

# Come On, Boys, and Let's Go to Huntin'

Informant/Performer:  
Henry Truvillion  
Burkeville, TX, 1940

Source:  
Library of Congress AFS 3983 B2  
Collected by John A. and Ruby T. Lomax

♩ = 80 - 84

The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff includes a tempo marking of 80-84 beats per minute. The lyrics are: '1. Come on boys, (and) let's go to hun - tin'. The second staff repeats the first line. The third and fourth staves contain the lyrics: 'Dog in the woods and he done treed sump' - pn,'.

1. Come on boys, (and) let's go to hun - tin'.

Come on boys, (and) let's go to hun - tin'.

Dog in the woods and he done treed sump' - pn,

Dog in the woods and he done treed sump' - pn.

Transcribed by David Yaffe

2. Yo' dog bark, he don't see nothin',  
Yo' dog bark, he don't see nothin',  
When my dog bark, he done treed sump'n.  
Come on, boys, let's go to huntin'.  
Dog in the woods, and he done treed sump'n.
3. The woods is wet, the roads is muddy.  
I'm so drunk till I can't stand steady.  
Come on, boys, let's go to huntin',  
Dog in the woods, and he done treed sump'n.  
Come on, boys, let's go to huntin',  
Come on, boys, let's go to huntin',  
Dog in the woods, and he done treed sump'n.
4. Possum up a gum stump, coon in the holler.  
Rabbit give a backtrack and stole a half a dollar.  
Come on, boys, let's go to huntin'.  
Dog in the woods, and he done treed sump'n.  
Come on, boys, let's go to huntin',  
Come on, boys, let's go to huntin',  
Dog in the woods, and he done treed sump'n.

5. Possum up a gum stump, coon in the holler,  
Rabbit give a backtrack and stole a half a dollar.  
Rabbit give a backtrack and stole a half a dollar.  
Come on, boys, let's go to huntin',  
Come on, boys, let's go to huntin',  
Dog in the woods, and he done treed sump'n.  
Dog in the woods, and he done treed sump'n.  
Dog in the woods, and he done treed sump'n.

## Background Information

In order to appreciate these children's songs, one must visualize the setting in the cotton fields, where children have been picking cotton and are thinking of a feast of fat possum baked with sweet potatoes. "Along toward sundown," says Henry Truvillion, "we'd all leave and go on home", and you can hear sometimes twenty-five boys and twenty-five girls all going home through the woods and across the fields, and they're all singing the same song back at one another."

Liner notes, *Negro Work Songs and Calls*