Minnie the Moocher
by Walter Melrose, Grant Rymal and Marty Bloom (1908)
(based on Cab Calloway’s cover)


Folks, here’s the story ‘bout Minnie the Moocher.
C7 . . . | B7 . Em . |
She was a low-down hoochie coocher.
Em . . . | B7 . Em |
She was the rough-est, tough-est frail
C7 . . . | B7 . Em |
But Minnie had a heart as big as a whale.

Chorus: Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee ho (Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee ho)
Hey-dee hey-dee hey-dee hey (Hey-dee hey-dee hey-dee hey)
Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee hi (Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee hi)
Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee ho (Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee ho)

She messed a-round with a bloke named Smokey.
C7 . . . | B7 . Em |
She loved him though he was a cokie.
Em . . . | B7 . Em |
He took her down to Chin-a-town
C7 . . . | B7 . Em |
And showed her how to kick a gong a-round.

Chorus: Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee ho (Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee ho)
Hey-dee hey-dee hey-dee hey (Hey-dee hey-dee hey-dee hey)
Whoa-----------oooooooh (Whoa----------- oooooooh)
Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee ho (Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee ho)
She had a dream about the king of Sweden.

He gave her things that she was needin’.

He gave her a home built of gold and steel,

A diamond car with a platinum wheel.

Chorus: Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee ho (Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee ho)

Hey-dee hey-dee hey-dee hey (Hey-dee hey-dee hey-dee hey)

** fast scatting** (scatting repeat)

Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee ho Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee ho

He gave her his townhouse and his racing horses.

Each meal she ate was a dozen courses.

Had a million dollars worth of nickels and dimes.

She sat around and counted them a million times.

Chorus: Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee ho (Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee ho)

Hey-dee hey-dee hey-dee hey (Hey-dee hey-dee hey-dee hey)

Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee hi (Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee hi)

Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee ho (Hi-dee hi-dee hi-dee ho)

(slowly) Poor Min, poor Min, poor Min.