

Ol' Man River

Colored folks work on de Mis-sis-sip-pi,
Colored folks work while de white folks play
Pull-in' dose boats from de dawn to sunset,
Git-in no rest till de judg-ment day.

Don't look up an' don't look down
You don't dast make de white boss frown;
Bend yo' kneeds an' bow yo' head,
An' pull dat rope un-till yo're dead.

Le me go 'way from de Mis-sis-sip -pi,
Let me go 'way from de white men boss,
Show me dat steam called de riv-er Jordan,
Dat's de ol' stream dat I long to cross.

**Ol' man river dat ol' man river,
He must know sumpin', but don't say nothin,
He just keeps rollin; He keeps on rollin along.
He don't plant taters, he don't plant cotton,
An' dem dat plants 'em is soon forgotten;
But ol' man river, he just keeps rolling along.**

You an me, we sweat an' straing,
Body all achin' an' racked wid pain
"Tote dat barge!" "Lift dat bale"
Get a little drunk an' you land in jail.

Ah gits weary an' sick of tryin',
Ah'm tired of livin An' Skeered of dyin',
But o' man river, he just keeps rollin' along.

Words by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II
Music by JEROME KERN

Moderato

ff *deliberato*

mf *rit.*

The piano introduction is in E-flat major, 4/4 time. It begins with a series of eighth-note chords in the right hand and eighth-note bass lines in the left hand. The tempo is marked 'Moderato'. The introduction concludes with a half-note chord in the right hand and a half-note bass line in the left hand, marked 'mf' and 'rit.'.

E $\flat$ A $\flat$ E $\flat$ B $\flat$ 7

Col-ored folks work on de Mis-sis-sip-pi, Col-ored folks work while de white folks play,

p *a tempo*

The first vocal line is in E-flat major, 4/4 time. The melody is in the right hand, and the piano accompaniment is in the left hand. The tempo is marked 'a tempo'. The key signature is E-flat major, and the time signature is 4/4.

E $\flat$ 7 A $\flat$ 6 E $\flat$ Cm7 F7 B $\flat$ 7 E $\flat$

Pull-in' dose boats from de dawn to sun-set, Git-tin' no rest till de judg-ment day.

The second vocal line is in E-flat major, 4/4 time. The melody is in the right hand, and the piano accompaniment is in the left hand. The tempo is marked 'a tempo'. The key signature is E-flat major, and the time signature is 4/4.

Gm Cm Cdim Gm Cm Cm6 Gm Cm Gm Gm7 D7

Don't look up an' don't look down, you don't dast make de white boss frown;

mf

Gm Cm6 Gm Cdim Gm Gm7 Am7 Cdim Gm Fm7 Bb7

Bend yo' knees an' bow yo' head, an' pull dat rope un - til yo're dead.

rall.

Eb7 Ab C7

Let me go 'way from de Mis - sis - sip - pi, Let me go 'way from de

p a tempo

C7+ Fm(Bb) Fm Fdim Eb

white men boss, Show me dat stream called de riv - er Jor - dan,

dim

Db7 *Bb7* *Eb* *Abm7 Bb7(9)*

Dat's de ol' stream dat I long to cross.

f *rall.*

Refrain (*very slowly, with deep expression*)

Eb *Cm* *Eb* *Ab* *Eb* *Ab*

Ol' man riv - er, dat ol' man riv - er, He must know sump - in'.

p *molto legato*

Eb *Cm* *Bb7* *Bb9* *Fm7* *Bb9*

don't say noth - in', He jus' keeps roll - in', He keeps on roll - in'

p

Eb *Ab6* *Eb* *Cm*

long. He don't plant 'ta - ters,

Eb Ab Eb
 don't plant cot - ton, An' dem dat plants 'em is soon for - got - ten; But

This system contains the first two measures of the song. The melody is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the melody.

Bb7 Fm7 Bb9 Eb Ab
 ol' man riv - er, he jus' keeps roll - in' a - long.

This system contains the next two measures. The melody continues in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment continues in the bass clef. The key signature remains two flats. The lyrics are written below the melody.

Eb Cdim D7 Gm D7 Gm Cdim D7
 You an' me, we sweat an' strain,

This system contains the next two measures. The melody continues in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment continues in the bass clef. The key signature remains two flats. The lyrics are written below the melody.

Gm6 Cdim Gm D7 Gm Cm6
 Bo - dy all ach - in' an' racked wid pain. "Tote dat barge!"

This system contains the final two measures of the page. The melody continues in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment continues in the bass clef. The key signature remains two flats. The lyrics are written below the melody.

Gm Cdim Gm Cdim Gm Fm
 "Lift dat bale," Git a lit - tle drunk an' you land in jail.

Eb Cm Eb Ab Eb Bb9
 Ah gits wea - ry an' sick of try - in', Ah'm tired of liv - in'

Cm F7 Eb Cm Fm9 Bb7
 skeered of dy - in', But ol' man riv - er, he jus' keeps roll - in' a

1. Eb Abm Eb Fm7 Bb9 Bb7 2. Eb Fm7 Bb9 Eb
 long. long.

marcato e sostenuto *ff marcato ed allarg.*