

AIN' IT DE TRUTH?

(From The Musical Production "Jamaica")

Lyric by E.Y. HARBURG
Music by HAROLD ARLEN

Moderately bright with a beat

f (like a spiritual)

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand features a melodic line with a series of chords and eighth notes, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with quarter notes and chords. The tempo is marked 'Moderately bright with a beat'.

D E9 A7 D

1. Life is short, short, brother! AIN' IT DE TRUTH? An' dere is no oth-er,
2. (Life is) short, short, brother! AIN' IT DE TRUTH? An' dere is no oth-er,

The first system shows the vocal melody and piano accompaniment for the first verse. The vocal line is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

Em7 A7 A7+ D Em7 F° A7 G Gm6

AIN' IT DE TRUTH? You got - ta grab dat rain - bow while you still got your youth, Oh!
AIN' IT DE TRUTH? So if you don't love liv - in' you is slight - ly un - couth, Oh!

The second system shows the vocal melody and piano accompaniment for the second verse. The vocal line is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

D E9 E7(b5) A7 D

ain' it de sol - id truth? _____ Was a man called Ad - am,
ain' it de dig - ni - fied truth? _____ Said dat gal Du - bar - ry,

The third system shows the vocal melody and piano accompaniment for the third verse. The vocal line is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

E9 A7 D Em7 A7 A7+

AIN' IT DE TRUTH? Said, "Now look here, Mad-am, AIN' IT DE TRUTH? You got - ta
 AIN' IT DE TRUTH? Love is cash and car - ry, AIN' IT DE TRUTH? You got - ta

D Em7 F° A7 G Gm6 D E9 E7(b5) A7

bite dat ap - ple while you still got dat tooth, Oh! ain' it de mel - low
 shake it down or stir it up with ver - mouth, Oh! ain' it de flex - i - ble

D D7 G D

truth?" Long as there's wine and gin to drown your troub-les in,
 truth? Life is a rip - pling brook, man is a fish to cook,

D#° Em7 D#° Em7 A9 (Tacet)

What's all dis talk o' sin, rise 'n' shine and fall in line. Get dat
 Go on and bait your hook, rise 'n' shine and heave dat line. Got to

D E9 A7 D

new re - li - gion, AIN' IT DE TRUTH? Fo' you is dead pi - geon,
 get your pos - sum, AIN' IT DE TRUTH? While you's still in blos - som,

Em7 A7 A7+ D Em7 F° D7 G Gm6

AIN' IT DE TRUTH? 'Cause when you're laid hor - i - zon - tal in dat tel - e - phone booth, —
 AIN' IT DE TRUTH? And dat went for De - li - lah, Cle - o - pat - ra and Ruth, —

D6 G G6 D9 G Gm6 Bm7 E9 A7

Dere'll be no breath-in' spell, dat's on - ly nat - u - ral Ain' it the gos - sip - el
 Them babes did might - y swell, they rang that Jez - e - bel, Ain' it the gos - sip - el

1. D E9 E7(b5) A7 (Tacet) 2. D Gmaj7 G6 D

truth? 2. Life is truth?