

# Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder

For Four - Part Chorus of Men's Voices  
with Percussion Accompaniment

Negro Chain Gang Song  
Arranged and adapted by  
Robert De Cormier

*p*  $\text{♩} = 72$

Tenor 1  
2

Bass 1  
2

Percussion 1  
2  
3  
4

Piano (for rehearsal only)

*p*  $\text{♩} = 72$

I got a rain - bow, wah! tied all a - round my

I got a rain - bow, wah! tied all a - round my

shoul - der, wah! I got a rain - bow, wah! tied all a - round my

shoul - der, wah! I got a rain - bow, wah! tied all a - round my

shoul - der, wah! I'm goin' home, \_\_\_\_\_ wah! My Lord, I'm goin'

shoul - der, wah! I'm goin' home, \_\_\_\_\_ wah! My Lord, I'm goin'

The first system of the score features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) with lyrics: "shoul - der, wah! I'm goin' home, \_\_\_\_\_ wah! My Lord, I'm goin'". The piano accompaniment includes a grand staff with treble and bass clefs, and four individual staves for the right and left hands, showing chordal accompaniment.

*mp* (A) home. wah! Ev - 'ry - where I, wah! where I look this

*mp* home. wah! Ev - 'ry - where I, wah! where I look this

The second system of the score continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line includes a circled letter 'A' above the first measure of the second line. The lyrics are: "home. wah! Ev - 'ry - where I, wah! where I look this". The piano accompaniment continues with the same grand staff and four individual staves.

morn - in', wah! Ev - 'ry - where I, wah!

morn - in', wah! Ev - 'ry - where I, wah!

The first system of the musical score consists of four staves. The top two staves are vocal lines in treble and bass clefs, respectively, with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are "morn - in', wah! Ev - 'ry - where I, wah!". The bottom two staves are piano accompaniment, with the right hand in treble clef and the left hand in bass clef. The piano part features a simple harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

where I look this morn - in', wah! look like rain,

where I look this morn - in', wah! look like rain,

The second system of the musical score also consists of four staves. The top two staves are vocal lines in treble and bass clefs, with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are "where I look this morn - in', wah! look like rain,". The bottom two staves are piano accompaniment, with the right hand in treble clef and the left hand in bass clef. The piano part continues the accompaniment from the first system.

wah! my Lord, look like rain. wah!

wah! my Lord, look like rain. wah!

This system contains two vocal staves and four guitar staves. The vocal staves are in a key with one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are "wah! my Lord, look like rain. wah!". The guitar accompaniment consists of four staves with rhythmic patterns and chordal structures.

*mf*  
Han, mail day I get a let - ter,

wah! mail day I get a let - ter,

This system contains two vocal staves and four guitar staves. The vocal staves are in a key with one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are "Han, mail day I get a let - ter," and "wah! mail day I get a let - ter,". The guitar accompaniment consists of four staves with rhythmic patterns and chordal structures. A dynamic marking of *mf* is present at the beginning of the system.

(B)

ry mail day,

(B)

wah!

wah! Ev - 'ry

home. wah! That old let - ter, wah!

home. wah! That old let - ter, wah! let - ter read a - bout

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics: "home. wah! That old let - ter, wah!". The second staff is a vocal line in bass clef with lyrics: "home. wah! That old let - ter, wah! let - ter read a - bout". The third staff is a piano accompaniment consisting of five staves with chords and rhythmic markings. A circled 'C' is placed above the first measure of the piano accompaniment. Dynamic markings 'V' are present above the vocal lines.

let - ter read a - bout dy - in', wah! That old let - ter,

dy - in', wah! That old let - ter, wah!

The second system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics: "let - ter read a - bout dy - in', wah! That old let - ter,". The second staff is a vocal line in bass clef with lyrics: "dy - in', wah! That old let - ter, wah!". The third staff is a piano accompaniment consisting of five staves with chords and rhythmic markings. A circled 'C' is placed above the first measure of the piano accompaniment. Dynamic markings 'V' are present above the vocal lines.

wah! let - ter read a - bout dy - in'. wah! My tears  
 let - ter read a - bout dy - in', wah! My tears run down.

This system contains the first two systems of a musical score. The top system features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The piano part includes a guitar-style chord diagram on the left side of the system.

run down, Lord, my tears run down. wah!  
 wah! Lord, my tears run down. wah! Just you

This system contains the next two systems of the musical score. The top system features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The piano part includes a guitar-style chord diagram on the left side of the system.

hear your moth - er, call - in', wah! Don't you  
 hear your, wah! hear your moth - er call - in',  
 wah! hear your moth - er call - in', wah! Don't you  
 wah! moth - er call - in', wah! Don't you hear your,

hear your moth - er, hear her call - in', Lord, wah! hear her  
 wah! Don't you hear your, wah! hear your moth - er  
 hear your, wah! hear your moth - er call - in'?  
 wah! moth - er call - in', wah! Don't you hear her,

call - in'? wah! Run, wah! run, my Lord, run, son,  
 call - in'? wah! Run, wah! run, my Lord, run, son,  
 wah! Run, son, run, wah! my Lord, run, son,  
 wah! hear her call - in', call - in'? My Lord, run, son,

run. wah! I'm a gon-na  
 run. wah! I'm a gon-na break right.  
 run. wah! I'm a gon-na break right.  
 run. wah! I'm a gon-na break right.

break right, wah! past that shout - er,

break right, wah! break right past that shout - er,

wah! break right past that shout - er. wah! I'm a-gon-na

wah! break right past that shout - er. wah! I'm a-gon-na

The first system consists of five staves. The top two staves are vocal lines in treble clef with lyrics. The next two staves are vocal lines in bass clef with lyrics. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in grand staff (treble and bass clefs).

wah! I'm a-gon-na break right, wah! past that

wah! I'm a-gon-na break right, wah! break right past that

break right, wah! break right past that shout - er,

break right, wah! break right past that shout - er,

The second system also consists of five staves, following the same layout as the first system: two vocal staves in treble clef, two in bass clef, and a piano accompaniment in grand staff.

shout - er. wah! I'm a - go - in' home,

shout - er. wah! I'm a - go - in' home,

wah! I'm go - in' home, wah!

wah! I'm go - in' home, wah!

The first system consists of six staves. The top two staves are vocal lines with lyrics. The next two staves are bass clef lines, also with lyrics. The bottom two staves are piano accompaniment. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. Dynamics include accents (>) and a crescendo hairpin.

Slower

My Lord, I'm goin' home. Wah!

My Lord, I'm goin' home. Wah!

My Lord, I'm goin' home. Wah!

My Lord, I'm goin' home. Wah!

1,2, 3,4

The second system consists of six staves. The top two staves are vocal lines with lyrics. The next two staves are bass clef lines, also with lyrics. The bottom two staves are piano accompaniment. The tempo marking "Slower" is above the first staff. Dynamics include *fp* (fortissimo piano) and *ff* (fortissimo) with hairpins. The piano part includes first and second endings marked "1,2" and "3,4".

Slower

The third system consists of two staves for piano accompaniment. The tempo marking "Slower" is above the first staff. The piano part features long, sustained chords with a hairpin.