

FOLKWAYS RECORDS FTS 31308

# Calypso-Rock Songs of Jamaica

## Horace Johnson & The Eagle Star



M  
1681  
J318  
J67  
C169  
1978

COVER DESIGN BY RONALD CLYNE

MUSIC LP



FOLKWAYS RECORDS FTS 31308 Stereo

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- Band 1. Education In School  
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(Harry Belafonte)
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(Mighty Sparrow)
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(Mighty Sparrow)

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Songs  
of Jamaica**  
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DESCRIPTIVE NOTES ARE INSIDE POCKET

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# JAMAICAN CALYPSO ROCK

## HORACE JOHNSON And The Eagle Star

### INTRODUCTION

I, Horace Johnson was born August 29th, 1948. I was grown up without a father, until I reached the age that I could go to school. During my school time I used to work three days per week, and two days in school. It becomes a hard struggling for me. At the age of twelve I used to work on a farm, hearing songs on the radio playing and I started to imitate these songs: Mocking Bird-song by Inez Fox and Charley Fox, Empty Cheer by Keith Lynor. After the imitation I started to sing more and more on the farm. Then I started to develop my skill, not knowing that I could ever make a hit record at no time. I finally leave the country-side after my mother died. Then I go to the big city Kingston, I was living there for four years, trying very hard to do some recording. Nobody seems to pay me no mine. I see where I couldn't survive because I didn't have a job. All through my struggling I tell myself that one day I'm going to make myself a record. Then I leave from the city back to the countryside. I bought a guitar for twenty dollars and I started to play and sing my own creative work, I find my friends and people in great motion. One day I got a job at the Jamaica Hilton Hotel on the beach, with the Water Sports doing Scuba diving. I didn't give up my singing. I still insist to sing. During my work I met a couple from Chicago take them for a walk where they have some private villas. I met a man in the hotel who is in the recording business. I refer to the man that I had a song that I would like to sing for him, he replied to me that he doesn't talk business when he's on vacation. This couple that I was walking with said to him, he has a beautiful voice, he can sing very well. He gave me an appointment to come and see him at his office. When I went there he sent me to the Producer who works for him then I started to sing reggae songs. The Producer remarks to me he doesn't do these kind of songs anymore, then I leave him and go and record the same song with another Producer in 1973. The song became a hit bound on chart for two weeks. I started to realize how good I was. I never get fright I stay cool. They gave me a contract for a year. I didn't have a lawyer, and I didn't understand clearly so I sign the contract because I think I did have a good thing going. One day Shelter Recording Company in New York sent some of his agent that works for them to come and get some hit records for them. They come and get me, telling me that they are making a Movie and they would like my song to be a theme song for a movie. When I tell them that I sign a contract they told me that I have made a mistake. They did get the song and it was released, but that's where I loose a chance again. I still continue on the recording, but because I didn't have the money to stand the Production cost. When I went in the Recording Studio the man who claimed that he is the Producer, he always standing with the engineer listening to the sound while I'm working very hard and he always get the money. I passed through a lot of strugglings in music and several other things. I didn't go to a Music School, it's just an in-born talent. I experience and learnt the hardest way. Now I can produce and arrange from a two tract to a sixteen tract. I

still didn't get the proper chance but I have good things in store to put out. That's my life story in Music and tribulation. My music has been called "Calypso Rock." The name of the group is Horace Johnson and the Eagle Star with Leroy Jones, Noel Dona and Enel Allen.



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### Band 1. Education In School

Chorus:

How do I happen to get some education  
I don't know  
How do I happen to get some education  
I don't know  
How do I happen to get some education  
I don't know  
I have to ask myself the question over  
and over again

Well, when I was a little boy I did not go to school  
I ask my parents why didn't they send me to school  
They say to me son I could not afford it  
I didn't have a chance to get food to eat much less to send you  
to school

Well the first subject they teach me in school the cow jump  
over the moon  
The little girl laugh to see such sport and the cat ran away  
with the spoon  
They tell me about . . . . what see the chicken elephant and he  
didn't get caught at all

Chorus:

Well, now I decided to send myself to school  
I started to work some money on selling myself again  
But when I wake up in the morning I have to help my parents  
with something in the home  
Before I went out to school sometime I was pretty limb  
Then the teacher say to me son you always be so late  
She take up her . . . . and she run it through my hair then the  
trouble get start  
She take up a ruler and she chop me in my head said I'm a  
nasty boy  
And then from that I cannot learn A from B

Chorus:

### Band 2. Island In The Sun (Harry Belafonte)

This is my island the sun where my people has toiled since  
time began  
I may sail on many a seas but the shore will always belong to  
me

Chorus:

Oh island in the sun give to me by my father's hands  
All my life I will sing and pray at the forest water, the shining  
sun

I swore and prayed on heaven and earth  
I lift my head alone up to the sky  
The sun came down with a burning glow sprinkle my sweat to  
the earth below

Chorus:

I saw a woman on bending knees cutting cane for the family  
I saw a man by the waterside casting a net in the surging tide

Chorus:

I pray the day might never come when I can't awake to hear  
the sounds of jum  
Never leave me in this carnival to sing calipso songs in this  
tropical

Chorus:

My sweet Jamaica is my island in the sun

### Band 3. Paradise Island

Chorus:

This land is our land come let us use it  
we have a paradise island brothers don't abuse it  
This land is our land come let us use it  
we have a paradise island sisters don't abuse it  
Let's get together and live in harmony  
let's build our nation and don't be funny  
let's work together one people in unity  
brother and sister let's live with sincerity

On the beach to have some fun, oh yeah tropical breeze and  
the shining sun  
Oh yes it is reggae, mento and island rock  
come enjoy the adds of a nations stock  
come enjoy the adds of a nations stock

Chorus:

### Band 4. Yellow Bird (Harry Belafonte)

Yellow bird fly in banana tree  
yellow bird why they sit all alone like me  
If your lady friend leave your nest again that is very bad make  
me feel so sad  
You can fly away endless skies way you're more lucky than  
me

I always have a little yellow bird be around me through the  
day  
Whatever time she's ready to build her nest she flaps her  
wings and flies away

Yellow bird fly in banana tree  
yellow bird why he sit all alone like me  
If your lady friend leave your nest again picker coming soon,  
pick from night to noon  
you're more luckier than me

If I were a yellow bird  
I would fly away with you  
But since I'm not a yellow bird here I stand with nothing else  
to do

Yellow bird fly in banana tree  
yellow bird why he sit all alone like me  
If your lady friend leave your nest again picker coming soon,  
pick from night to noon  
you're more luckier than me

Yellow bird a fly in banana tree  
yellow bird that sit all alone like me  
If your lady friend leave your nest again that is very bad make  
you feel so sad  
You can fly away, endless skies away  
you're more lucky than me



**Band 5. Come To Jamaica (Harry Belafonte)**

Chorus:

Run, run, run to Jamaica, down to this tropical area  
 come visit my sweet Jamaica, this is the land of sunshine and  
 water

When you go to your hometown land tell your friends that  
 the time that you spend here was grand  
 and you can always visit this place it is fit for the human race

Chorus:

When you go to your hometown land tell your friends that the  
 time that you spend here was grand  
 and you can always visit this place it is fit for the human race

In the night when you feeling cool and you can drink up this  
 good old rum it give you appetite for the native food

Chorus:

When you go to your hometown land tell your friends that the  
 time that you spend here was grand  
 and you can always visit this place it is fit for the human race

When you feeling down and out  
 you make a walk . . . . .  
 it give you appetite for the native food

Chorus:

**Band 6. January, February, March**

January, February, March, April, May, June, July  
 January, February, March, April, May, June, July  
 August, September, October, November, December

REPEAT

**Band 7. The Donkey Want Water**

Hold him Joe, hold him Joe, hold him Joe  
 but don't let him go  
 Hold him Joe, hold him Joe, hold him Joe  
 but don't let him go

the donkey want water, hold him Joe  
 the donkey want water, hold him Joe  
 See Joe hold the donkey, hold him Joe

Lead him come, lead him come, lead him come (2X)  
 make him tumble on  
 Lead him come, lead him come, lead him come  
 make him tumble on

The donkey want water, hold him Joe  
 the donkey want water, hold him Joe  
 So the chicken follow the hen  
 and so the women follow the men

The donkey want water, hold him Joe  
 the donkey want water, hold him Joe  
 The donkey want water, hold him Joe

The donkey want whiskey, hold him Joe  
 that's why he's so frisky, hold him Joe  
 The donkey want bourbon, hold him Joe  
 the donkey want water, hold him Joe

Lead him come, lead him come, lead him come (2X)  
 make him tumble on  
 Lead him come, lead him come, lead him come  
 make him tumble on

Hold him Joe, hold him Joe, hold him Joe  
 but don't let him go  
 Hold him Joe, hold him Joe, hold him Joe  
 but don't let him go

**Band 8. Love In The Cemetery (Mighty Sparrow)**

It was dark, dark, dark in a big graveyard  
 now I sit up on my throne and mellow lies alone  
 I hear a man give out mister you got to be brave  
 you bringing your girlfriend on top of me grave

Chorus:

You talk about run I nearly broke my neck  
 the living running from the dead  
 don't run, don't run me so hard  
 let us play a game of cards

She lie down beside me tomb  
 foot stick up in a mango root  
 she lie down on top of the tomb and  
 she get up with a zoom, zoom, zoom

What get me mad and I was feeling so sad just as I was about  
 to start a little romance with my sweetheart and I kiss her  
 twice and I feeling alright  
 I hear a voice say mister you got to be brave when I was alive I  
 use to do the same

Chorus:

I see a tall young man sitting on a tall white horse just in front  
 of me . . . . .and I heard a knock and then I . . . . .I hear a  
 voice say mister you brave you bringing your girlfriend on  
 top of my grave

Chorus:

Then what get me mad and I was feeling so sad just as I was  
 about to start a little romance with my sweetheart and I kiss  
 her twice and I feeling alright  
 I hear a voice say mister you got to be brave you bringing  
 your girlfriend on top of my grave

Chorus:

**Band 9. Can't Make Love Without Money (Mighty Sparrow)**

I've pack up her things to leave  
she went through and out  
All she had alone to do,  
she have a man in the south

Said I really love you Johnny  
what will your future be  
She say she love me  
you can't make love without money

You can't make love on an empty belly  
Johnny you will be the only one I am dreaming of  
you are my turtle dove  
But no money, no love

Gentlemen let me tell you plain  
I don't want to create a scene  
But if you if you only touch me again  
the police will intervene

She said you ain't got a damn cent  
you can't even pay the rent  
She say she love me  
you can't make love without money

You can't make love on a hungry belly  
Johnny you will always be the only one I am dreaming of  
you are my turtle dove  
But no money, no love

You should hear how she really plead  
I beg her to understand  
Listen mister I tell you mean  
let go me blasted hand  
Cause you ain't got a damn cent  
you can't even pay the rent

Chorus:

Gentlemen let me tell you plain  
I don't want to create a scent  
But if you only touch me again  
the police will intervene

Chorus: