

# Were You There

Words  
African American Spiritual

Music by  
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and Frederick J. Work

D A Bm F#m/A A7 D

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

The first system of music is in the key of D major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a treble clef staff with a melody and a bass clef staff with a bass line. The melody starts on a whole note D4, followed by quarter notes E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, and a half note C5. The bass line starts on a whole note D2, followed by quarter notes E2, F#2, G2, A2, B2, and a half note C3. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

4 F#m A7/E D A/C# Bm A/C# D D/F# A

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 dead?

The second system of music continues the melody and bass line from the first system. The treble staff melody starts with a half note D4, followed by quarter notes E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, and a half note C5. The bass line starts with a half note D2, followed by quarter notes E2, F#2, G2, A2, B2, and a half note C3. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

8 D/F# A7/E D/F# G F#m/A A/G D/F# D7/F# G D

O!  
O!  
O!  
O!

Some - times it  
Some - times it  
Some - times it  
Some - times I

The third system of music continues the melody and bass line. The treble staff melody starts with a half note D4, followed by quarter notes E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, and a half note C5. The bass line starts with a half note D2, followed by quarter notes E2, F#2, G2, A2, B2, and a half note C3. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

11 **F#/A# Bm G D/F# G A**

caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble!  
 caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble!  
 caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble!  
 feel like shout - ing glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry!

15 **G/B G D/A Em7 F#m/A A7 D**

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 dead?