

Rock-A My Soul is a lively “swing style” partnering of two traditional spirituals, *Rock-A My Soul in the Bosom of Abraham* and *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*. Layering in one voice after another, this expert arrangement exudes an air of hushed excitement.

Both of these spirituals convey the faith of the struggling slave who prays for God’s help and looks forward to joining God “across the Jordan River in the heavenly home.” Appropriate for performance by both school and church choirs, this arrangement is available both for S.A.B. voices and in a flexible arrangement for 2-part or 3-part any combination treble or mixed voices.

When performed by church choirs, suggested corresponding scripture readings include 2 Kings 2: 1-11, Psalm 23 & 55: 16-19, and Luke 16: 19-31 & 18: 1-8. Suitable for performance throughout the church year, it may be especially appropriate for All Saints’, Lent and Transfiguration.

Dave and Jean Perry are free-lance composers living in Sierra Vista, Arizona. Retired after many years as music educators and church musicians, they are in great demand as clinicians and have over 250 sacred and secular works in print. They have received the ASCAP special composer’s award annually since 1999.

ROCK-A MY SOUL

for 2-part or 3-part any combination voices and keyboard,
with opt. instrumental ensemble*

TRADITIONAL SPIRITUALS

Arranged by **DAVE and JEAN PERRY (ASCAP)**

Swing!, with hushed excitement (♩ = ca. 132) (♩♩ = $\overset{3}{\text{♩}}$)

PART I

PART II

KEYBOARD

mp

My soul, rock-a my soul.

Swing!, with hushed excitement (♩ = ca. 132) (♩♩ = $\overset{3}{\text{♩}}$)

mp

mp

Rock-a my soul in the bos-om of A - bra-ham. Rock-a my soul in the

My soul, rock - a my soul. My soul,

* Also available for S.A.B. voices, No. 22775.

Parts for alto sax, tenor sax, 2 trumpets, 2 trombones, rhythm, percussion and director's score, No. 22778,
and a full performance/accompaniment compact disc, No. 22777, are available separately.

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8

bos-om of A - bra-ham. Rock-a my soul_ in the bos-om of A - bra-ham.

rock - a my soul. My soul, rock - a my soul.

11

O, rock-a my soul._____ Rock my soul_ in the

O, rock-a my soul._____ My soul,

13

14

bos-om of A-bra-ham. Rock my soul_ in the bos-om of A-bra-ham.

rock - a my soul. My soul, rock - a my soul.

17

Rock my soul — in the bos-om of A - bra-ham. O, rock-a my soul..

My soul, rock - a my soul. O, rock-a my soul..

20 *mf* 21

— When I went down to the val-ley to pray, —

mf

— When I went down to the val-ley to pray, —

23

O, rock-a my soul, — I prayed all

I prayed all

26
night, — and I prayed all day. —

29
O, rock, rock - a my soul. *mp*
O, rock, rock - a my soul. Rock, *mp*

32
mp
Swing low, sweet
rock - a my soul. My soul, rock - a my soul. My soul,

36

char - i - ot, com-in' for to car-ry me home. Swing_

rock - a my soul. My soul, rock, rock - a my soul.

39

low, sweet char - i - ot, com-in' for to car-ry me home.. *even eighths*

My soul, rock - a my soul, O, rock-a my soul..

molto rit. even eighths

42

Opt. Solo* *mf*** 43 **Slower, expressively (♩ = ca. 88)**

I looked o - ver Jor-dan, and what did I see, _

Slower, expressively (♩ = ca. 88)

mf colla voce

* Perform solo freely, with or without swing (triplet) eighths, at the performer's discretion; choir sings even eighths mm. 41-49.

Opt. Solo
*mf*45 *mp*

com-in' for to car-ry me home: A band of an - gels

mp

com-in' for to car-ry me home:

*mp**mf*Tempo I - Swing! (♩ = ca. 132)
(opt. finger snaps)*molto rit.**mp**mf*

com-in' af-ter me,—

com-in' for to car-ry me home

*mp**mf*

com-in' for to car-ry me home.

Tempo I - Swing! (♩ = ca. 132)

*molto rit.**mp**mf*

etc., through m. 67

51

54

PART I

mf

Rock - a my soul__ in the bos-om of A - bra-ham. Rock-a my soul__ in the

PART II

mf

My soul, rock, rock - a my soul. My soul, rock,

PART III (optional)

mf

Rock my soul__ in the bos-om of A-bra-ham. Rock my soul__ in the

54

57

bos-om of A - bra-ham. Rock - a my soul__ in the bos-om of A - bra - ham.

rock - a my soul. My soul, rock, rock - a my soul.

bos-om of A-bra-ham. Rock my soul__ in the bos-om of A - bra-ham.

57

60 62

O, rock-a my soul. Rock-a my soul in the

O, rock-a my soul.

O, rock-a my soul. Rock-a my soul in the

60 62



63

bos-om; Of A-bra-ham; _

Of A-bra-ham; Rock-a my soul in the bos-om;

bos-om; Rock-a my soul in the bos-om;

63



(end finger snaps)
cresc.

66

Rock-a my soul_ in the bos-om. Rock-a my soul,_

Rock-a my soul_ in the bos-om. Rock-a my soul,_

Of A-bra-ham._ Rock-a my soul,_

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

69

rit. *Slowly, freely* *ff even eighths*

rock-a my soul_ O, Lord, rock-a my soul!_

ff

rock-a my soul_ O, Lord, rock-a my soul!_

ff

rock-a my soul_ O, Lord, rock-a my soul!_

Slowly, freely

rit. *ff even eighths*

3 *gliss.*