

MABELLENE

By CHUCK BERRY, RUSS FRATTO and ALAN FREED



RECORDED ON:

Philips—Richard Gray
H.M.V.—Loren Becker
Coronet—Marty Robbins
Festival—Sy Oliver's Orch. with Jim Brady
Mercury—Ralph Marterie
MASTERTOUCH AND BROADWAY ROLLS

2/6

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Mabellene

Words and Music by
CHUCK BERRY
RUSS FRATTO
ALAN FREED

Bright

Piano

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with quarter notes. The music is in a 12/8 time signature and a key with one flat (Bb).

Refrain

C9+5

F6

F7

Bb9

MA-BEL - LENE, ——— Why can't you be true?

Oh! MA-BEL - LENE, ———

mp - sf

The first line of the refrain is written on a grand staff. The vocal line is on the top staff, and the piano accompaniment is on the bottom two staves. The piano part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the right hand and quarter notes in the left hand. The lyrics are: MA-BEL - LENE, ——— Why can't you be true? Oh! MA-BEL - LENE, ———

F6

C7

— Why can't you be true? ———

You've start - ed back do-in' the

The second line of the refrain continues the musical notation. The vocal line is on the top staff, and the piano accompaniment is on the bottom two staves. The lyrics are: — Why can't you be true? ——— You've start - ed back do-in' the

1. 2. 3.

Segue to Verse

Fine

F

F

Db9

C9

F6

things you used to do. ———

do. ———

The final line of the refrain is written on a grand staff. The vocal line is on the top staff, and the piano accompaniment is on the bottom two staves. The lyrics are: things you used to do. ——— do. ———

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Verse

B \flat 9

1. As I — was mo - ti - va - tin' o - ver the hill, — I
 2. The Cad - il - lac pulled — up a - head of the Ford, — The
 3. The mo - tor cooled down, — the — heat — went down — And

F6

saw MA - BEL - LENE — in a Coup de Ville, — A
 Ford got — hot and would - n't do no more, — It
 that's when I heard — that — high way sound, — The

C7

Cad - il - lac a - roll - in' on the o - pen road, — I
 then got — cloud - y, and — start - ed to rain, — A
 Cad - il - lac a - sit - tin' like a ton — of lead, —

F6

C7

Noth - in' will out - run my — V. 8., Ford, — The Cad - il - lac — do - in' bout —
 toot - ed my — horn for a pass - in' lane, — The rain — wa - ter blow - in' all —
 hun - dred and — ten half a mile a - head, — The Cad - il - lac — look - in' like its

D. S. al Fine

C9+5

nine - ty five, — She's bump - er to — bump - er, roll - in' side — by side... } MA - BEL -
 un - der my hood, — I know that I was do - in' my — mo - tor good... }
 sit - tin' still. And I caught — MA - BEL - LENE — at the top of the hill. — }

D. S. al Fine