

Nobody Knows You When You're Down and Out

Words & Music by Jimmy Cox (1923) Recorded by Bessie Smith in 1929, Eric Clapton, 1992

C **E7** **A** **A7**
Once I lived the life of a millionaire,
Dm **A7** **Dm/ A7/ Dm**
Spendin' my money, and I didn't care,
F **F#dim** **C7/ Bb7/ A7**
Takin' my friends out for a mighty good time, Buyin'
D9 **D9** **Ab7** **G7**
High-priced liquor, champagne and wine. But
C **E7** **A** **A7**
Then I began to be so low;
Dm **A7** **Dm/ A7 Dm**
I didn't have a dollar and no place to go. Well if I
F **F#dim** **C/ Bb7/ A7**
Ever get my hands on a dollar a - gain,
D9 **D9** **G7** **C**
I'll hold on to it till that eagle grins, 'cause

Refrain:

C **E7** **A7** **A7** **Dm** **A7** **Dm/ A7/ Dm**
No - body knows you when you're down and out;
F **F#dim** **C7/ Bb7 A7**
In your pocket, not one penny; And
D9 **D9** **Ab7** **G7**
When it comes to friends, you don't have any.
C **E7** **A7** **A7**
But when you get back on your feet a - gain
Dm **A7** **Dm/ A7/ Dm**
Everybody wants to be your long-lost friend Well it's
F **F#dim** **C/ Bb7/ A7**
Mighty strange, without a doubt
D9 **D9** **G7** **C**
Nobody knows you when you're down and out.

Ending

G7 **C/ A7 Ab7/ G7/ G7** **C** **C**
Down and out, oh when your down and out