

Work Song

Words and Music by
OSCAR BROWN and NAT ADDERLY

Moderately

Piano introduction in C minor, 4/4 time. The music is marked 'Moderately'. It features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above it.

Cm

Vocal line and piano accompaniment for the first verse. The piano part is marked *mf*. The lyrics are:

1. Break-in' up big	rocks— on uh chain gang,	Break-in' rocks an'
2. I com-mit the	crime, Lawd, o' need-in',	Crime o' be-in'
3. Judge, he say, "Five	years— hard— la-bor.	On the chain gang
4. Wan-na see my	sweet— hon-ey ba-by,	Wan-na break this

Vocal line and piano accompaniment for the second verse. The piano part continues with the same accompaniment. The lyrics are:

serv-in' my time,	Break-in' rocks ou' chere—	on the chain gang
hun-gry an' poor.	Left the gro-cer	store— man a-bleed-in'
you goin' t' go."	Heard the judge say, "Five—	years o' la-bor,"
chain off an' run,	Wan-na lay down	some-where it's sha-dy.

Gm

G7

'Cause I been con - vict - ed o' crime.
 When he caught me rob - bin' his store.
 Heard my wo - man scream, — "Lawd-y, no!"
 Lawd, it sure is hot _____ in the sun.

Cm

Hol' it stea - dy right there — while I hit it. There! I reck-on that.

C7-5

C7

F7-5

F7-9

_____ ought-a git it. Been work in' _____ an' work-in', But I still.

D7

G7 3

Cm 1,2,3.

4.Cm

_____ got so terr-'ble long to go. _____