

THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

Gospel Song; Words and music by Harry Dixon Loes; **DATE:** Early 1900's; **CATEGORY:** Early Gospel Songs; **RECORDING INFO:** Bluegrass Messengers on Diggin' Up Roots; Marty Stuart; Alan Munde; Casey Anderson; Blind James Campbell and his Nashville Street Band; Gateway Singers; **NOTES:** This song is attributed to Harry Dixon Loes (1895-1965), who studied at Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, Illinois; the American Conservatory of Music; the Metropolitan School of Music; and the Chicago Musical College. From 1927-1939, he served in musical positions in Baptist churches in Okmulgee and Muskogee, Oklahoma. From 1939 to retirement, he served on the music faculty at the Moody Bible Institute. This Little Light of Mine originated from African American sources and was probably arranged by Loes. Olivia and Jack Solomon in "Honey in the Rock": The editors seem to think this originated among African Americans: "Widely performed by choirs and gospel groups during the 1930's, a favorite on gospel radio shows, 'Let hit shine' is now also in white folk tradition." (p. 5). Lomax collected a version from Doris McMurray, Goree Farm, Huntsville, TX. in his 1939 Southern States recording trip.

G G7
 This lit - tle light of mine, _____ I'm gon - na let it shine, _____
 C G
 This lit - tle light of mine, _____ I'm gon - na let it shine, _____
 B7 Em
 This lit - tle light of mine, _____ I'm gon - na let it shine, _____ Let it
 G D G
 shine, Let it shine, Let it shine. _____

G **G7**
 This little light of mine, (I'm going to let it shine),
C **G**
 This little light of mine, (I'm going to let it shine),
B7 Em
 This little light of mine, (I'm going to let it shine),
G D G
 Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

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Hide it under a bushel, (No, I'm gonna let it shine)
 Hide it under a bushel, (No, I'm gonna let it shine)
 Hide it under a bushel, (No, I'm gonna let it shine)
 Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

G **C**
 On Monday, He gave me the gift of love; On Tuesday, peace came from above.
G **A7** **D**
 On Wednesday told me to have more faith; On Thursday, gave me a little more grace.
G **C** **G**
 On Friday, told me to watch and pray; On Saturday, told me just what to say,
E **A7** **D** **G**
 On Sunday, gave power divine, to let my little light shine. *Repeat 1st verse*