

SHINE ON, HARVEST MOON

1908

Jack Norworth and Nora Bayes were one of the most successful husband and wife teams in the history of show business. As a teenager, Nora started her career as a chorus girl at the old Chicago Opera House. Later she was to appear in all the major theaters on Broadway and in London. When she joined the Zeigfeld Follies in 1907, she was already a star performer and remained so until her death. She made numerous phonograph recordings between 1910 and 1922, some with her husband. Jack Norworth was a blackface comedian in minstrel shows and an early vaudeville entertainer. With his wife, Nora, he appeared in many Broadway shows, including the Zeigfeld Follies of 1908 and 1909. He wrote lyrics for several composers, including Albert Von Tilzer.

Here is another of those happy pairings of words and melody which makes for easy harmonizing. The verse is not as well-known as the chorus, but with its contrasting minor key, perfectly prepares the way for the high-spirited chorus.

By **NORA BAYES** and **JACK NORWORTH**
(1880-1928) (1879-1959)

INTRO:

Time for love, moon a - bove, luck - y me,

The musical notation for the Intro section is written on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody starts on a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B-flat4, and C5. The bass line consists of a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff. The section is marked with a '1' above the first measure and a '2' above the second measure.

VERSE:

Shine your light, make it bright so we can see. The

The musical notation for the Verse section is written on a grand staff. It continues from the Intro with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The melody starts on a quarter note D5, followed by quarter notes C5, B-flat4, and A4. The bass line continues with the eighth-note accompaniment. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff. The section is marked with a '3' above the first measure, a '4' above the second measure, and a '7' above the final measure. The key signature changes to one flat (B-flat) for the final measure.

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Ooh

8 night was might - y dark so you could hard - ly see, — For the moon re - fused to

Ooh

Ooh

8 shine; Cou - ple sit - tin' un - der-neath a wil - low tree, — For

Ooh

for love

8 love for love they pine. — Lit - tle maid was kind - a 'fraid o'

they pine.

said, — "I'll go."

8 dark - ness so she said, said, "I guess I'll go." "I'll go."

17 Boy be - gan to sigh, 18 looked up at the sky,

CHORUS:

19 Told the moon his lit - tle tale of woe. 20 "Oh, shine on, 21

22 shine on, har - vest moon 23 up in the 24 sky;

25 I ain't had no lov - in' since 26 Jan - u - ar - y, Feb - ru - ar - y, 27

28 June or Ju - ly. 29 Snow time ain't no time to 30

31 stay out - doors and spoon, 32 So shine on, 33

34 35 36

8

shine on, har - vest moon for me and my gal.

TAG:

37 Shine, 38 shine,

8

Keep a - shin - in' bright, shine, shin - in' ev - 'ry night,

Shine, shin - in' ev - 'ry night,

39 40

8

Shine for me and my gal!"

Additional verse:

I can't see why a boy should sigh when by his side is the girl he loves so true;
 All he has to say is, "Won't you be my bride? For I love you.
 Why should I be tellin' you this secret when I know that you can guess?"
 Harvest moon will smile, shine on all the while, if the little girl should answer, "Yes."