

Charon, O Charon

Robert Johnson

Spirit

5

Cha- ron, oh Cha- ron, come a- way! Why dost thou let me call so long?

Chordal notation: a r b, r b a, a a a, r e a, a a a, b a f d f g

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Charon

Whentime, thou know'st, for none will stay; In which thou dost me dou-ble wrong. Ho!

Chordal notation: f b a, a a a, f d e a, b r e b a b, a e a, a b a, r b a, e

15

ho! What has- ty wight doth call? Say whence thou com'st, or whi- ther would'st thou

Chordal notation: a b b a, b a b f d, a a, a a, f d d b, a a

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go; Nor Cha- ron nor his boat were made for all That call for to be waft- ed to and fro:

Chordal notation: e e, f e, b f, a a b a r e, a a, a b e, a a

25 Spirit 30

Did love or hon- our send thee? Say! If not, then Cha- ron means to stay. Oh, list to

35 Charon

me, and I will tell The cause of my sad fate: Go on, poor soul, I hear thee well,

40 Spirit

And wilt thy woes, thy woes, and wilt thy woes a- bate. Thanks, gen- tle Cha- ron.

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On, I say. Then truth to let thee know, 'Twas Love him- self sent me this way.

Charon Spirit 55

That fool-ish boy! how so? By kill-ing my poor heart with grief And wound-ing my sad

Charon Spirit Charon 60

soul. And could'st thou then find no re-lief? Oh, no! A-las, poor fool!

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This fool-ish, wan-ton, blind, un-con-stant boy, Doth send more souls un-to my boat and me,

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Than all the gods that death doth still em-ploy, Or fa-tal de-sti-nies, the si-sters three.

75 Spirit

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Oh! had'st thou been of hu- man race Thou could'st not breathe forth such dis- grace Of Love, to

85 Charon

term him foolish, blind; But would'st have borne a gent- ler mind. Wo- men and fools,

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they are his sub- jects still; Thou- sands of such he us- eth in their kind;

95

He makes them whine, and cry, and sigh, but still They be as deaf and dumb as he is blind.

Then laughs at them and sends them tumb- ling, tumb- ling, tumb- ling hi- ther, Re-

100

spect- ing them, nor me, nor wind, nor wea- ther. Spirit Charon
Cha- ron! I come.

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I pri- thee, haste a- way; My time's pre- fix; I can no long- er stay Oh, here I come.

Spirit 115 Charon

Thrice wel- come now at last. Then come a- board, and to those plea- sures haste, That

120 Spirit

Charon

in E-li-zi-um grow. For those I long, And wish there still to live. Then with a

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song In spite of Love, as I do waft thee thi-ther, We'llsing of joys, and all de-lights to-

130

Spirit

Charon

135

ge-ther. Then to those fields then to those fields then to those fields, and most de-light-ful plains,

140

Where lov-ers gain their joys, and end, and end their pains.