

*Joshua Fit de Battle ob Jerico* [1947]

Edward Joseph Collins, composer

Notes by Jon Becker, editor for the Collins project

In his journal entry of 9 April 1939, Collins penned:

Easter Sunday (Seventy four years ago today Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox. It was also a Sunday.) In the morning finished "Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel." (The other day I bought an amazing collection of Negro spirituals and am going to make piano pieces of them).

*Lil' David Play on Yo' Harp* soon followed, while *Joshua Fit de Battle ob Jerico*, *The Gospel Train*, and *All God's Chillun' Got Wings* were completed in the late 1940s.

Collins biographer Erik Eriksson wrote of these five works: "All are imaginative, energetic, and highly developed treatments of straight-forward themes."