

# Bill Bailey, Won't You Please Come Home?

The Firehouse Jazz Band

Hughie Cannon - 1902

Cannon was a "song-&-dance" man who was inspired by a lazy black fellow named "Bill Bailey" whose wife frequently threw him out of the house. A dubious alternate story involves a white Vaudevillian with the same name. Either way, the song was introduced by black-faced minstrel John Queen and was soon popular across America.

Concert Pitch

Verse:

On one sum - mer morn - in', the sun was shin - in' fine, the  
Bill drove by that door, in an aut - 'mo - bile, a

la - dy hon - ey of old Bill Bail - ey she hung clothes on the line in her back  
great big di - a - mond, coach and foot - man to hear that big wench squeal. "He's all a -

yard, lone", and weep - in' hard. She  
I heard her groan. She

**A** mar - ried a B. & O. brake - man that took and threw her down.  
hol - lered right through that old screen door, "Bill Bail - ey, are you sore?

Bell - 'rin' like an old prune - fed calf an' with a big gang hang - in' 'round, And to that  
Stop a min - ute and lis - ten to me, won't I see you here no more?" Bill winked his

crowd, eye she cried out loud:  
and heard her cry: