



**Smithsonian Institution**

*Archives Center - NMAH*

## **Moses Moon Civil Rights Recordings 1963-1964: Washington, DC; after November 22, 1963(OT\_N18)**

Extracted on Mar-29-2023 08:41:26

**The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.**

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website ([transcription.si.edu](https://transcription.si.edu)), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Archives Center - NMAH as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Archives Center - NMAH website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Archives Center - NMAH or [transcribe@si.edu](mailto:transcribe@si.edu)

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Archives Center - NMAH. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

WEBVTT

00:44:02.000 --> 00:44:19.000

*James Baldwin*: There is tremendous kind of vitality, a tremendous kind of virility, a tremendous kind of dignity and elegance coming all the way, from the auction block, down to 1963.

00:44:19.000 --> 00:44:26.000

There is something stunning about the fact that this virility, this vitality, this elegance and this dignity

00:44:26.000 --> 00:44:37.000

which has been so long maligned, denied and spat upon by this entire country has now become this country's only hope.

00:44:37.000 --> 00:44:40.000

During all these generations,

00:44:40.000 --> 00:44:44.000

when we were singing and dancing down on the levee,

00:44:44.000 --> 00:44:51.000

when we were happy, as Mr Charlie put it, in our place,

00:44:51.000 --> 00:44:59.000

and singing 'Steal away to Jesus', and eating all those greens, and doing all that funky dancing,

00:44:59.000 --> 00:45:03.000

white people actively cultivated

00:45:03.000 --> 00:45:07.000

in themselves, the expensive delusion,

00:45:07.000 --> 00:45:17.000

that my songs, my greens and my dances

00:45:17.000 --> 00:45:23.000

and the sorrow and the beauty and the force,

00:45:23.000 --> 00:45:28.000

that they heard in these songs

00:45:28.000 --> 00:45:31.000

they cultivated in themselves the delusion that these,

00:45:31.000 --> 00:45:44.000

things apply to something which they called nigger, but do not apply to man, and, in any case, did not apply to them.

00:45:44.000 --> 00:45:51.000

That what happened to me, in my slave quarters, and later in my relevelated slave quarters,

00:45:51.000 --> 00:45:59.000

and later in my relevelated slave quarters in the North,

00:45:59.000 --> 00:46:09.000

that all of these things, which I endured, was happening to someone else.

00:46:09.000 --> 00:46:11.000

and the danger in which I stood,

00:46:11.000 --> 00:46:15.000

the danger in which my children stood,

00:46:15.000 --> 00:46:25.000

the destruction we encountered, every day and every hour of every day, for generation upon generation,

00:46:25.000 --> 00:46:27.650

this was happened to colored people.



## Smithsonian Institution

*Archives Center - NMAH*

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: [www.si.edu](http://www.si.edu)

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)