

# OLD BLACK JOE

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*Poco adagio*

The piano introduction is written in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a dynamic marking of *mf*. The melody is characterized by a series of eighth notes in the right hand, while the left hand provides a steady accompaniment of quarter notes. The piece concludes with a final chord in the right hand.

1. *p* Gone are the days when my heart was young and gay,

The first line of the song features a vocal melody in the treble clef and piano accompaniment in the grand staff. The lyrics are: "1. *p* Gone are the days when my heart was young and gay,". The piano part consists of chords in the right hand and single notes in the left hand.

Gone are my friends from the cot - ton fields a - way,

The second line of the song continues the vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Gone are my friends from the cot - ton fields a - way,". The piano part maintains the same accompaniment style as the first line.

*p* Gone from the earth to a bet - ter land, I know, I

The third line of the song concludes the vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "*p* Gone from the earth to a bet - ter land, I know, I". The piano part ends with a final chord in the right hand.

hear their gen - tle voic - es call - ing, "Old Black Joe!"

*sost.*

*sost.*

Chorus.  
SOPRANO.

I'm com - ing, I'm com - ing, For my head is bend - ing low; I

ALTO.  
I'm com - ing, I'm com - ing, For my head is bend - ing low; I

BASS.  
I'm com - ing, I'm com - ing, For my head is bend - ing low; I

*p*

hear those gen - tle voic - es call - ing, "Old Black Joe!"

*sost.*

*sost.*

hear those gen - tle voic - es call - ing, "Old Black Joe!"

*sost.*

*dim.*

*sost.*

*mf*

2. Why do I weep when my heart should feel no pain?  
 3. Where are the hearts once so hap - py and so free? The

*p*

Why do I sigh that my friends come not a - gain, Griev - ing for forms now de -  
 chil - dren so dear, that I held up - on my knee? Gone to the shore where my

*p*

part - ed long a - go? I hear their gen - tle voi - ces call - ing "Old Black Joe!"  
 soul has long'd to go. I hear their gen - tle voi - ces call - ing "Old Black Joe!"

*dim. sost. (Rep. Chorus)*

*dim. sost.*

Repeat Chorus