


Summertime George Gershwin (1898 –1937) Arranged Don King 2013

Everybody who's anybody in the music world has covered George Gershwin's Summertime at one point or another. From operatic versions to jazz and blues there are more than 33,000 covers by groups and solo performers.

Composed by George Gershwin for the 1935 opera Porgy

and Bess, Summertime is an aria in the form of a simple lullaby. The lyrics are by DuBose Heyward, the author of the novel *Porgy* on which the opera was based,

Gershwin's highly evocative writing brilliantly mixes elements of early jazz and African-American spirituals.

Tranquillo Play all quavers in swing rhythm 

It's sum-mer

time _____ and—the liv-in' is ea _____ sy

Fish are jump-in' _____ and the cot-ton is high

For this arrangement, I have created an introductory bass riff in swing rhythm between the two main chords of the piece

Am6 and E7. This riff continues for much of the arrangement. Moving bass lines have been added.

Summertime and the livin' is easy
Fish are jumpin' and the cotton is high
Oh, your daddy's rich and your ma is good lookin'
So hush little baby, don't you cry

One of these mornings, you're goin' to rise up singin'
Then you'll spread your wings and you'll take to the sky
But 'till that mornin', there's a nothin' can harm you
With daddy and mammy standin' by

12

Oh, your dad-dy's rich _____

15

and your ma is good look _____ ing _____ So

18

hush lit-tle ba-by, don't _____ you cry _____

21

hush lit-tle ba-by, don't _____ you cry _____