

Muskrat Song

USA

Source: Max Hunter Collection / earliest date: 1925 (Ballad Index)
adaption, arrangement and typesetting by Klaus Stezenbach ©2006 www.kstez.de

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It consists of four staves. The first staff is in 4/4 time and contains the lyrics: "1. Musk-rat, musk-rat, what makes your tail so slick? Been liv-in' in the". Above the staff are chord markings 'A' and 'A7'. The second staff is in 3/2 time and contains the lyrics: "wat - er all my life, it's a won - der I ain't". Above the staff are chord markings 'D' and 'E', and the word 'tacet' is written above the staff. The third staff is in 4/4 time and contains the lyrics: "sick, I ain't sick, I ain't sick, I ain't sick, I ain't sick, I ain't". Above the staff are chord markings 'A', 'E', 'A', 'E', 'A', 'E', 'A', 'E'. The fourth staff is in 4/4 time and contains the lyrics: "sick." Above the staff is a chord marking 'A'.

2. Jaybird, jaybird, what makes you fly so high?
Been eatin' this acrons all my life,
it's a wonder I don't die, I don't die, I don't die, I don't die, I don't die.
3. Groundhog, groundhog, what makes your back so brown?
It's a wonder I don't suffocate,
just a livin' in the ground, in the ground, In the ground, in the ground.
4. Tom cat, tom cat, what makes your tail so long?
Well, the way those boys been pullin' my tail,
it's a wonder I ain't gone, I ain't gone, I ain't gone, I ain't gone, I ain't gone.