MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET - Cash/Perkins side

CARL

John.

JOHNNY

Yeah.

CARL

You ain't told Mistuh Phillips you're quittin' Sun, have you?

JOHNNY

Well, it jus' never seemed like the right time.

CARL

Well, he's fixin' to force the issue. He's gonna hand you the contract renewal in front of Elvis and ever'one.

JOHNNY

(Frustrated)

Oh man, I shoulda known somethin' like that was comin'.

CARL

Then why'd the hell you show up here?

JOHNNY

Mr. Phillips called and said Elvis was stopping by. Told me to get my butt over here.

CARL

And you stepped right in it.

DYANNE

(Crossing down to them)

I'm sorry, fellas. I didn't realize you were in the middle of something...

CARL

It's okay. Jus' a little business.

JOHNNY

Aw hell, stick around... Smoke 'em if you got 'em, darlin'.

DYANNE

It is so much fun in there. Is it always like this?

(JOHNNY and CARL look at each other...DYANNE looks at them...pregnant pause)

CARL

It used to be.

(Looks at CARL)

JOHNNY

Look, if you really wanna know, there's a little a-tomic bomb fixin' to explode. Mistuh Phillips wants me to sign a contract extension, and what he don't know is I've awready signed an agreement to go with Columbia Records in Nashville the day my contract's up here.

DYANNE

I see. You know, it's so strange that you want nothing more than to leave Sun and Elvis wants nothing more than to come back.

CARL

Yeah, but he AIN'T comin' back. There's just so far you can go on Sun Records. It's a two-person operation f'r God's sakes.

JOHNNY

And let's just say that Sun don't pay at the top end. And their distribution!

(Shakes his head)

Man, if they really wanna stop the spread of Communism, they oughta let Sun distribute it.

CARL

And a blind man can see Mistuh Phillips is 'bout to throw ever'thing behind that crazy new kid.

DYANNE

He'll be a star or die trying.

CARL

Maybe, but where does that leave us?

JOHNNY

I don't wanna take nuthin' away from Mistuh Phillips. He saw somethin' in me couldn't no one else have seen. Hell, wouldn't no one else have given me the time a'day. But...you can take this for what it's worth. I made a covenant with God, if he made me a star I would praise him the onliest way I know how--with a gospel record. Mr. Phillips won't record it. Says the kids won't buy it. Well, Columbia thinks they will. So...it's just time to be movin' on.

CARL

John's right. Stay here, and 'fore you know it, we'll be back playin' to the drunks in them damn ol' honky tonks. And drunks don't buy records... They just make 'em.

JOHNNY

I'll drink to that.

MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET - Perkins/Phillips Side

CARL

Mistuh Phillips? I'm Carl Perkins, and this here's my brother Jay. We drove down from Jackson. Come to play you a couple of tunes.

PHILLIPS

It's kinda late boy, but...well, whatcha got?

CARL

Got a song I wrote called "Blue Suede Shoes."

PHILLIPS

You wrote a song about your shoes?

CARL

When you're as poor as us, Mistuh Phillips, you like ANY kinda shoes.

PHILLIPS

Son, I ain't never heard a rich man make a record worth a damn. Y'all farmin' boys?

CARL

Tell you the truth, Mistuh Phillips, we was sharecroppers. Wasn't nuthin' beneath us, 'cept the ground...

PHILLIPS

Where'd you learn to play then, son?

CARL

There was an old colored man across the field...ever'one called him Uncle John. He taught me how to play git-tar like no one you ever heard. Yes sir.

PHILLIPS

Well, flog me a lick, son. Show me some a'that.

(CARL plays a hillbilly lick)

No, No. That ain't no kind of nothin'. Lemme hear some of them blues you were talkin' about.

(CARL plays a funky blues riff)

Now ain't that somethin'. So what you want from me, son?

CARL

I want you to hear my song. Put out a record on me.

PHILLIPS

So I listened to that song and I recorded his "Blue Suede Shoes." It went straight up to Number One on the pop, blues, and country charts. Carl Perkins was the first triple-crown winner in the history of the record business. Put Sun Records on the map. Now we just gotta' get the boy another hit.

MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET - Perkins/Phillips Side

CARL

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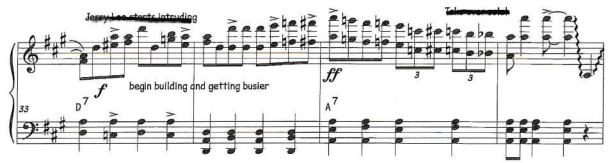
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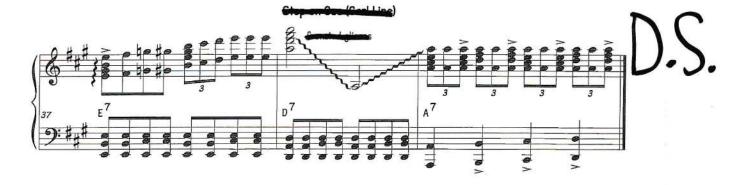












ALL GUYS (as a solo)

RH Piano

Blues Suede Shoes

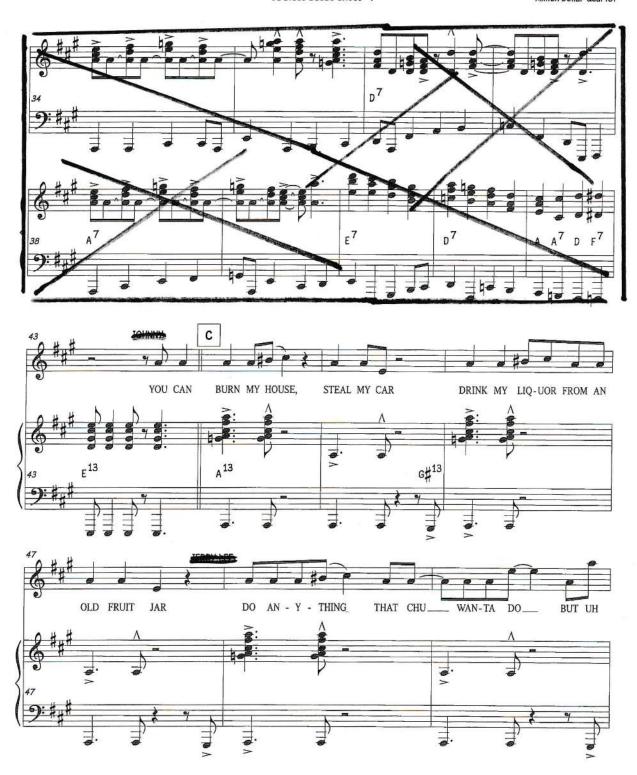
MDQ 01







Orchestrations by Steven Bishop



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