

Poor Little Jesus

African-American spiritual

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arr. Joe Cox

Swingin' ♩ = c. 96

(All voices in unison) *mf*

It was

mf

The first system of musical notation for the song. It features a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Swingin' ♩ = c. 96'. The dynamic for the vocal line is '(All voices in unison) *mf*' and for the piano accompaniment is '*mf*'. The lyrics 'It was' are written below the vocal line.

3

poor lit - tle Je - sus, yes, yes; _____ he was born ___ on ___ Christ - mas,

simile

The second system of musical notation, starting at measure 3. The vocal line continues with the lyrics 'poor lit - tle Je - sus, yes, yes; _____ he was born ___ on ___ Christ - mas,'. The piano accompaniment continues with a similar rhythmic pattern. The dynamic '*simile*' is indicated below the piano part.

6

yes, yes; _____ and ___ laid ___ in a man - ger,

The third system of musical notation, starting at measure 6. The vocal line continues with the lyrics 'yes, yes; _____ and ___ laid ___ in a man - ger,'. The piano accompaniment continues with a similar rhythmic pattern.

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8

yes, yes; was-n't that a pi-ty and a shame, Lord, Lord, -

f

11 *mp* I: Choir

was-n't that a pi-ty and a shame? It was

mp

13

I

poor lit-tle Je - sus, yes, yes; - child - of - Mar - y,

II: Small Group *mp*

Poor lit-tle Je-sus,

16

yes, yes; — did-n't have a cra - dle, yes, yes; —

mf Mar - y, — *mf* poor lit-tle ba-by,

19

I
II was - n't that a pi-ty and a shame, Lord, Lord, — was-n't that a pi-ty and a

f *mp*

22

mp shame? It was poor lit-tle Je - sus, yes, yes; — they — nailed him to the cross, Lord,

mp

26

yes, yes; they hung him with a robber, yes, yes;

29

was-n't that a pi-ty and a shame, Lord, Lord, was-n't that a pi-ty and a

32

shame? It was poor lit-tle Je - sus,

35

yes, yes; he's ris - en from dark - ness,