

The Power of Song: Lyrics Sheet

Banana Boat Song/Calypso Freedom

Banana Boat Song (Jamaican work song)

Lead, Chorus

*Day O, Day ay ay O
Day light come and me wanna go home.
Day esa Day esa Day esa Day ay ay o.
Day light come and me wanna go home.*

*Well, me work all night and me drink a rum,
Daylight come and me wanna go home.
And we load the bananas 'til the morning come,
Daylight come and me wanna go home.*

Chorus:

*Day O,
Day O, Day O Huh!
Daylight come and me wanna go home.
Day O
Day O, Day O, Huh!
Daylight come and me wanna go home.*

Calypso Freedom (freedom song)

Lead, Chorus

*Well, I took a trip on a greyhound bus,
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.
To fight segregation, and this we must,
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.*

Chorus:

*We want Freedom,
Freedom, Freedom, Huh!
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.
Freedom,
Freedom, Freedom, Huh!
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.*

*Well, I rode on a bus down Alabama way,
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.
We met with much violence on Mother's Day,
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.*

Calypso Freedom (continued)

Lead, Chorus

Chorus:

*What do we want?
Freedom, Freedom, Huh!
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.
Freedom, Freedom,
Freedom, Freedom, Huh!
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.*

*Well, over the Mississippi with speed we go,
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.
De blue shirt policeman meet me at the door,
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.*

Chorus:

*Give us Freedom!
Freedom, Freedom, Huh!
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.
Freedom,
Freedom, Freedom, Huh!
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.*

*Well, the judge say local law must prevail,
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.
And we say no and we land in jail,
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.*

Chorus:

*What do we want?
Freedom, Freedom, Huh!
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.
Freedom,
Freedom, Freedom, Huh!
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.
Freedom, Freedom
Freedom, Freedom, Huh!
Freedom's coming and it won't be long.*