

# Charon, O Charon

Robert Johnson

Spirit

5

Cha-ron, oh Cha-ron, come a-way! Why dost thou let me call so long?

Chord symbols: r b, r, a, a, e, a, b, f, g

10

Charon

Whentime, thou know'st, for none will stay; In which thou dost me dou-ble wrong. Ho!

Chord symbols: f, b, a, a, f, a, b, e, b, a, a, a, r, b, a, e

15

ho! What has-ty wight doth call? Say whence thou com'st, or whi-ther would'st thou

Chord symbols: a, b, a, b, a, a, a, r, b, a, a, a

20

go; Nor Cha-ron nor his boat were made for all That call for to be waft-ed to and fro:

Chord symbols: e, e, e, b, f, a, b, a, e, a, a, a, b, e, a, r

25 Spirit 30

Did love or hon-our send thee? Say! If not, then Charon means to stay. Oh, list to

35 Charon

me, and I will tell The cause of my sad fate: Go on, poor soul, I hear thee well,

40 Spirit

And wilt thy woes, thy woes, and wilt thy woes abate. Thanks, gentle Charon.

Charon 45 Spirit 50

On, I say. Then truth to let thee know, 'Twas Love himself sent me this way.

Charon Spirit 55

That fool-ish boy! how so? By kill-ing my poor heart with grief And wound-ing my sad

Charon 60 Spirit Charon

soul. And could'st thou then find no re-lief? Oh, no! A-las, poor fool!

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This fool-ish, wan-ton, blind, un-con-stant boy, Doth send more souls un- to my boat and me,

70

Than all the gods that death doth still em-ploy, Or fa-tal de-sti-nies, the si-sters three.

75 Spirit

80

Oh! had'st thou been of hu- man race Thou could'st not breathe forth such dis- grace Of Love, to

85 Charon

term him foolish, blind; But would'st have borne a gent-ler mind. Wo- men and fools,

90

they are his sub- jects still; Thou- sands of such he us- eth in their kind;

95

He makes them whine, and cry, and sigh, but still They be as deaf and dumb as he is blind.

Then laughs at them and sends them tumb- ling, tumb- ling, tumb- ling hi- ther, Re-

*(Musical notation: Bass clef, key signature of two flats, 4/4 time. The vocal line has lyrics above it. The piano accompaniment is shown on three staves below the vocal line.)*

100

spect- ing them, nor me, nor wind, nor wea- ther. Cha- ron! I come.

*(Musical notation: Bass clef, key signature of two flats, 4/4 time. The vocal line has lyrics above it. The piano accompaniment is shown on three staves below the vocal line.)*

Spirit

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110 Charon

I pri- thee, haste a- way; My time's pre- fix; I can no long- er stay Oh, here I come.

*(Musical notation: Treble clef, key signature of two flats, 4/4 time. The vocal line has lyrics above it. The piano accompaniment is shown on three staves below the vocal line.)*

Spirit

115 Charon

Thrice wel- come now at last. Then come a- board, and to those plea- sures haste, That

*(Musical notation: Treble clef, key signature of two flats, 4/4 time. The vocal line has lyrics above it. The piano accompaniment is shown on three staves below the vocal line.)*

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Charon

in E-li-zi-um grow. For those I long, And wish there still to live. Then with a

125

song In spite of Love, as I do waft thee thi-ther, We'llsing of joys, and all de-lights to-

130

Spirit

135

ge-ther. Then to those fields then to those fields then to those fields, and most de-light-ful plains,

140

Where lov-ers gain their joys, and end, and end their pains.