

PAUL ROBESON

(Born To Be Free)

Free Bend up 1/2 step					

Words and Music by
LARRY KIRWAN

Moderately, Funky

1. You can wreck my name, vil-i-fy me, stretch me on the rack But I
2. See additional lyrics

won't bow down to an-y man be he white or be he black

Take a-way my pass-port, re-fuse to let me trav-el But I

will not get down on my knees, You're nev-er gon-na make me grov-el There's a

F

lot more to de-moc - ra - cy than hav - in' _ a vote _ I'm the

G

e - qual here _ of an - y man, Free my peo-ple, let _ them go _ These

$\text{\textcircled{S}}$ Bb

chains a - round my bod - y are nev - er gon - na hold _ me And I _

C Bb

_ re-fuse _ to be a slave in my own coun - try The great are on - ly great 'cause

C

we're down on _ our knees _ Rise up, my broth-ers and sis - ters, we were

To Coda $\text{\textcircled{D}}$ D

born to be free Born to be free

D7 D D7

2. You can free

Spoken Close your halls to stop_ me sing - in' Close your minds to stop_ me speak - in'

Close your kit-chens to stop_ me eat - in' Close your ho-tels to stop_ me sleep-in' But I'll'

nev - er turn _ my back _ on my com - rades and my friends _ The

poor and the dis - pos - sessed, _ the wom - en and _ the men The

great are on - ly great 'cause we're down on _ our knees _ Rise

up, my broth - ers and sis - ters, we were born to be free, Born to be

F Dm D.S. al Coda

free These

CODA

F Dm

free

Bb C Bb C

Spoken

F Dm

Bb C Bb C

Spoken

F Dm Repeat and Fade

Additional lyrics

2. **You can call me a traitor but I love my country
And I will not sell it out because of your hypocrisy
I refuse to hide behind the Fifth, I've no fear of honesty
You always know exactly where I am, so why don't you just
Come on over here and get me
You can tap my phone but there's one thing you will never hear
'Cause the drumbeat of freedom wasn't meant for your slaves' ears
I'll never turn my back on my comrades and my friends
The poor and the dispossessed, the women and the men
The great are only great 'cause we're down on our knees
Rise up, my brothers and sisters, we were born to be free
Born to be free**