

# Big Maceo, Can't You Read

Way back tale  
In nineteen hundred and ten  
The monkey and the baboon  
They came walkin' in

The monkey told the baboon  
Let's shoot a game of pool  
The monkey could shoot  
But the baboon wadn't no fool

Next thing came along  
Was a little mule  
He say, 'You know I'm so mad  
I even can't wear no shoes'

Next thing came along  
There was Mr. Cat  
We ain't gon' have no such-a stuff  
Goin' on here like that

Next thing came  
Was a little mouse  
'Let's all get drunk  
And break up the doggone house'

Can't ya re-ead?  
Now, can't ya re-ead?  
If ya keep on readin'  
I'm bound to put you wise

(Tampa sings:)

Well, the monkey and the elephant  
They went out for a little drive  
The elephant hit the monkey  
Right square in his eye

The monkey looked up  
With a tear in his eye  
Said, 'Look-a-here big boy  
You oughta get someone yo' size

One a these days  
I'm gonna climb yo' tree  
Remember big boy  
You got to march right under me

When you march under me  
You better march careful and fast  
I get me limb and break it  
Cross yo' ~

Now, can't you re-ead  
Now can't you re-ead  
If you keep on readin'  
I'm bound to put you wise

If anybody jus' happen to ask'd you  
Where the waitin' gonna be?  
Tell him right down there on  
Hazen Street

Go down there

Just about the end of the week  
You can get most anything  
That you care to eat

If you don't like shrimp  
Just na-ame yo' dish  
They will even sell you  
Some a-that ol' filtie fish

Now, can't you re-eat?  
Now, can't you re-eat?  
Now, if you keep on readin'  
Mama, I'm bound to put you wise

'Yeah, play it Mr. Maceo'

(piano, guitar)

Well, fifteen cents  
You know that's reg'lar price  
If you got two bits  
They will even serve you twice

Can't you re-eat?  
Now, can't you re-read?  
If you keep on readin'  
I'm bound to put you wise.

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