

# Follow the Drinking Gourd

Traditional African-American folk song  
Arr. Allen Koepke

**Pulsing, rhythmic yet legato** ♩ = 96

*p*

S  
A  
T  
B

Fol-low, —

*p*

Fol - low, fol-low — the drink-ing gourd, fol - low — the

*p hushed, with energy*

Fol low, — fol-low — the drink-ing gourd, fol - low — the

**Pulsing, rhythmic yet legato** ♩ = 96

*p*

for rehearsal only

5

fol-low — the drink-ing gourd, ooh —

*mp* unis.

When the sun goes back and the first quail calls,

drink - ing gourd, fol - low, — fol - low, — fol - low — the

drink - ing gourd, fol - low, — fol - low, — fol - low — the

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*mp* ah

*mf* For the old man is a - wait - in' for to

*mf* fol - low the drink - ing gourd. Old man is a - wait - in' for to

*mp* drink - ing gourd. Old man is a - wait - in' for to

*mp* drink - ing gourd. Old man is a - wait - in' for to

*mp* *mf*

9 unis.

# For Perusal Only

*f* car - ry you to free - dom, fol - low the drink - ing gourd.

*f* car - ry you to free - dom, fol - low the drink - ing gourd.

*f* car - ry you to free - dom, fol - low the drink - ing gourd.

*f* car - ry you to free - dom, fol - low the drink - ing gourd.

13

Fol-low the drink-ing gourd, fol - low the  
Fol-low the

Fol-low, fol - low the drink-ing gourd, fol - low the

Fol-low, fol - low the drink-ing gourd, we're gon - na fol - low the

Fol-low, fol - low the drink-ing gourd, we're gon - na fol - low the

# For Perusal Only

drink-ing gourd. Free - dom, free-dom,  
*mp* *mf*

drink-ing gourd. Free - dom, free-dom,  
*mp* *mf*

drink-ing gourd. For the old man is a-wait - in' for to car - ry you to free-dom,  
drink-ing gourd. For the old man is a-wait - in' for to car - ry you to free-dom,

*f* unis. *mp* *mf* [21]

fol - low the drink - ing gourd. The riv - er bed makes a might -

*f* *mp* *mf*

fol - low the drink - ing gourd. The riv - er bed makes a might -

*mp*

fol - low the drink - ing gourd. Fol - low, fol - low,

*mp*

fol - low the drink - ing gourd. Fol - low, fol - low,

*f* *mf*

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- y fine road, dead trees to show you the way.

- y fine road, dead trees to show you the way.

*mf*

fol - low, fol - low, free - dom, free - dom, and it's

*mf*

fol - low, fol - low, free - dom, free - dom, and it's

25

peg foot, then trav-el-ing, fol - low\_\_ the drink - ing gourd.

peg foot, then trav-el-ing, fol - low\_\_ the drink - ing gourd.

left foot, then\_\_ trav - el-ing on,\_\_ fol-low the drink - ing unis.

left foot, then\_\_ trav - el-ing on,\_\_ fol-low the drink - ing unis.

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Fol - low\_\_ the drink - ing\_\_ gourd,\_\_

Fol - low\_\_ the drink - ing\_\_ gourd,\_\_

gourd, fol - low, fol - low.\_\_ Fol - low\_\_ the drink - ing\_\_ gourd,\_\_ we're gon - na

gourd, fol - low, fol - low.\_\_ Fol - low\_\_ the drink - ing\_\_ gourd,\_\_ we're gon - na

33

fol - low the drink - ing — gourd. — to  
 fol - low the drink - ing — gourd. — to  
 fol - low — the drink - ing — gourd. — For the old man's a - wait - in', —  
 fol - low — the drink - ing — gourd. — For the old man's a - wait - in', —

car - ry you to free - dom, — fol - low, — fol - low, —  
 car - ry you to free - dom, — fol - low, — fol - low, —  
 wait, wait, wait - in', — fol - low, — fol - low, —  
 wait, wait, wait - in', — fol - low, — fol - low, —

*mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

37

fol - low the drink - ing gourd.

fol - low the drink - ing gourd.

fol - low the drink - ing

fol - low the drink -

# For Perusal Only

40

*mf* unis. The riv-er ends be-tween two hills,

*mf* The riv-er ends be-tween two hills,

*mf* gourd. Fol - low, fol-low, fol - low, fol - low, fol-low the

*mf* - ing gourd. Fol - low, fol-low, fol - low, fol - low, fol-low the

fol - low \_\_\_\_\_ the drink - ing \_\_\_\_\_ gourd. \_\_\_\_\_ There's an - oth - er riv - er on the

fol - low \_\_\_\_\_ the drink - ing \_\_\_\_\_ gourd. \_\_\_\_\_ There's an - oth - er riv - er on the

drink - ing, the drink - ing \_\_\_\_\_ gourd, fol - low, fol - low. \_\_\_\_\_

drink - ing, the drink - ing \_\_\_\_\_ gourd, fol - low, fol - low. \_\_\_\_\_

unis. 44

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oth - er side, \_\_\_\_\_ fol - low the drink - ing \_\_\_\_\_ *mp*

oth - er side, \_\_\_\_\_ fol - low the drink - ing \_\_\_\_\_ *mp*

There's an - oth - er riv - er, \_\_\_\_\_ fol - low the drink - ing \_\_\_\_\_ *mp*

unis. \_\_\_\_\_ fol - low the drink - ing \_\_\_\_\_ *mp*

There's an - oth - er riv - er, \_\_\_\_\_ fol - low the drink - ing \_\_\_\_\_

*decresc.*



48 *stagger breath through m. 55*

*p* *mf* *mp* 52

*p* *mf* *mp*

*p* *mf* *mp* *mf* unis.

gourd. doo oh

gourd. doo oh

gourd. I thought I heard the

gourd.

For Perusal Only

*mf* *mp* 56

*mf* *mp*

*f* *mf* *mf* unis.

aw ooh

aw ooh

an - gels say fol - low the drink - ing gourd. The

For the old man is wait-in' to



# © protection

64

fol - low the drink - ing gourd, and it's

fol - low the drink - ing gourd, and it's

fol - low the drink - ing gourd, and it's

fol - low the drink - ing gourd, and it's

fol - low the drink - ing gourd, and it's

68 *molto rit.*

peg foot, trav - el - ing on, fol - low the  
 peg foot, trav - el - ing on, fol - low the  
 left foot, then trav - el - ing on, left foot, then trav - el - ing on,  
 left foot, then trav - el - ing on, left foot, then trav - el - ing on,

*molto rit.*

For Perusal Only

drink - ing gourd, fol - low!  
 drink - ing gourd!  
 fol - low, fol - low the drink - ing gourd!  
 fol - low, fol - low the drink - ing gourd!

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*