

I Lost My Mistress' Dairy Key

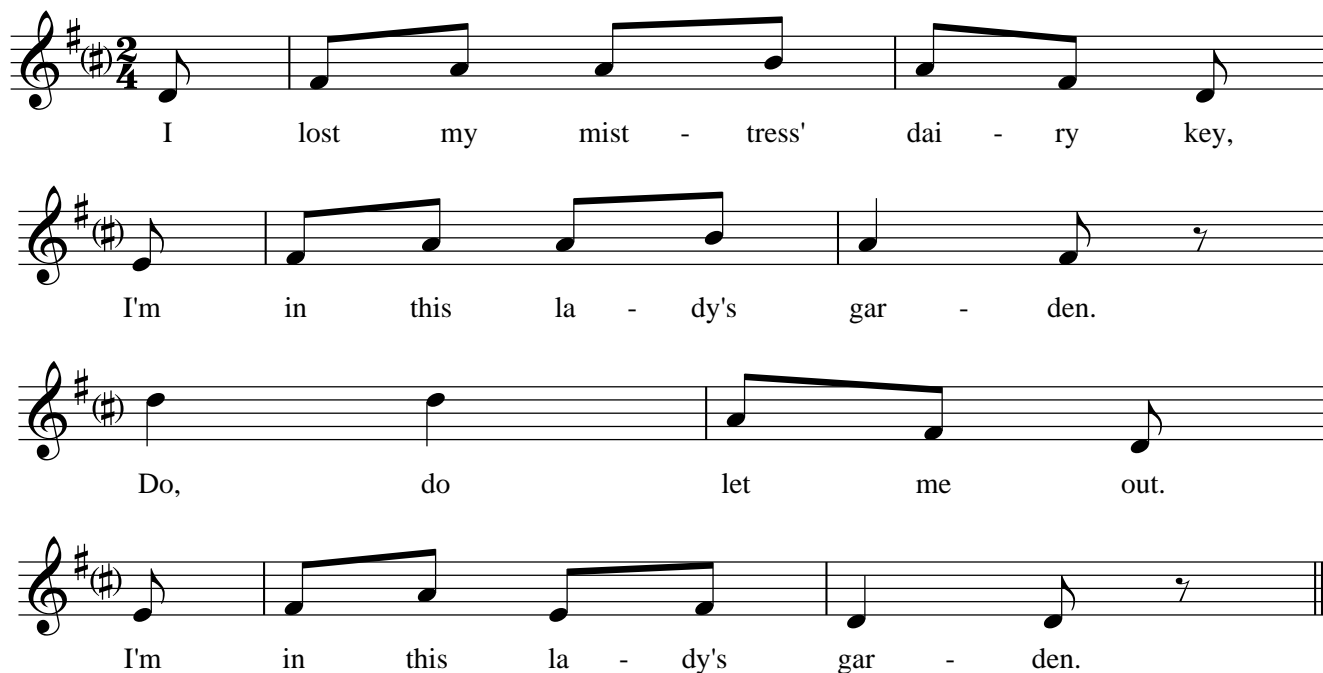
Source:

Grace Cleveland Porter

Negro Folk Singing-Games and Folk

Games of the Habitués

London: J. Curwen & Sons, Ltd., 1914



I lost my mistress' dai - ry key,
I'm in this la - dy's gar - den.
Do, do let me out.
I'm in this la - dy's gar - den.

2. A brass key and a silver lock,
I'm in this lady's garden.
Do, do let me out.
I'm in this lady's garden.
3. Cornstalk fiddle and a shoestring bow,
I'm in this lady's garden.
Do, do let me out.
I'm in this lady's garden.

Game Directions

The children form a circle with one of their number in the center (the garden).

They walk round holding hands and singing until the words 'Do, do, let me out,' when the one in the middle tried to break through or slip underneath.

If he succeeds in this, the circle breaks up and all the children chase him.

When he is caught, the game begins again. If, however, he does not succeed in breaking through after the first verse, the second verse is sung and usually after this he can make his escape and another child takes his place in the center.