

# When the Debbies Go By

(from *Tell Me More*)

Music and Lyrics by  
George Gershwin, Ira Gershwin, and B. G. DeSylva

A CHAR- I- TY BA- ZAAR — COULD NOT GET VER-Y FAR — UN-  
LESS THE DEB- U- TANTES WERE THERE TO MAKE IT POP- U- LAR — Af-  
TEN-TION THEY EN- GAGE — THEY SEEM TO HOLD THE STAGE — IN

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part is marked with a piano (p) dynamic. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand. The score is written in a common time signature.

SUN-DAY RO-TO- CRA-WRE SEC-TIONS THEY'RE ON EV-RY PAGE

IN-TREST NEV-ER EBBS IN THE LOVE-LY DEBS

1. WHEN THE DEB- BIES GO BY  
2. WHEN THE DEB- BIES GO BY

WITH THEIR NOS- ES HELD HIGH THEY MAKE A  
WITH THEIR NOS- ES HELD HIGH AL-THOUGH THEIR

BUSI-NESS OF LOOK- ING SE- RAPH- IC IN CASE THEY  
 CLOTHES ARE A BLOW TO THE PAS- TOR THEY MAKE A

MEET AN- Y CAM- ER- A - MEN FROM THE "NEWS" OR "GRA- PHIC"  
 WHALE OF A HIT WITH A SHEIK OR A RID- ING MAS- TER

WHEN THEY SMILE AT A COP  
 EACH A SMART LIT- TLE ROGUE

TRAF- FIC COMES TO A STOP OH,  
 FROM THE PAG- ES OF "VOGUE" SO

11  
 B.H.  
 1937  
 2-2

SHOW ME THE MAN WHO DOES-N'T STRAIGHT-EN HIS TIE  
 SHOW ME THE MAN WHO IS-N'T RISK-ING AN EYE

The first system of music features a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are written above the vocal line. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in the left hand.

WHEN THE DEB- BIES GO BY.  
 WHEN THE DEB- BIES GO BY.

The second system continues the musical piece. It includes a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are written above the vocal line. There are some corrections or additions in the piano part, indicated by brackets and arrows.

BY.

The third system shows the continuation of the piano accompaniment. The vocal line is mostly blank, with only the word "BY." written above it. The piano part continues with various chords and melodic fragments.

Four empty musical staves are located at the bottom of the page, below the main body of the score.

WHEN THE DEBBIES GO BY

A charity bazaar  
Could not get very far,  
Unless the debutantes were there to make it popular.  
Attention they engage;  
They seem to hold the stage;  
In Sunday Retegravure sections they're on ev'ry page.  
Int'rest never ebbs  
In the lovely debbs.

Refrain

When the debbies go by,  
With their noses held high,  
They make a business of looking seraphic  
In case they meet any cameramen  
From the "News" or "Graphic".  
When they smile at a cop,  
Traffic comes to a stop.  
Oh, show me the man who doesn't straighten his tie,  
When the debbies go by.

2.

When the debbies go by,  
With their noses held high -  
Although their clothes are a blow to a pastor,  
They make a whale of a hit with a sheik  
Or a riding master.  
Each, a smart little regue  
From the pages of "Vogue" -  
So show me the man who isn't risking an eye,  
When the debbies go by.