

ELEANOR EVEREST FREER

SONG

THE OLD BOATMAN

WORDS BY

HOWARD WEEDEN

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The Old Boatman

I changed my name, when I got free,
 To "Mister" like the res',
But now dat I am going Home
I likes de ol' name bes'.

Sweet voices callin' "Uncle Rome,"
 Seem ringin' in my ears;
An swearin' sort o' sociable,
 Ol Master's voice I hears.

De way he used to call his boat,
 Across de river: "Rome!
You damn ol' nigger, come an' bring
 Dat boat, an' row me home!"

He's passed Heaven's river now, an' soon
 He'll call across its foam:
"You, Rome, you damn ol' nigger, loose
 Your boat, an' come on Home!"

Howard Weeden.

The Old Boatman.

HOWARD WEEDEN.*

ELEANOR EVEREST FREER.
Op. 23, No 1.

Andantino.

I changed my name, when I got free, To "Mis-ter" like the res,' But

now that I am go - ing Home I likes de ol' name bes.' Sweet

voi - ces cal - lin "Un - cle Rome, Seem ring - in' in my ears; An'

swear - in' sort o' so - cia - ble, Ol' Mas - ter's voice I hears. De

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way he used to call his boat a - cross the riv - er: "Rome! You

The first system of music features a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower two staves. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal line begins with a quarter note, followed by eighth and quarter notes, and ends with a quarter note. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

damn ol' nig - ger, come an' bring Dat boat, an' row me home!" He's

The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line has a more active melody with eighth and quarter notes. The piano accompaniment features a more complex harmonic structure with chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

meno mosso

passed Hea - ven's riv - er now, an' soon He'll call a - cross its foam: "You,

meno mosso

The third system is marked *meno mosso*. The tempo is slower than the previous sections. The vocal line has a more spacious feel with longer note values. The piano accompaniment consists of sustained chords in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

rit. sin 'al fino

Rome, you damn ol' nig - ger, loose your boat, an' come on Home!"

rit. sin 'al fino

The fourth system is marked *rit. sin 'al fino*, indicating a gradual deceleration to the end. The vocal line concludes with a final phrase. The piano accompaniment features sustained chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, ending with a final chord.