

Thomas Edison Blues

Every time you lay down in bed, you got no control what comes into your head.
I lay down the other night alongside of my cat, thinking about the weather and things like that,
When a dream took me back a year or two. I woke up with the Tom Edison Blues.

'Tain't enough to create. 'Snot enough to invent.
You wanna do it right. Get your name in lights.
Gotta imp-a-lement.

I was up in my lab near the break of day, when a woman walked in and said, "Hey, let's play!"
I said, "I've gotta make a light bulb before dawn. She said, "Come on, Tom, let me turn you on."
"I've been up all night, I can't quit now." She said, "Gimme a chance, I'll show you how."
I said, "History's waiting, I can't clown around." She said, "Don't look now, but your pants just fell down.
Sure enough, I was standing there naked, no way to hide it, no way to fake it.
So I ran behind my phonograph, and played "Mary Had a Little Lamb" to make her laugh.
She said, "Too bad, Mary, if you dig sheep, but I like inventors, cuz they never sleep."

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Well, your dreams are pretty free and you can do what you please, so I tried to change myself into
somebody mean.

I said, "Look, I'm your pa, I'm gonna give you a spanking." She said, "You look more like Benjamin
Franklin."

Then I made like the devil with a whip and a sword, but she said I reminded her of Henry Ford.
So I tried to make her fear for her very life, I said, "Settle down, you're gonna wake up my wife."
She said, "Tom, while you're up here, leaving her all alone, she's out with some ding-a-ling inventing
telephones."

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Then I tried to distract her with my thomatrope, my phantasmagorica, and my prakcinescope.
When she paid no attention to my pharaktoscope, I knew my motion-picture camera was my only hope.
So I rolled my film about the factory and all the workers trudging out as tired as can be,
But the sun came up and filled my lab with light. I said, "I guess I'll knock off till tomorrow night."
She said, "You see that light bulb in your pocket? I can make it shine because I got the socket."

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Then phone rang, woke me up, to my surprise, I was kissing my cat and it was scratching out my eyes
I answered the phone, mad as hell. I said, "Where's my wife, Alexander Graham Bell?"

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