

“Race and Song: A Musical Conversation”
by Reggie Harris & Alastair Moock
Lyrics and Chord Sheet

Wade in the Water

Traditional / Arranged by Reggie Harris ©1995 ASCAP

Chorus

Am Em G Am Em Am Em Am Em G
Wade in the water... Wade in the water children
Am Em G Am Am F Em Am
Wade in the water... God’s gonna trouble the water!

Am Em G Am Em G
Who were those children all dressed in Red?
Am F E Am
God’s gonna trouble the water!
Am Em G Am
Must be the ones that Moses led!
Am F E Am
God’s gonna trouble the water!

Who were those children all dressed in White?
They must be the ones gettin’ ready to fly

Chorus

Who were those children all dressed in Blue?
They must be the ones who made it through

Who were those children all dressed in Black?
They must be the ones who are never going back

Chorus

Tag:

Am F E Am
God’s gonna trouble the water..... repeat

Freight Train

By Elizabeth Cotten, Figs D Music Inc.

Unfortunately, we couldn’t obtain permission to put these lyrics and chords on our site. However, there are many web sites that operate in a looser fashion — most search engines will help you find almost any lyrics and chords you may want.

From There to Here (For Rep. John Lewis)

By Greg Greenway ©2015 Sheen of Heat Music

Chorus:

It's a mighty long way from over yonder
It's a might long way from there to here
We're gonna take it one step at a time
So that we can make that walk from there to here

What can a man see outside his window?
It's a whole lifetime from there to here
And all those people who gave their sweat and their blood
So that he could make that walk from there to here

Chorus

Every child born is a revolution
A revolution with a song inside
Some won't hear it, some hear nothing else
They'll sing night and day just to keep that song alive

Chorus

When you've got a dream, you've got to stand up
Stand up and shout it, shout it loud and clear
What's that I'm hearing? It's the voice of the people singing
That we will make that walk from there to here

Chorus

Be a Pain

By Alastair Moock ©2020 Moockshake Music

G C G
If you see something that's wrong, raise your hand and say that's wrong

D
Point it out and name that thing by its name

G C G
Don't stand by and stare, if it's wrong, it's your affair

G D G
Don't be quiet, make a riot, be a pain

Chorus:

Be a pain, be a pain, shout about it and complain
Ignore the crowd and go against the grain
Don't be polite, raise your voice and do what's right
Be a pain, be a pain, be a pain

When Rosa Parks sat on that bus, she chose to make a fuss
She chose to break the rules and take the blame
Her choice to sit and fight helped to bring on Civil Rights
Because one strong woman chose to be a pain

Chorus: ...If they say, "You have to move," say "I'll remain"...

Harvey Milk, he chose to run for the council board and won
Even though folks said, "You can't because you're gay"
One brave LGBTQ elected leader ran and knew
You can change things if you choose to be a pain

Chorus: ...Tell 'em, "I won't let you make me feel ashamed"...

A tennis star named Billy Jean told the world she had a dream
That men and women would be paid the same
She refused to hit the ball 'til there was equal pay for all
She was a King because she was a royal pain

Chorus: ...If they refuse to pay, refuse to play the game...

Kids from Parkland led the fight for something they all knew was right
They said it's time for us to finally make a change
If adults can't compromise, we must go march for our lives
They spoke out and led the charge, they all were pains

Chorus: ...When you're faced with laws you know are just insane...

Chorus: ... Ignore the crowd and go against the grain...

This Little Light of Mine (A)

Traditional / Arranged by Alastair Moock ©2020 Moockshake Music

A

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine

D

A

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine

C#7 F#m

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine

A E A

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

Verse: Deep Down in my heart...

Verse: Everywhere I go...

Bridge:

A

The light that shines is the light of love

D

D7

Lights the darkness from above

A

It shines on me and shines on you

B7

E7

Shows what the power of love can do

A

I'm gonna shine my light both far and near

D

D7

Shine my light both bright and clear

A

C#7 F#m

Where there's a dark corner in this land

B7 E7 A

I'm gonna let my little light shine

Verse: This little light of mine...

Tag:

A

E

A

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

A

E

D

A

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

I'm On My Way

Traditional / Arranged by Reggie Harris ©1995 ASCAP

E B7
I'm on my way to freedom land
 E
I'm on my way to the freedom land
 A
I'm on my way to the freedom land
 E C#m F#m
*I'm on my way, praise God (Oh Yes)
 B7 E
I'm on my way

Verses:

*I asked my mother to go with me 3x

*I asked my father to go with me 3x

*I asked my brother to go with me 3x

*I asked my sister to go with me 3x

*If you won't go, don't hinder me! 3x

*I'm on my way, I won't turn back! 3x