

JAILHOUSE BLUES

Clarence Williams,

changes~~ new lyrics by Adegbalola, 8/97, rev 4/98

1st 2 verses + last by Bessie Smith &
but slight

**(Bessie's spoken intro: Lawd -- this house is gonna get raided!
Yes sir!)**

**Thirty days in jail with my back turned to the wall turned to the
wall (2x)**

Look here, Mr. Jailkeeper, please put another gal in my stall

**I sho' hate being in jail, but I got to stay here so long, so long (2x)
When every friend I had is done shook hands and gone**

**So many mothers in jail, they number 4 out of 5 (2x)
Somebody on the outside got to keep our kids alive**

**Too many black sisters are doing time (2x)
Color of yo' skin, makes it a double crime**

**Don't that tell you something? Please give me an answer (2x)
Prison these days is like putting bandaids on a cancer**

**Good morning blues, blues how do you do (2x)
Well I just come here to have a few words with you**

1st verse

Tag -- last line several times