

# Mister (Mr.) Rabbit

<https://riverofsong.uk/>

*Rabbits regularly turn up in African-American folk song. Fleet-footed and wily, they were regarded by slaves with respect for the qualities needed for survival and escape. Mister Rabbit, a traditional call and response song, might simply be about a quick witted, fast talking rabbit, in the Brer Rabbit mould, caught in the farmer's vegetable garden. It could, more pertinently, be about accepting people for what they are. Rabbits like people come in all shapes and sizes.*

*Listen to Pete Seeger singing this song:*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mb1W3Da0JR0&feature=related>

***Rabbit stands in the middle of the circle miming eating lettuce. The farmer, owner of the field, walks around the outside hand to his eyes on the lookout for rabbits. The circle holding hands moves to the right. Rabbit, if confident sings the response. During the refrain those in the circle drop hands and clap. The rabbit leaves the circle and must run a complete circle round the outside and get back to the same place before being caught by the farmer. The farmer and the rabbit choose children from the circle to take their place and the game continues.***



Mister Rabbit, Mister Rabbit, your ears are mighty long,  
Yes, my lawd, they're put on wrong.

Refrain Ev'ry little soul must shine, shine, shine,  
Ev'ry little soul must shine, shine, shine.

Mister Rabbit, Mister Rabbit, your coat is mighty grey,  
Yes, my lawd, it was made that way.

Mister Rabbit, Mister Rabbit, your tail's mighty white,  
Yes, my lawd, I'm a-getting out of sight.

Mister Rabbit, Mister Rabbit, your feet are mighty red,  
Yes, my lawd, I'm almost dead.

Mister Rabbit, Mister Rabbit, you're in my cabbage patch,  
Yes, my lawd, I won't come back.!

