

Mary Had a Baby

Source:
Nicholas G.J. Ballanta-Taylor
St. Helena Island Spirituals
Boston, Mass.: G. Schirmer, 1925

The musical score is written on two staves in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature change to B-flat. It features alternating 'Solo' and 'Group' sections. The lyrics are: 'Ma - ry had a ba - by, Aye Lord, Ma-ry had a ba - by, Aye my Lord,'. The second staff continues the melody and accompaniment, with lyrics: 'Ma - ry had a ba - by, Aye Lord, the peo - ple keep a - com - in' and the train done gone.' The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests, with 'Solo' and 'Group' labels indicating different parts of the performance.

Solo *Group* *Solo* *Group*

Ma - ry had a ba - by, Aye Lord, Ma-ry had a ba - by, Aye my Lord,

Solo *Group*

Ma - ry had a ba - by, Aye Lord, the peo - ple keep a - com - in' and the train done gone.

2. What did she name him? Aye Lord.
3. She named him King Jesus, Aye Lord.
4. Where was he born? Aye Lord.
5. Born in a stable, Aye Lord.

Additional Verses:

6. Where did she lay him? Aye Lord.
7. Laid him in a manger, Aye Lord.
8. Angels sang around him, Aye Lord.
9. Who heard the singing? Aye Lord.
10. Shepherd heard the singing, Aye Lord.
11. Star kept a-shining, Aye Lord.