa-ther grabs a sis-ter 'round the neck and says, Sis-ter won't you sing this song. The  
Dea-con grabs his bi-ble firm-ly in his hand, Pray'd to be show'd wrong from right. Just

sis-ter tells the dea - con that she didn't have time, Felt re - lig - ion com - ing on Just  
then as' if his pray'rs were an-swered from a - bove, Some-one got up turn'd on the light, He

*rit.*

then some bod-y got up turn'd the lights all out And you ought to heard that sis - ter shout. \_\_\_\_\_  
 feels him-self a slip-pin'grabs the first gal near, And she sings this sweet song in his ear. \_\_\_\_\_

*rit.*

**CHORUS**

She hol-lered Broth-er, if you want to spread joy, Just pray for the lights to {1st stay 2d go}

*p-f*

out. \_\_\_\_\_ She called on Dea-con \_ for to kneel and pray, You ought to heard that sis - ter

shout. \_\_\_\_\_ Throw'd up both hands and got way back, Took two steps forw'd and ball'd the Jack, She hol-lered

Broth-er, \_ if you want to spread joy, Just pray for the lights to {1st stay 2d go} out. - She hol-lered out. \_\_\_\_\_

1 2

*fz*