

Come And Go With Me

Blind Willie Johnson

D D⁷ G D

Come and go with me to that land Come and go with me to that land With me to that

6 Bm E⁷ A D D⁷

land where I was born. Come and go with me to that land Come and go

11 G E⁷ D A D

with me to that land With me to that land where I was born.

This is a gospel song and the original lyrics speak of going "to that land where I'm bound," or heaven, a better place where there would be peace and freedom for black Americans. I grew up with the folk version by Peter, Paul and Mary, but recently found a wonderful soulful rendition by Bernice Johnson Reagon. I used it in the We Speak Music project as a framework for children to talk about what they know and love about their countries of origin, but rather than simply co-opt it I think it's important that they know about the original and its context. The verses have the same tune as the chorus and it provides a very forgiving introduction to lyric writing. The children I worked with loved it.