

"MKHUMBANE"

(Opening Chorus)

See how dark it is, how quiet,
Hardly anything is moving.
Only some early person.
Only some early buses in the street,
Taking early persons to the town
from Mkhumbane.

But soon the light will come.
The sun will rise out of the Eastern sea
And show to you this place,
This Mkhumbane.

Soon you will hear a story
Like all the stories of men;
Of love and faithfulness;
Of courage and wickedness;
Life and death.
Mkhumbane.

Mkhumbane, you are my home.
Goodness and evil are your life.
Let the people awake — let the day
begin,
The day of our story —
Of Mkhumbane.

SIDE 1. Number 2.

" MORNING SONG "

Thousands and thousands and
thousands are marching.
We come from the valleys of aloe and
thorn.
Our feet walk the street of the town
and the city.
This is the place where our children are
born.

Goodmorning my brother.
Morning my sister.
No, I got no time for talking
Can't you see how fast I'm walking.
'Morning. Morning.
Last time I was three minutes late,
The boss said "boy we start at eight
You come once more a minute past
And that once more will be your last".
Phungula, what is this they say
That going home you lost your way.
They say you found the bridge too
broad
And in the dark went overboard.
Ha, hahahahaha.

Thousands and thousands and
thousands are marching
On the road where the traveller cannot
return.
Our feet walk the street of the town
and the city.
These are the ways that our children
must learn.

Busman, wait a minute pray
Before you take my bread away.
Jobs are hard to get today.
Busman, wait a minute pray.

Busman, half a minute pray
I told you what the people say:
Come just once more a minute past
And that once more will be your last.
Last night Mandela's child was called
away,
So long a journey for so brief a stay.
Father, father be satisfied,
He is not the first that died.

Last night Mandela's wife was called
away,
So hard the labour for so little pay.
Husband, husband, be satisfied,
She is not the first that died.

Phungula, people say the river
Made you quake and shake and shiver,
But when your wife opened the door
You quaked and shaked and shivered
more.

Ha, hahahahaha:
Thousands and thousands and
thousands are marching
On the road where the traveller cannot
return.

Our feet walk the street of the town
and the city.

These are the ways that our children
must learn.

SIDE 1. No. 6.

" WHO WILL YOU MARRY? "

BOYS:

We're the boys with the smart turn-out,
We're the ones that they all talk about.
Don't you worry brother, don't take
fright,
Our only fault is that we work at night.
It may be dang'rous brother joining us,
But leaving us may be more dangerous.
Don't be frightened, oh don't go away,
Don't believe all the things they say.

GIRLS:

We're the girls of the Ship Shape Shop,
Someone must work or the world would
stop.
Don't seem natural, and don't seem
right
Married to a man who's out all night.
Think of the worries, think of the cares,
A woman she loves the children she
bears.
Of all the jobs that are under the sun,
This is the job can't be done by one.

BOYS:

Who will you marry if you don't marry
us?
Will you find honest men in some other
city then?
Or find a decent stranger sitting next
to you in the bus?
Who will you marry if you do not marry
us?

GIRLS:

Who will we marry if we don't marry
you?
How grievous and how heavy our
troubles if we do,
A long day of weeping and a long
night of rue,
But who will we marry if we do not
marry you?

BOYS:

Who will you marry if you don't marry
us?
Are we not the children of Mother
Mkhumbane?
Did not many of your mothers also
mother us?
Who will you marry if you do not
marry us?

GIRLS:

Who will we marry if we don't marry
you?
For if we want to marry, it takes not
one but two.
So if we want to marry what else can
we do?
Who will we marry if we do not marry
you?

BOYS:

Who will you marry if you don't marry
us?
We play the same games and bear the
same names.
And your fathers fathered us.
Who will you marry if you do not marry
us?

GIRLS:

Oh! Who will we marry if we don't
marry you?
For some of us are foolish and don't
mind what we do.
Your mothers and our mothers did the
same as we will do.

ALL:

Oh, who will we marry if we do not
marry you?

SIDE II. No. 1.

" RACHEL'S LAMENT "

Child, why did you come to me?
Why did you come to show me
The kind of child I used to be,
And send me back to weeping?
Child, why did you come to me?
Bring back the past to me?
Why did you come to wake my heart
That was grown used to sleeping?
Oh boy from home
Who sleeps in the bitter sea,
Why does time take so long to go by?
Oh boy from home
Who sleeps in the bitter sea,
Do not look at me now,
So old, so careless am I.

Now for a day or two
I'll be what I used to be,
For the sake of these tender two
Who remind me of you and me.
So girl with the wonderful boy
I'm glad you came to me.

SIDE II. No. 5.

" BANTUSTAN "

MEN:

Lady, won't you look at us,
Jack and Dick and Dan and Gus.
Lady, won't you choose a man.
Won't you make a marrying plan?

GIRL:

I have no plan to take a man,
Gus and Jack and Dick and Dan,
But if I should make such a plan
I'd want a man who was a man,
I'd want a man from Bantustan.

MEN:

Lady don't decide so quick,
There's Gus and Jack and Dan and
Dick,
A nice little house Kwa Mashu way,
Perhaps a nice little car one day.

GIRL:

Oh Gus and Jack and Dan and Dick,
I don't make up my mind so quick.
For city slickers I don't care,
I want a man who will and can
I want a man from Bantustan.

MEN:

Lady it's very dangerous
Say Jack and Dick and Dan and Gus.
What if he feeds you on bark and
roots?
What if he goes to bed in his boots?

GIRL:

Jack and Dick and Dan and Gus,
I don't think it's so dangerous.
What if he goes to bed in his boots?
So long as he loves me like a man
And that means a man from Bantustan.

MEN:

Lady why not a city man,
Gus or Jack or Dick or Dan?
Lady be kind, lady be fair,
We're not afraid of the open air.

GIRL:

Gus and Jack and Dick and Dan,
I was once in love with a city man,
He wouldn't go out in the open air.
I said to him I love you man
But I'd love you better in Bantustan.

ALL:

Bantustan, Bantustan,
That's where a man can be a man,
And when I make a marrying plan,
It'll be a man who is a man,
It'll be a man who will and can,
It'll be a man from Bantustan.