

THE MAROONING BLUES

VERSE 1

Lost in my mind, I was dreaming of my liberty
At the right time I tried to flee into the mountain
Praying my native spirits to set me free

VERSE 2

The slave retriever came to our village to catch me
Threatened by his whip to force us to tiring labour
Despite my cut off arm, my mind and heart are free

VERSE 3

I worked so hard every day in sugar cane fields. *I work so hard, hard, hard*
From dawn to dusk being watched by the white foreman. *From dawn to dusk I work*
No way to escape his gaze and his terrible cane

CHORUS/BRIDGE

We've got the marooning blues
Oh, God please set us free, oh yeah!
Singing along with my fellows
Our skin is darkened by the heat and blows

SOLO (GUITAR, BY A VERY PROMISING PLAYER IN THE BUD)

CHORUS/BRIDGE

We've got the marooning blues
Oh, God please set us free, oh yeah!
Singing along with my fellows
Our skin is darkened by the heat and blows

VERSE 4

I work so hard under the sun in wall-less prisons
My skin is bruised by the heat and the whip
I know it's risky but all I want is to be free

VERSE 5

We work so hard every day to please our masters
Eager to keep our African rites alive
So, let's go **marooning** and rebuild our shrines

VERSE 6

I worked so hard every day in sugar cane fields. *I work so hard, hard, hard*
From dawn to dusk closely watched by the white horseman. *From dawn to dusk I work*
No way to escape his dog and my hindrances

CHORUS/BRIDGE

We've got the African Blues
We've lost all our ancestral rites, oh yeah!
Singing alone our sore blues
We want to escape and leave our slave shackles, oh yeah, oh yeah!
We want to escape and leave our slave shackles, oh yeah...

Special thanks to my dear friend Frank Paco for his valuable support and advice in the conduct and achievement of the present piece. Congratulations to my students for their commitment.