

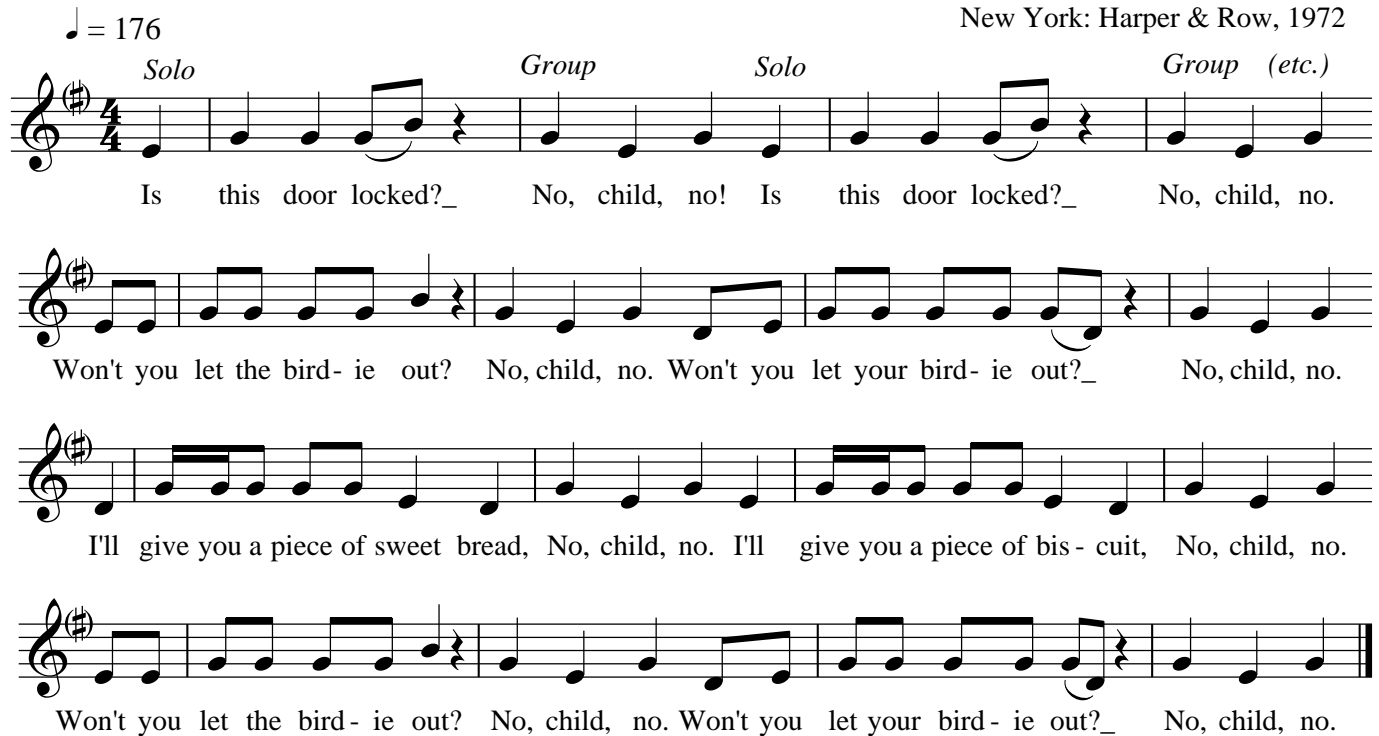
Won't You Let the Birdie Out?

Informant/Performer:
Bessie Jones

Source:
Bessie Jones and Bess Lomax Hawes
Step It Down
New York: Harper & Row, 1972

$\text{♩} = 176$

Solo *Group* *Solo* *Group (etc.)*



Is this door locked?_ No, child, no! Is this door locked?_ No, child, no.

Won't you let the bird- ie out? No, child, no. Won't you let your bird- ie out?_ No, child, no.

I'll give you a piece of sweet bread, No, child, no. I'll give you a piece of bis- cuit, No, child, no.

Won't you let the bird- ie out? No, child, no. Won't you let your bird- ie out?_ No, child, no.

Game Directions

A ring of children stand holding hands tightly. The "birdie" in the center sings the call while going around the circle, testing the grip of each pair of hands, then trying to break through the hands on the downbeat of each question. All in the circle sing response. The lead should be sung vigorously and ad lib, with any phrases or questions that come to mind, throughout the whole game; the answering chant is crisp. When the birdie finds a weak spot, he just *breaks* out.