

The Gray Goose

Informant/Performer:

Washington (Lightnin') and group

Sandy Point, Texas, 1933

The musical notation is written on two staves in 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a 'Solo' label and a key signature of two flats. The melody starts on a whole note, followed by a half note, and then a quarter note marked with an asterisk (*). This is followed by a half note, a quarter note, and a quarter note. The staff then continues with a half note, a quarter note, and a quarter note. The second staff begins with a 'Group' label and continues the melody with a half note, a quarter note, and a quarter note. The lyrics 'It was last Mon - day morn - ing' are written below the first staff, and 'Lord, Lord, Lord;' are written below the second staff. The second staff also includes a 'Solo' label and a key signature change to one flat.

Solo * *Group*

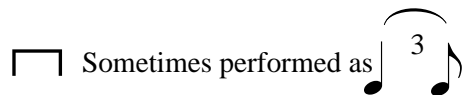
It was last Mon - day morn - ing Lord, Lord, Lord;

Solo * *Group*

It was last Mon - day morn - ing, Lord, Lord, Lord.

*Second note sung only when there are two syllables on the beat

Transcribed by Cynthia Stuck



Well, my Daddy went a-hunting Lord, Lord, Lord. (2x)

He didn't think it 'gainst religion...

And he took along his shotgun...

He spied a goose a-coming...

Well, he throwed his gun way up...

And he r'ared his hammer way back...

And the trigger went a-click-clack...

And the gun went a-boo-loo...

Well, he shot that old gray goose...

Well, the wagon couldn't haul him...

Oh, it's your wife and my wife...

Yes, they give a feather-picking... Well...

Oh, but they couldn't pick him... Well...

And, they throwed him in the hogpen... Well...

Well, the hogs couldn't eat him...

'Cause he broke a sow's jawbone...

And they put him on a desert... Well...

Well, the last time they seen him...

He was skipping 'cross the desert...

Goin' a-quick-quack, a-quick-quack...

Well, my father got angry...

And, the fire wouldn't cook him... Well...

And my wife, she couldn't pick him...

Oh, the mules couldn't pull him...

Well-a, oh, oh, gray goose...

I'll never go to huntin'...