

Pay Me My Money Down

*A work song originated among Negro stevedores working in the Georgia Sea Islands. It was collected by Lydia Parrish and published in her 1942 book, *Slave Songs of the Georgia Sea*. It was performed by The Weavers during their influential 1955 Carnegie Hall concerts. First single released from Bruce Springsteen's 2006 big band folk album, *We Shall Overcome: The Seeger Sessions*.*

I thought I heard the captain say

Pay me my money down

Tomorrow is our sailing day

Pay me my money down

Chorus

Oh, pay me, oh, pay me. Pay me my money down

Pay me or go to jail. Pay me my money down

Now as soon as that boat was clear of the bar

Well, he knocked me down with the end of a spar

Chorus

I wish I was Mr. Howard's son

Sit in the house and drink good rum

Chorus

Well, I wish I was Mr. Steven's son

Sit on the bank and watch the work done

Chorus