FIVE CAROLINA LOW COUNTRY SPIRITUALS

For SATB and piano

Gullah lyrics collected between 1922 and 1931 by the Society for the Preservation of Spirituals
Charleston, South Carolina

2009

Arranged by
Gary Bachlund

www.bachlund.org
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The texts are Gullah lyrics "collected in the Carolina Low Country between 1922 and 1931 by the Society for the Preservation of Spirituals (Spiritual Society)." The preface to the first collection of texts, published in 1931, states, "the prime object in writing them here has been to record them as nearly as possible in the form in which they are sung at their source." A later edition notes "Many composers have produced four part arrangements of spirituals for choruses and solos accompanied by piano." My settings are in fact among these, then, and yet I though to use the Gullah lyrics as preserved as texts rather than update them as others have done. The originals in fact had "no instrumental accompaniments and there were but two basic parts -- leader and congregation." In fact during the summer of 1934, George Gerswhin attended a Society meeting to hear the group singing, and the Society publication further notes "members took him to hear local congregations." Field recordings of these local congregations and the Society's work were encouraged by Archive of American Folk Song in the Library of Congress. The Society notes that the texts themselves rely on the spelling as found in Ambrose Gonzalez' Black Border (Columbia, S.C, The State Company, 1922). Gullah scholar and preservationist, Virginia Mixson Geraty, wrote that "this language is an English-based, or English derived creole, it sounds like English, but there is a flavor of the West African coast in its intonation and stress. The vocabulary of Gullah is mostly English with only a few words from African languages reminiscent of its pidgin stage. Pure Gullah is seldom heard anymore, and as older speaker pass away much of the language is lost with them." (in "Gullah For You," an undated pamphlet, Gullah Instruction, College of Charleston.) The texts themselves are drawn from Spirituals of the Carolina Low Country, Society for the Preservation of Spirituals, Charleston, South Carolina, 2004.

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Five Carolina Low Country Spirituals

James Island spiritual

Fault Een Me

arr. Gary Bachlund

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fault een me."

Oh, duh peo-ple een duh chu’ch, eh Lawd, en dey
duh fault een me."

Eh Lawd.
duh fault een me."

Eh Lawd.

Eh Lawd.

Jo nah cry out, _ "Eh Lawd, duh
did-n’t do right,_ eh Lawd, Jo nah cry out, _ "Eh Lawd, duh
did-n’t do right,_ eh Lawd, Jo nah cry out, _ "Eh Lawd, duh
Eh Lawd. Jo nah cry out, _ "Eh Lawd. duh
Eh Lawd. Jo nah cry out, _ "Eh Lawd. duh
fault een me.

Cas' Jo-nah o-buh-boad,

fault een me.

Cas' Jo-nah o-buh-boad,

fault een me.

Cas' Jo-nah o-buh-boad,

fault een me.

Cas' Jo-nah o-buh-boad,

Lawd.

eh Lawd, w'ale swal-luh Jo-nah, eh Lawd, Jo-nah cry out, "Eh Lawd, duh

eh Lawd, w'ale swal-luh Jo-nah, eh Lawd, Jo-nah cry out, "Eh Lawd, duh

eh Lawd, w'ale swal-luh Jo-nah, eh Lawd, Jo-nah cry out, "Eh Lawd, duh

eh Lawd, w'ale swal-luh Jo-nah, eh Lawd, Jo-nah cry out, "Eh Lawd, duh

eh Lawd, w'ale swal-luh Jo-nah, eh Lawd, Jo-nah cry out, "Eh Lawd, duh
Fault een me. W'ale spew ole Jonah, fault een me. W'ale spew ole Jonah, fault een me. W'ale spew ole Jonah, fault een me. W'ale spew ole Jonah,

Eh Lawd, on Nine-weh sho', eh Lawd, Jonah cry out. "Eh Lawd, duh

Eh Lawd, on Nine-weh sho', eh Lawd, Jonah cry out. "Eh Lawd, duh

Eh Lawd, on Nine-weh sho', eh Lawd. Jonah! "Eh Lawd, duh

Eh Lawd, on Nine-weh sho', eh Lawd. Jonah! "Eh Lawd, duh

Eh Lawd, on Nine-weh sho', eh Lawd. Jonah! "Eh Lawd, duh

Eh Lawd, on Nine-weh sho', eh Lawd. Jonah! "Eh Lawd, duh

Eh Lawd, on Nine-weh sho', eh Lawd. Jonah! "Eh Lawd, duh

Eh Lawd, on Nine-weh sho', eh Lawd. Jonah! "Eh Lawd, duh

Eh Lawd, on Nine-weh sho', eh Lawd. Jonah! "Eh Lawd, duh

Eh Lawd, on Nine-weh sho', eh Lawd. Jonah! "Eh Lawd, duh
Eb'ry Body Who Is Libin' Got Tuh Die

got tuh die,

Eb'ry Body who is libin'

got tuh die,

Eb'ry Body who is libin'

got tuh die,

Eb'ry Body who is libin'

got tuh die,

Eb'ry Body who is libin'

got tuh die,

Eb'ry Body who is libin'

got tuh die,

Eb'ry Body who is libin'

got tuh die,
got tuh die,  
duh rich en tuh po',  
duh great en tuh small,

all got tuh meet  
at jedge - ment hall,

Eb' - ry bo - dy  
Eb' - ry bo - dy

all got tuh meet  
at jedge - ment hall,

Eb' - ry bo - dy  
Eb' - ry bo - dy

all got tuh meet  
at jedge - ment hall,

Eb' - ry bo - dy  
Eb' - ry bo - dy

all got tuh meet  
at jedge - ment hall,

Eb' - ry bo - dy  
Eb' - ry bo - dy

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who is lib-in'__ got tuh die.

who is lib-in'__ got tuh die, got tuh die.__

who is lib-in'__ got tuh die, got tuh die.__

who is lib-in'__ got tuh die, got tuh die.__

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Eb'-ry li-ah__ who is lib-in'__ got tuh die.__

Eb'-ry li-ah__ who is lib-in'__ got tuh die, got tuh die.__

Eb'-ry li-ah__ who is lib-in'__ got tuh die, got tuh die, got tuh die.__

Eb'-ry li-ah__ who is lib-in'__ got tuh die, got tuh die, got tuh die.__
Eb'ry deacon, who is libin', got tuh die,
got tuh die,
Eb'ry deacon, who is libin', got tuh die,
got tuh die,
Eb'ry deacon, who is libin', got tuh die,

duh n'yung en duh ole, duh short en duh tall, all got tuh meet at

duh n'yung en duh ole, duh short en duh tall, all got tuh meet at

duh n'yung en duh ole, duh short en duh tall, all got tuh meet at

duh n'yung en duh ole, duh short en duh tall, all got tuh meet at
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jedge-ment hall, at jedge-ment hall, O eb’ry bo-dy who is lib-in’

jedge-ment hall, at jedge-ment hall, O eb’ry bo-dy who is lib-in’

jedge-ment hall, at jedge-ment hall, O eb’ry bo-dy who is lib-in’

O eb’ry bo-dy who is lib-in’

got tuh die, got tuh die, got tuh die, got tuh die, all got tuh meet at jedge-ment hall, duh
rich en duh po',
duh great en duh small,
duh n'yung en duh ole,
duh short en duh tall,

rich en duh po',
duh great en duh small,
duh n'yung en duh ole,
duh short en duh tall,

rich en duh po',
duh great en duh small,
duh n'yung en duh ole,
duh short en duh tall,

rich en duh po',
duh great en duh small,
duh n'yung en duh ole,
duh short en duh tall,

tuh
dy.

Eb'ry bo-dy__
who is lib-in__
got tuh die.

Eb'ry bo-dy__
who is lib-in__
got tuh die, eb'ry bo-dy,

Eb'ry bo-dy__
who is lib-in__
got tuh die, eb'ry bo-dy,

Eb'ry bo-dy__
who is lib-in__
got tuh die, got tuh die.
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I gwine tuh heb'en anyhow. You kin
wey 'e die, I gwine tuh heb'en anyhow. Anyhow.
wey 'e die, I gwine tuh heb'en anyhow.
wey 'e die, I gwine tuh heb'en anyhow.

buke me, you kin'cuse me anyhow my Lawd, at duh

Anyhow, anyhow, anyhow my Lawd,
Anyhow, anyhow, anyhow my Lawd,
Anyhow, anyhow, anyhow my Lawd,
cross wey 'e die, I gwine tuh heb-en a-ny-how. You kin

at duh cross wey 'e die, I gwine tuh heb-en a-ny-how. A-ny-how.

at duh cross wey 'e die, I gwine tuh heb-en a-ny-how.

scol me. you kin scorn me. a-ny-how my

You kin scol me. You kin scorn me. my

scol me. scol me. scorn me. scorn me. a-ny-how my

You kin scol me. You kin scorn me. a-ny-how my
Lawk, at duh cross, wey 'e die, I gwine tuh heben a-ny

Lawk, at duh cross, at duh cross, wey 'e die, I gwine tuh heben a-ny

Lawk, at duh cross, at duh cross, wey 'e die, I gwine tuh heben a-ny

how. I gwine tuh heben, I gwine tuh heben, I

how. A-ny-how. I gwine tuh heben, I gwine tuh heben, I

how. A-ny-how. I gwine tuh heben, I gwine tuh heben, I

how. I gwine tuh heben, I gwine tuh heben, I

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gwine tuh heb - en a- ny - how.____ At duh cross wey 'e
gwine tuh heb - en a- ny - how.____ At duh cross, at duh cross____
gwine tuh heb - en a- ny - how.____ At duh cross, at duh cross____
gwine tuh heb - en a- ny - how.____ At duh cross, at duh cross____

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die.____ I gwine tuh heb-en a- ny- how.____ On duh mount-ing,____
wey 'e die, I gwine tuh heb-en a- ny-how. A-ny-how.____
wey 'e die, I gwine tuh heb-en a- ny-how. A-ny-how.____
wey 'e die, I gwine tuh heb-en a- ny-how. A-ny-how.____
wey 'e die, I gwine tuh heb-en a- ny-how.____ A-ny-how,
Face duh Risin’ Sun

We will all sing tuh-ged-duh on dat day,

We will all sing tuh-ged-duh on dat day,

We will all sing tuh-ged-duh on dat day,

Bring out the bass line

We will all sing tuh-ged-duh on dat day,

We will all sing tuh-ged-duh on dat day,

We will all sing tuh-ged-duh on dat day,
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Lawd, hab' mus-sy on me.

We will drink wine tuh-

15

en I'll fall up-on muh knees en face duh ris-in' sun, Oh

Lawd, hab' mus-sy on me.

We will drink wine tuh-

Lawd, hab' mus-sy on me.

We will drink wine tuh-

Lawd, hab' mus-sy on me.

We will drink wine tuh-
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ged-duh on dat day,
we will drink wine
tuh-ged-duh on dat
ged-duh on dat day,
on dat day,
we will drink wine
tuh-ged-duh on dat
ged-duh on dat day,
on dat day,
we will drink wine
tuh-ged-duh on dat
ged-duh on dat day,
on dat day,
we will drink wine
tuh-ged-duh on dat
ged-duh on dat day,
on dat day,
we will drink wine
tuh-ged-duh on dat
ged-duh on dat day,
on dat day,
we will drink wine
tuh-ged-duh on dat
ged-duh on dat day,
on dat day,
we will drink wine
tuh-ged-duh on dat
ged-duh on dat day,
on dat day,
we will drink wine
tuh-ged-duh on dat
ged-duh on dat day,
on dat day,
we will drink wine
tuh-ged-duh on dat
ged-duh on dat day,
on dat day,
we will drink wine
tuh-ged-duh on dat
ged-duh on dat day,
on dat day,
we will drink wine
tuh-ged-duh on dat

day,
en I'll fall up-on muh knees
en face duh ris-in'
day,
en I'll fall up-on muh knees
en face duh ris-in'
day,
en I'll fall up-on muh knees
en face duh ris-in'
day,
en I'll fall up-on muh knees
en face duh ris-in'
day,
en I'll fall up-on muh knees
en face duh ris-in'
day,
en I'll fall up-on muh knees
en face duh ris-in'
day,
en I'll fall up-on muh knees
en face duh ris-in'
day,
en I'll fall up-on muh knees
en face duh ris-in'
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en I'll fall up-on muh knees
en face duh ris-in'
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en I'll fall up-on muh knees
en face duh ris-in'
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en I'll fall up-on muh knees
en face duh ris-in'
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en I'll fall up-on muh knees
en face duh ris-in'
day,
en I'll fall up-on muh knees
en face duh ris-in'
day,
en I'll fall up-on muh knees
en face duh ris-in'
day,
en I'll fall up-on muh knees
en face duh ris-in'
day,
en I'll fall up-on muh knees
en face duh ris-in'

21
sun, Oh Lawd, hab' muss-y on me.

We will

sun, Oh Lawd, hab' muss-y on me.

We will

sun, Oh Lawd, hab' muss-y on me.

We will

sun, Oh Lawd, hab' muss-y on me.

We will

eat bread tuh-ged-duh on dat day, we will eat bread tuh-

eat bread tuh-ged-duh on dat day, we will eat bread tuh-

eat bread tuh-ged-duh on dat day, we will eat bread tuh-

eat bread tuh-ged-duh on dat day, we will eat bread tuh-
ged duh on dat day, en I'll fall up-on muh knees en

face duh ris-in' sun, Oh Lawd, hab' mus-sy on me. ...mus-sy on me. ...mus-sy on

Lawd, hab' mus-sy on me. ...mus-sy on me. ...mus-sy on
me. We will all pray tuh-ged-duh on dat day, we will
me. We will all pray tuh-ged-duh on dat day, we will
me. We will all pray tuh-ged-duh on dat day, we will
me. We will all pray tuh-ged-duh on dat day, we will

all pray tuh-ged-duh on dat day, en I'll fall up-on muh knees en
all pray tuh-ged-duh on dat day, en I'll fall up-on muh knees en
all pray tuh-ged-duh on dat day, en I'll fall up-on muh knees en
all pray tuh-ged-duh on dat day, en I'll fall up-on muh knees en
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circa 3' 20"
Some gwine bury een duh grabe ya'ad, en some gwine bury een duh

...duh grabe ya'ad, en some duh

Some gwine tuh grabe ya'ad, some gwine tuh

I gwine tuh shout Jub-a-lee!

I gwine tuh shout Jub-a-lee!
Some gwine bu-ry een duh grabe ya'ad, en some gwine bu-ry een duh sea.

...duh grabe ya'ad, en some...duh sea.

Some gwine tuh grabe ya'ad, some gwine tuh sea.

I gwine tuh shout Jub-a-lee!

git up, 'fo' day, I gwine tuh shout Jub-a-lee!
My Lawd call me on my knees. Some gwine bu-ry een duh
grabe ya'ad en some gwine bu-ry een duh sea. git up een duh mawn-in'

My Lawd call me on my knees. Some gwine bu-ry een duh
grabe ya'ad en some gwine bu-ry een duh sea. git up een duh mawn-in'

My Lawd call me on my knees. Some gwine tuh
grabe ya'ad en some gwine tuh sea. git up.

My Lawd call me on my knees. Some gwine bu-ry een duh
...duh

My Lawd call me on my knees. Some gwine tuh

My Lawd call me on my knees. Some gwine bu-ry een duh

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'fo' day,_ I gwine tuh shout Jub-a-lee._  Fi ah een duh

'fo' day,_ I gwine tuh shout Jub-a-lee._  Fi ah,

'fo' day,_ I gwine tuh shout Jub-a-lee!  Ju-ba-lee!_  Fi ah,

'fo' day,_ I gwine tuh shout Jub-a-lee!  Ju-ba-lee!_  Fi ah,

eas', en fi ah een duh wes'.  Fi ah een duh eas', en

fi ah,  Fi ah, fi ah,  Fi ah, fi ah, en

fi ah  Fi ah, fi ah  Fi ah, fi ah, en

fi ah,  Fi ah, fi ah,  Fi ah, fi ah, en
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My Lawd call me, I mus'

f

go.

My Lawd call me, I mus' go.