The Book of American Negro Spirituals

This stirring collection of Negro spirituals, edited by the great Negro poet James Weldon Johnson and arranged for voice and piano by his brother J. Rosamond Johnson, presents 120 of these melodic—and intensely moving—religious folk songs for contemporary performance. The original language has been faithfully preserved in this convenient performing edition, so that the spirituals can be sung today exactly as they were more than a hundred years ago. [...] The songs are prefaced by James Weldon Johnson's masterful discussions of their origins, musical quality, and historical significance. Above all, he stresses the essential dignity of the Negro spirituals, which, though no doubt inspired by the religious faith of their masters, "are purely and solely the creation of the American Negro."
Includes the Book of American Negro Spirituals and the Second Book of Negro Spirituals. No jacket. PO name stamp on the endpapers and top/bottom edges, 1/2 inch dark stain on foredge, pages toned but unmarked, red fabric covers spotted and edge/corner worn to the board, binding tight. Seller Inventory # 97296. More information about this seller | Contact this seller 6. The Books of American Negro Spirituals [Two Volumes in One] Including The Book of American Negro Spirituals and The Second Book of American Negro Spirituals The Book of American Negro Spirituals the Second Book of Negro Spiritua... 187 pages ; 26 cm. Go down Moses ; Heav'n boun' soldier ; Joshua fit de Battle ob Jerico ; We am Clim'in' Jacob's ladder ; Didn't old Pharaoh get los'? ; Swing low sweet chariot ; Up on de Mountain ; Lit'tle David play on yo' harp ; Die in de Fiel' ; Ride on, Moses ; All God's Chillun got wings ; Dere's no hidin' place down dere ; Gimme dat ol'-time Religion ; Lis'en to de lam's ; He's Jus' de same today ; Stan' still Jordan ; Somebody's knockin' at yo' do' ; Singin' wid a swo to The Books of American Negro Spirituals: Book I (New York, 1925), quoted in Katz, pp. xxxvii-viii. See also Sterling Brown, Negro Poetry and Drama and The Negro in American Fiction (New York, 1969), pp. 15-21. In his discussion. of the 'philosophy'. of the spirituals, Brown (writing in 1935), commended. Johnson's work in 'stirring a twentieth century interest in the spirituals'. that 'The church songs. and spirituals of the Negroes. in the Southern United States closely resemble West. African.