

Dem Bones

Public Domain

Negro Spiritual

This is a leader-response song. The leader sings the verses and the group sings the refrain (dem bones gonna rise again) and the chorus. Ask the girls to share creation beliefs from other cultures.

C **F** **C** **G7** **C**
Well, the Lord, He thought He'd make a man, dem bones gonna rise again.
F **C** **G7** **C**
So He took a little mud, and He took a little sand, dem bones gonna rise again

F
Chorus: I knowed it, knowed it. Indeed I knowed it, brother
C **G7** **C**
I knowed it, whee! Dem bones gonna rise again

Now, Adam was feelin' powerful blue, dem bones gonna rise again.
The Lord didn't know just what to do, dem bones gonna rise again. *chorus*

So He took a rib from Adam's side, dem bones gonna rise again.
And made Miss Eve for to be his bride, dem bones gonna rise again. *chorus*

Placed them in a garden fair, dem bones gonna rise again.
Thought they'd be most happy there, dem bones gonna rise again. *chorus*

Apples, peaches, pears, and such, dem bones gonna rise again.
But of that fruit, you dasn't touch, dem bones gonna rise again. *chorus*

Around that tree ol' Satan slunk, dem bones gonna rise again.
And at Miss Eve his eye he wunk, dem bones gonna rise again. *chorus*

"Miss Eve these apples is mighty fine", dem bones gonna rise again.
"Take one. . . I'm sure the Lord won't mind." Dem bones gonna rise again. *chorus*

So she took a pick, and she took a pull, dem bones gonna rise again.
Then she filled her apron full! Dem bones gonna rise again. *chorus*
alternate: Durn near filled her fig leaf full.

Next mornin' when the Lord come 'round, dem bones gonna rise again.
He spied them cores all over the ground, dem bones gonna rise again.

"Adam! Adam! Where art thou?" Dem bones gonna rise again.
"Here I is Lord, comin' right now." Dem bones gonna rise again.

"Adam, did these cores you leave?" Dem bones gonna rise again.

"No, sir, Lord. I expect 'twas Eve." Dem bones gonna rise again.

"Adam, you must leave this place." Dem bones gonna rise again.

"And earn your bread by the sweat of your face." Dem bones gonna rise again.

So he took a pick and she took a plow, dem bones gonna rise again.

That's why we's workin' here right now, dem bones gonna rise again.

Now to this story there ain't no more, dem bones gonna rise again.

'Cause name's the one who ate the cores! Dem bones gonna rise again.

Hand Motions:

Dem bones gonna - *palms open rotate hands around each other like a roller*

Rise again - *throw hands up at shoulders*

Chorus - *clap* (except for below)

Whee - *throw hands up at shoulders*

Dem bones gonna - *palms open rotate hands around each other like a roller*

Rise again - *throw hands up at shoulders*