

Sydney Town

by Frank Hardy 1964 with the warning "add verses at your own risk." Hardy (1917~1994) was an Australian left-wing novelist and writer best known for his novel 'Power Without Glory' and political activist for supporting the Gurindji Strike at Wave Station.

Chorus

The more they try to keep me down The bet-ter I live in Syd-ney Town.
The more they try to keep me down The bet-ter I live in Syd-ney Town.

The musical notation for the chorus consists of two staves of music in G major, 2/4 time. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half). Chords G, D, A7, and D are indicated above the staff. The second staff is identical to the first.

Verse

Great grand-dad-dy walked a - long the street With a ball and chain a - round his feet
And that's the way I ought to walk By the way the toffs all talk and talk.

The musical notation for the verse consists of two staves of music in G major, 2/4 time. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half). Chords D, A7, and D are indicated above the staff. The second staff has notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half). Chords D, G, A7, and D are indicated above the staff.

They rob me in the Parliament
They charge me half my pay for rent
They heard I was living on the Rocks
So they pulled it down for building blocks.

The beer's gone up in the public bar
And I can't afford a motor car
But I keep six bottles in the fridge
And pay no toll on the harbor bridge.

The jockies and the bookies cheat,
The odds-on favorites all get beat
So just to show them I'm no fool
I go to Tommo's Two-up school.

They all throw heads when I back tails
I got no dough, to 'bank on the Wales'.
But I'll get a job, it'll suit me fine
On the Eastern Suburbs railway line.

If I go on stike, I'll have good cause,
Then I'll get hit with a Penal Clause,
But I don't care, let the bosses rage,
I'll fight for a rise in the basic wage.

The monopolies can all arrange
To rig their shares on the Stock Exchange
Through lottery tickets with my spouse
I've got shares in the Opera House.

They won't let you win on poker machines
They show rubbish on the TV screens
So for entertainment I go for
Australian songs at the Troubador.