

Were You There?

Easter

African American Spiritual, 1899

African American Spiritual, 1899

$\text{♩} = 90$
Prelude

The prelude is a four-measure piece in 4/4 time, key of D major (indicated by two sharps). It features a piano accompaniment with a treble and bass clef. The melody is simple, consisting of quarter and eighth notes, and ends with a whole note chord in the final measure.

6

Measures 6-9 of the song. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the staff, with four verses of text aligned with the notes. The key signature remains D major.

1. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you
2. Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? Were you
3. Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? Were you
4. Were you there when He rose up from the grave? (Were you there?) Were you

10

Measures 10-13 of the song. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the staff, with four verses of text aligned with the notes. The key signature remains D major.

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
there when they nailed Him to the tree?
there when they laid Him in the tomb?
there when He rose up from the grave?

O!

Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble!

This musical system contains measures 15 through 19. It is written for piano (three staves) and voice (one staff). The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and a more active melody in the right hand. The voice part enters in measure 15 with the lyrics 'Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble!'. The melody is simple and direct, with a final long note in measure 19.

Were you there when they cru-ci-fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Were you there when He rose up from the grave?

This musical system contains measures 21 through 24. It is written for piano (three staves) and voice (one staff). The key signature remains three sharps. The piano accompaniment continues with a consistent eighth-note bass line. The voice part enters in measure 21 with the lyrics 'Were you there when they cru-ci-fied my Lord?'. The melody is simple and direct, with a final long note in measure 24. The system ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.