50 NEGRO FOLK SONGS
FOREWORD

This little book of Negro folk songs was prepared by a group of music educators. Their purpose has been to present usable songs in simple, authentic form at low cost. In variety and number, spirituals undoubtedly constitute America's finest contribution to folk music.

The cover is a reproduction of William Smith's block print portraying the spiritual, "Nobody Knows". Fifty original prints were made, of which one hangs in the Library of Congress. The artist was formerly of Karamu House, a nationally known creative art center in Cleveland, Ohio, unique among settlements of this country.

Realizing how much singing can enrich our lives, I wish you all the joy that using this book can bring.

Walter F. Anderson

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25¢ each
Little Wheel

Arr. by Katharine Tyler Wessells

There's a little wheel a-turning in my heart. There's a little wheel a-turning in my heart, In my heart, In my heart.

There's a little wheel a-turning in my heart.

2. Oh, I feel so very happy in my heart...
3. Oh, I don't feel no ways tired in my heart...
4. Oh, I feel like shouting in my heart...

Words and melody from Religious Folk Songs of the Negro
Edited by E. N. Dett.
Mary and Martha

1. Mary and Martha jes' gone 'long, Mary and Martha
2. Father and Mother...
3. Preacher and the elder...

jes' gone 'long, Mary and Martha jes' gone 'long, To
ring dem charm-in' bells. Cry-in', Free grace un-
dy-in' love, Free grace un-ady-in' love, Free grace un-
dy-in' love, To ring dem charm-in' bells. Cry-in', bells.

Oh, My Lovin' Brother

Oh, my lovin' brother—When the world's on
fire—Don't you want God's bos-om to be your
pil-low?—Hide me o-ver in the Rock of
A-ges, Rock of A-ges, cleft for me.
Deep River

Refrain

Deep River, my home is over

Jordan.

Deep River, Lord, I want to cross over into camp ground.

O don't you want to go to that gospel feast, That promised land, where all is peace?
Balm in Gilead

There is a balm in Gilead, To make the wounded whole.

There is a balm in Gilead, To heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work in vain, But ever feel discouraged, our Father is our friend, And may not preach like Peter, you may not pray like Paul, But

then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. There is a

if you lack for knowledge He'll not refuse to lend. you can tell the story of one who died for all.
Burden Down

(As sung at Lincoln School, Marion, Alabama)

Prayerfully, not too loud

Arr. by Olive J. Williams

Burden down, Lord, Burden down, Lord, Since I

lay my burden down... Burden down, Lord, Burden

burden down

down, Lord, Since I lay my burden down.

2. Wonder will my sister know me, ...
3. Wonder will my brother know me, ...
4. Burden down, Lord, ... (same as 1st stanza)

Jacob's Ladder

We are climbing Jacob's ladder, We are

climbing Jacob's ladder, We are climbing

Ja-cob's ladder, Sol-diers of the cross...

2—Every round goes higher, higher,
3—Sinner, do you love my Jesus? ....
4—If you love Him, why not serve Him?
5—We are climbing higher, higher ....
Certainly, Lord

2. Have you been baptized? ...

3. Did you go to the valley?
Did you get on your knees?
Did your soul get ease?
Amen

CHORUS

A-men, A-men, A-men, A-

Solo OBBLIGATO

1. See the ba-by,
2. See Him in the tem-ple,
3. See Him at the sea-side,
4. See Him in the gar-den,
5. Yes, He is my Sav-i-or.


Ly-ing in a man-ger One Christ-mas morn-ing.
Talk-ing to the El-ders, How they mar-velled at His wis-dom,
Preach-ing and heal-ing, To the blind and the fee-ble.
Pray-ing to His Fa-ther, In deep-est sor-row.
Je-sus died to save us, And He rose on Eas-ter.

A-men, A-men,

6. Hal-le-lu-jah In the king-


A-men,

dom with my Sav-i-or: A-men, A-men,
A-men, A-men, A-men, A-men,

A-men—pronounce A as in bay.

NOTES: (1) Sing chorus thru twice before beginning obbligato lead, and soften background singing with beginning of lead. (2) Swell the 2nd and 3rd "amen" when going up scale. (3) In last verse be sure to observe break, and all hold last "A-men"
Come and Go

With confidence

Solo

Chorus

Solo

Negro Spiritual

CHO.

Come an' go to that lan', Come an' go to that lan', Where I'm boun', Where I'm boun', Come an' go to that lan', Come an' go to that lan', Where I'm boun', Where I'm boun'

2. There is joy in that lan'...
3. Peace and happiness in that lan'...
4. Come and go to that lan'...

Note: Chorus parts always fade away in hum. Last stanza pp. but vital. Mezzo or Baritone voices do solo best.
As sung at Marion, Alabama. Set down by Olive J. Williams.
Couldn't Hear Nobody Pray

I couldn't hear nobody pray; O I

couldn't hear nobody pray, O way down yonder

by myself, O I couldn't hear nobody

Fine

pray, 1. (All alone) Couldn't hear nobody

2. (Help me Lord!)

D.C.

pray, 1. (Kneeling down) Couldn't hear nobody pray.

2. (In my trouble)
Ezek'el Saw the Wheel

1. Jes' let me tell you what a hypocrite I'll do,
2. Watch out my sister how you walk on the cross,
3. You say the Lord has set you free,

Way in the middle of the air, He'll talk about me an' he'll
Yo' foot might slip an' yo'
Why don't you let yo'
Ezek'el, continued


Rocka My Soul

Oh, a rock-a my soul, in the bosom of A-braham; A rock-a my soul in the bosom of A-braham; A rock-a my soul in the bosom of A-braham;

Oh, rock-a my soul. So high, you can't get over it;

So low, you can't get under it; So wide, you can't get a-round it; You must go in at the door.
Get on Board

Cheerfully, not too fast

Get on board, little children, Get on board, little children,

Get on, children, Get on, children, Get on board, little children, There's

1. The Gospel train's a-
   room for many a more.

2. I hear the train a-
   comin', I hear it just at han'.

3. The fare is cheap and
   all cango. The rich and poor are there.

chorus hum

car wheels rollin'; an' rumblin' thru the lan',

all her steam an' brakes, she's strainin' ev'ry nerve.

class a-board this train, no diff'renee in the fare.

Note: Pronunciation is improved by omitting final consonants and all r's.

When Chorus hums, altos and remaining sopranos take the highest tone.
Go Down, Moses

With dramatic intensity

Leader

Arr. by Olive J. Williams

Chorus

Broadly

When Israel was in Egypt's land:
Thus saith the Lord, bold Moses said: Let my people
O let us all from bondage flee;

Leader

Oppressed so hard they could not stand,
go; If not I'll smite your first-born dead, Let my people:
And let us all in Christ be free!

Chorus

REFRAIN

go. Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land.

Leader

Tell ol' Pharaoh Let my people go.

Chorus
Good News in the Kingdom

West Indies Spiritual

Arr. by Francis Ames

CHORUS

Good news in the kingdom, An' I won't die no more, my leader;

Fine

Good news in the kingdom, Lord, An' I won't die no more.

Solo

1. I saw Saint Peter on the sea,
2. I do believe without a doubt, An' I won't die no more;
3. I feel de spirit movin' me,

Solo

He left his nets and fol-lered me,
The Chris-tian has a right to shout, An' I won't die no more.
I'm gwine to join the ju-bi-lee,

Chorus

D.C.
Refrain
Lively and bright

Good news! The char-iot's com-ing. Good news! The char-iot's com-ing.

Fine
There's a long white robe in the heav-en I know.

And I don't want it to leave me be-hind. 1. There's a long white robe in the heav-en I know.

A long white robe in the heav-en I know. There's a long white robe in the heav-en I know.

And I don't want it to leave me be-hind.

2. pair of wings... 3. shoes... 4. starry crown... 5. golden harp...
There's a Meeting Here Tonight

Refrain Un poco marziale

Get you ready, there's a meeting here tonight;

Solo

Come along, there's a meeting here tonight;

Chorus

I know you by your daily walk, There's a meeting here tonight.

Solo

1. Camp meeting down in the wilderness, There's a meeting here tonight;
2. You say you're aiming for the skies, Why don't you stop your telling lies?

Chorus D.C.

I know it's among the Methodists, There's a meeting here tonight.

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I Got a Robe

Negro Spiritual

I got a robe, you got a robe, All a God's children got a robe.

When I get to heaven goin' to put on my robe, goin' to shout all over God's Heaven. Heaven. Heaven.

Everybody talkin' bout a Heaven ain' a goin' there,


2. I got a shoe, ... put on my shoes, goin' to walk....
3. I got a song, ... sing-a my song, goin' to sing....
4. I got a crown, ... put on my crown, goin' to shout....
I Know the Lord

O I know the Lord, I know the Lord,

I know the Lord's laid his hands on me. O hands on me.

1. Did ever you see the like before
   King Jesus preaching to the poor
2. When Jesus wash'd my sins a way
   O wasn't that a happy day
3. Some seek the Lord and don't seek him right,
   They fool all day and pray at night
4. My Lord's done just what he said,
   He's heal'd the sick and rais'd the dead

I know the Lord's laid his hands on me, hands on me. O

I'm a-Rolling

I'm a-rolling, I'm a-rolling, I'm a-rolling through an unfriendly world; I'm a-rolling, I'm a-rolling through an unfriendly world.

1. O brothers, won't you help me, O brothers, won't you help me?
2. O sisters, won't you help me, O sisters, won't you help me?
3. O preachers, won't you help me, O preachers, won't you help me?

O brothers, won't you help me to pray? O brothers, won't you help me to pray? O sisters, won't you help me to fight? O preachers, etc.

help me? Won't you help me in the service of the Lord?

From RELIGIOUS FOLK SONGS OF THE NEGRO. Permission The Hampton Institute
Inching Along

Negro Spiritual

Keep a-inch-ing a-long, Keep a-inch-ing a-long, Jesus will come by and by. Keep a-inch-ing a-long like a poor inch-worm,

Fine

1. It was inch by inch that I sought the Lord, long, Jesus will come by and by. And inch by inch till way,

2. We'll inch and inch and inch a-

3. O trials and troubles on the It was inch by inch that he saved my soul, we get home, Jesus will come by and by. Keep a-

well as pray,

I Want to Be Ready

Refrain

Chorus

I want to be ready, I want to be ready.

Dim.

I want to be ready, To walk in Je-rusa-lem

Fine

Solo

just like John. 1. John said that Je-rusa-lem was foursquare;
2. When Peter was preaching at Pen-te-cost,

Chorus

Solo

Walk in Je-rusa-lem just like John. O he was filled with the

Chorus

D.C.

meet you there, Walk in Je-rusa-lem just like John.

From THE DETT COLLECTION OF NEGRO SPIRITUALS
Permission Hall and McCreaery Co., Chicago
Every Time I Feel de Spirit

Negro Spiritual
Arr. by Marion Downs

Ev'-ry time I feel de Spirit Mov-in'

in my heart, I will pray; Ev'-ry time I feel de Spirit Mov-in' in my heart, I will pray;

1. Up-on the moun-tain, when my Lord spoke, Out of His mouth came fire and smoke; Looked all a-round me, it looked so fine, Till I asked my Lord if all were mine.

2. Oh, I have sor-rows and I have woe, And I have heart-ache here be-low; But while God leads me, I'll nev-er fear, For I am shel-tered by His care.

Note: Male voices sing the verse melody. Women's voices hum the obbligato. Keep syncopated rhythm.
King of Kings

Joyfully
Refrain. Broadly

Arr. by Olive J. Williams

He is King of Kings. He is Lord of Lords.

Jesus Christ the first and last. No man works like Him.

1. I know that my Redeemer lives. No man works like Him,
2. He builds a platform in the air. No man works like Him,
3. O sinner if you will believe.

And by His love sweet blessing gives. No man works like Him.
And calls the saints from every-where.
Grace of the Lord you will receive.

Note: Repeat refrain at beginning and end, last time pp.
Sing refrain once after each stanza.
Lord, Lord, Lord

REFRAIN joyful and spirited Arr by Walter F. Anderson

Lord, Lord, Lord, you've sure been good to me. (I'm singing)

Lord, Lord, Lord, you've sure been good to me. (Well it's)

Lord, Lord, Lord, you've sure been good to me; For you've

done what the world could not do. Fine

1. O you

fed me when I was hungry, You've sure been good to me, O Lord you

m-m

fed me when I was hungry, You've sure been good to me.
fed me when I'se hungry, You've

(Well you) m-m

sure been good to me.

D.C.

For you've done what the world could not do (I'm singing)

Lord, Make Me More Holy

Lord, make me more ho-ly, Lord, make me more ho-ly,

Lord, make me more ho-ly, un-til we meet a-gain.

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, un-til we meet a-gain.

2. Faithful...  3. Humble...  4. Righteous...

From AMERICAN NEGRO SONGS AND SPIRITUALS
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Look Away

(As Sung at Lincoln School, Marion, Alabama)

Leader  Hopefully  

Arr. by Olive J. Williams

O, look away  in-a-heav-en. O, look a-

Chorus  mf

O, look a-way  in-a-heav-en.  O, look a-

way  in-a-heav-en. O, look a-way

O, look a-way  in-a-heav-en.  O, look a-

Fine

in-a-heav-en. Good Lord I hope I join the band.

way in-a-heav-en.  Hope I join the band.

I'm gonna see my mother some o' these mornings,
Look Away — continued

See my mother some of these mornings, See my mother

some of these mornings, Lord I hope I join the band.

some of these mornings, Hope I join the band.

Were You There?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Oh!

Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

__Were you there when they crucified my Lord?__

2. ...When the sun refused to shine?...
3. ...When they laid Him in the tomb?...
Let Us Cheer the Weary Traveler

Like a march

Let us cheer the weary traveler—cheer the weary traveler, Let us cheer the weary traveler, a-

long the heavenly way. 1. I'll take my gospel

2. And if you meet with trumpet and I'll begin to blow, And trials and troubles on your way, Just if my Jesus lets me, I'll blow wherever I go. keep your trust in Jesus, and don't forget to pray.

NOTE: Chorus hums refrain first time; sings on repeat. Refrain pp at end of song.
Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

Lord, I want to be a Christian
Lord, I want to be more loving
Lord, I want to be more holy
Lord, I want to be like Jesus

In-a my heart, In-a my heart, Lord, I

want to be a Christian
want to be more loving In-a my heart_
want to be more holy
want to be like Jesus

REFRAIN

In-a my heart, In-a my heart, In-a my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Christian
Lord, I want to be more loving In-a my heart_
Lord, I want to be more holy
Lord, I want to be like Jesus

From Dett's Religious Folk Songs of the Negro, by permission
My Lord, What a Morning

Chorus

My Lord, what a morning, My Lord, what a morning,

My Lord, what a morning, When the stars begin to fall.

Solo

1. You'll hear the trumpet sound,
2. You'll hear the sinner mourn, To wake the nations underground,
3. You'll hear the Christian shout,

Looking to my God's right hand, When the stars begin to fall.

I'm Gonna Sing

1. I'm gonna sing when the Spirit says "Sing," I'm gonna sing when the Spirit says "Sing," I'm gonna sing when the Spirit says "Sing," And obey the Spirit of the Lord.

2. Shout...
3. Preach...
4. Pray...
5. Sing...
Nobody Knows
Negro Spiritual

Refrain

Oh, nobody knows de trouble I've seen,
Nobody knows but Je-sus.

Duet

Sometimes I'm up, sometimes I'm down,
Although you see me goin' long so, Oh, yes, Lord.
One day when I was walk-in' long,
I nev'er shall for-get that day,

Chorus

Sometimes I'm al-most to de goun',
I have my tri-als here be-low, Oh, yes, Lord.
De el-ment op-er-an' Love came down,
When Je-sus wash'd my sins a-way,
Old Ark's a-Movering

O! the old ark's a-mover-ing, a-mover-ing a-
mover-ing! The old ark's a-mover-ing, And I'm going
O!
home, O the I'm going home. See that sis-ter
See that broth-er See that sis-ter Thain't but the one thing

dressed so fine? She ain't got Je-sus
dressed so gay? Death's goin' a come for to
com-in' so slow? She wants to go to Heaven for the
grieves my mind; Sis-ter's gone to Heaven and

in a her mind. Th'old ark she reeled. The old ark
carry him away.
Heaven doors close.
left a me be-hind.

Sinner, You Know

Refrain
Moderately slow.

1. Just as a tree falls, so shall it lie;
2. My Lord, He sees you all night and day

Just as a sinner lives, so shall he die.
Sees all you're doing, and He hears all you say.

Note: Below each line of the refrain there is an indication of the rhythm used to accompany this by clapping.
Somebody's Knockin'

Refrain

Some-bod-y's knock-in' at your door; Some-bod-y's

knock-in' at your door; Oh, sin-ner, why don't you

an-swer? Some-bod-y's knock-in' at your door.

Solo

Chorus

Knocks like Je-sus,
Can't you hear him? Some-bod-y's knock-in' at your door;
An-swer Je-sus,

Solo

Chorus D.S.

Knocks like Je-sus,
Can't you hear him? Some-bod-y's knock-in' at your door.
An-swer Je-sus,
Standing in the Need of Prayer

Chorus: Humbly

It's me, It's me, O, Lord, standing in the need of prayer. It's me, It's me, O, Lord, standing in the need of prayer. Not my brother, not my sister, but me, O, Lord,

1. Not my brother, not my sister, but me, O, Lord,

2. Not my father, not my mother,...

3. Not my preacher, not my teacher,...

4. Not my deacon, not my elder,...

Note: The Chorus may hum last chord of chorus while leader sings.
Steal Away

Steal a-way, steal a-way, Steal a-way to Jesus,

Steal a-way, steal a-way home, I ain't got long to stay here.

1. My Lord calls me, He calls me by the thunder; The
2. Greentrees are bending, Poor sinner stands a trembling; The
3. Tombstones are bursting, Poor sinner stands a trembling; The
4. My Lord calls me, He calls me by the lightning; The

trompet sounds within my soul, I ain't got long to stay here.
Study War No More

LEADER

Gwine to lay down my burden, Down by the riverside,

CHORUS

burden, Down by the riverside I study war no more.

REFRAIN

I ain't gwine study war no more, ain't gwine study war no

more, ain't gwine study war no more... Ain't gwine study war no

more, ain't gwine study war no more, ain't gwine study war no more.
Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

Swing low, sweet char-i-ot, Com-in' for to car-ry me home!

Soli

Chorus

Fine

Swing low, sweet char-i-ot, Com-in' for to car-ry me home.

I looked o-ver Jor-dan, an' what did I see,
If you get there be-fore I do,
I'm some-times up an' some-times down,

Chorus

Solo

ff

Com-in' for to car-ry me home! A band of an-gels
Jes' tell my fren's that
But still my soul feels

Chorus

Solo

D.C.

Com-in' af-ter me,
I'm a-com-in' too, Com-in for to car-ry me home.
heav-en-ly boun'.
**Roll, Jordan**

*Chorus, with animation*  
**Negro Spiritual**

Oh, roll, Jordan, roll! Roll, Jordan, roll, I want to go to heav’n when I die, To hear sweet Jordan roll.

**Chorus**

**Girls:** Oh, brother, you ought to be there,
**Boys:** Oh, sister, you ought to be there,
**All:** Oh, preacher, you’d better be there,

sittin’ in the kingdom, just to hear sweet Jordan roll.

**NOTE:** Be sure to sing "Roll Jordan" with great emphasis as indicated. Watch syncopation of "I want to go," etc. This makes for a true spiritual. Sing last chorus soft yet firm, slowing up on word "die" including grace note, and girls can go up on the high E only for final ending.

**I Want to Die Easy**

*Slowly, with expression*  
**Negro Spiritual**

I want to die easy when I die; I want to die easy when I die; I want to die easy when I die, Shout salvation as I fly, I want to die easy, Lord, when I die.

2. I want to see my mother...
3. I want to see my Jesus...
Go Tell It on the Mountain

Tell it on the mountain,
Tell it on the mountain,

Over the hills and everywhere, Go tell it on the

Tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

Tell it on the mountain

1. When I was a sinner, I prayed both night and day; I
2. When I was a seeker, I sought both night and day; I
3. He made me a watchman up on the city wall; And

asked the Lord to help me, and He showed me the way.
asked my Lord to help me, and He taught me to pray.
if I am a Christian, I am the least of all.
Rise Up, Shepherds

Negro Spiritual

Dere's a star in de East on Christmas morn, Rise up,

shepherds, an' fol-ler; It'll lead to de place where de

Savior's born. Rise up, shepherds, an' fol-ler.

Leave yo' ewes an' leave yo' lambs, Rise up, shepherds, an' fol-ler:

Leave yo' sheep an' leave yo' rams, Rise up, shepherds, an' fol-ler:

Fol-ler, fol-ler,

Rise up, shepherds, an' fol-ler: Fol-ler de star o'

Beth-lehem. Rise up, shepherds, an' fol-ler.
Children, Go Where I Send Thee

Negro Folk Carol

Recorded by Ruth White

Children, go where I send thee, How shall I send thee?

I shall send them one by one ’cause one was the
little bitty baby, wrapped in swaddling clothing,

lying in a manger. Born, born, Lord,

Born in Bethlehem. Children, go where I

send thee, How shall I send thee? I shall send them

two by two ’cause two was-a Paul and Silas, to
(three to ten)
two was the Hebrew children, to
five was the gospel preachers, to
ten was the ten commandments, to.

One was the little bitty baby
Four was the four come a-knocking at the door, to
Six was the six that could-n’t get fixed, to
Seven was the seven went up to heaven, to
Eight was the eight that stood at the gate, to
Nine was the nine left behind, to.

wrapped in swaddling clothing, lying in a

The Grey Goose

Negro Secular Song

Collected by Olive J. Williams

1. Well, one Monday morn-in', O, O, O.

2. My daddy went a-huntin'
3. Huntin' for the grey goose
4. A-huntin' in the big woods
5. An' he took along his houn' dog
6. Houn' dog -gin to whinin'
7. Long came a grey goose
8. Well, daddy pull the trigger
9. An' the gun went boo-loo
10. Down he come a-fallin'
11. He was six weeks a-fallin'
12. He was six weeks a-pickin'
13. An' they put him on a-cookin'
14. He was six weeks a-cookin'
15. An' they put him on the table
16. But the fork wouldn't stick him
17. So they took him to the saw-mill
18. An' he broke the saw's teeth out
19. O, the las' time I saw her
20. She was flyin' 'cross the ocean
21. Had a long string of goslin's
22. An' they all went "Quonk, quonk."

The refrain is sung by the chorus. New leader may begin at verse No. 12 if desired.
Rocks on the Mountains

Negro Work Song
Collected by Olive J. Williams

1. Rocks on the mountains shine like diamonds. Rocks on the
mounds shine like diamonds.

2. This old hammer kill John Henry. This old hammer kill John Henry.

3. This old hammer ring like judgment. This old hammer ring like judgment.

4. Can't you hear it ringing on the mountain? Can't you hear it
shine like diamonds. Let 'em shine, boy. Let 'em shine.

Dorchester Academy, McIntosh, Georgia

Green Trees

Negro Play Song
Leader Chorus Leader Chorus
Collected by Olive J. Williams

Green trees, Rocky road. Green trees, Rocky road. Choose your
lover; Don't let him go. Don't give him time to say yes or no.

Leader in center of single circle chooses a partner at "choose your lover," and they dance on to the end of the song, when chosen one, in turn, becomes leader. Those in circle clap on second half of each beat all through the song. Continue until all have been leader.
Two Wings

Oh, Lord, I want two wings to veil my face,
Oh, Lord, I want two wings to fly a-way,
Oh, Lord, I want two wings to veil my face,

So the devil can't do me no harm. My

Lord, did he come at the break of day? No!
Lord, did he come in the heat of noon? No!
Lord, did he come in the cool of the

evening? Yes! And he washed my sins a-way.

O Won't You Sit Down

Who's that yon-da dressed in red? Must be the chill'en that

Moses led. O won't you sit down? Lord, I can't sit down,

O won't you sit down? Lord, I can't sit down, 'Cause I

just got to heav-en, got-ta look a-round.

2. Who's that yon-da dressed in white?
   Must be the chill'en of the Israelite.
3. Black? ... Hypocrites turnin' back.
4. Pink? ... Solomon tryin' to think.
5. Green? ... Zekiel in his flyin' machine.
6. Gray? ... Sinners turnin' away
7. Blue? ... Chil-len a-comin' thru.
Cotton Needs A-Pickin'

Negro Folk Song

Cotton needs a-pickin' so bad, Cotton needs a-pickin'
so bad, Cotton needs a-pickin' so bad, Gonna

We planted this cotton in
pick all over this field. Boy, stop goin' that
Hur-ry up, hur-ry up,

A-pril On the full of the moon. We've had a
cotton, And take bet-ter care, Make haste,you
chil-dren, We ought to have been gone, This weath-er

hot, dry sum-mer, That's why it o-pened so soon.
la-zy ras-cal, And bring that row from there.
looks so cloud-y I think it's go-in' to storm.

Trampin'

I'm a-tramp-in', tramp-in', Tryin' to make heav-en my
home, Hal-le-lu-jah! I'm a-tramp-in', tramp-in'; Tryin' to make
heav-en my home. I've nev-er been to heav-en but I've been told,

Tryin' to make heav-en my home, That the streets up there are
paved with gold; Tryin' to make heav-en my home.
Han' Me Down

Jubilee Song

Oh, han' me down, han' me down, Han' me down Yo'
sil-vah trum-pet, Ga-briel, Han' me down,
han' me down, Han' me down Yo' sil-vah trum-pet, Lord

If life were a thing that mon-e-y could buy,
The Lord He would not have it so, Han' me down Yo'
The dev-il's mad and I am glad,

The rich would live and the poor would die,
sil-vah trum-pet, Ga-briel. The rich must die just the same as the poor;
He lost a soul that he thought he had,

Han' me down Yo' sil-vah trum-pet, Lord. Oh, han' me down,

Han' me down, Han' me down Yo' sil-vah trum-pet Ga-briel,

Han' me down, throw it down, An-y way you get it down,

Han' me down Yo' sil-vah trum-pet, Lord.

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Chicka-hanka

Track Laborer’s Song

Cap’n go side-track your train,

Chick-a-hank-a, chick-a-hank-a, chick-a-hank-a;

Cap’n go side-track your train,

Chick-a-hank-a, chick-a-hank-a, chick-a-hank-a;

Num-ber three in

Chick-a-hank-a, chick-a-hank-a, chick-a-hank-a, chick-a-hank-a;

train, A-com-in’ in on time,

Chick-a-hank-a, chick-a-hank-a, chick-a-hank-a, chick-a-hank-a;

Cap’n go side-track your train.

hank-a; Chick-a-hank-a, chick-a-hank-a, chick-a-hank-a.
## INDEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Song Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amen</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balm in Gilead</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burden Down</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certainly, Lord</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicka-hanka</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children, Go Where I Send</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thee</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Come and Go</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton Needs Pickin'</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couldn't Hear Nobody Pray</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deep River</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ev'ry Time I Feel</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ezekiel Saw the Wheel</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Get on Board</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Go Down, Moses</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Trees, Rocky Road</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey Goose</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good News, Chariot's Coming</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good News in the Kingdom</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Go Tell It on the Mountain</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Han' Me Down</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Got a Robe</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Know the Lord Laid</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>His Hands on Me</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I'm a-Rolling</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I'm Gonna Sing</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inciting Along</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Want To Be Ready</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Want To Die Easy</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob's Ladder</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King of Kings</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Let Us Cheer</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Wheel</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Look Away</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lord, Lord, Lord</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lord, Make Me More Holy</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lord, I Want To Be a Christian</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary and Martha</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Lord, What a Morning</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nobody Knows</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Won't You Sit Down</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oh, My Lovin' Brother</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Ark's a-Movern'</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rise Up, Shepherds</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rocka My Soul</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rocks on the Mountain</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roll, Jordan</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sinner, You Know</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somebody's Knockin'</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standing in Need</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steal Away</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study War No More</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swing Low, Sweet Chariot</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There's a Meeting</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trampin'</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Wings</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Were You There</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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