



ENDLESS Space 2 > General Discussions > Topic Details Is it possible to purge population? So playing as the Sophons for only 80 minutes or so so I probably have lots to learn but is it possible to kill certain pops in your empire like in Stellaris? Would be nice to get rid of those pesky pacifists so they dont get elected. Note: This is ONLY to be used to report spam, advertising, and problematic (harassment, fighting, or rude) posts. Earlier this week a pile of mud was dumped at the west end of Oxford Street. Then some squares of grass were stuck on the mud. Then people were charged 8 to go up it. Visitor Emma Wright tweeted that going up the mud was the worst thing I have ever done in London. But I believe it was Dr Johnson who wrote: A woman who thinks going up some mud is the worst thing she has ever done in London has not visited the ladies toilets in Crystal Palace park. And neither have I.The muds purpose is to promote Oxford Street, where 17% of shops have closed since March 2020. But in the long term, the best way to save shops is to force Amazon to pay proper tax, so it cannot undercut them. Making people pay 8 to go up mud will not do this. Though British Amazon customers on British Amazon customer be a coincidence that as the net tightens on Amazon, its founder, Jeff Bezos, is lobbying Nasa to put Amazon in charge of outer space? What tax would Bezos pay on a transaction that was processed on the moon, for example, or on a planet so far away that by the time the light from it reached us the financial exchange could legitimately be viewed as having taken place in a previous tax year? Would Bezos be able to avoid international shipping charges on goods provided from a lunar fulfilment center? Would the same employment regulations that give human warehouse staff minimal but profit-damaging rights be applicable to staff enslaved from a lunar fulfilment center? Would an alien with no bladder require costly toilet breaks? Would an alien with no concept of time as we understand it need to be paid by the hour, if at all? Would Bezos eventually be able to rule all of space, like Thanos, Marvel Comics cosmic nihilist? To Jeff Thanos, some mud on Oxford Street is but mere dust. He can wish worlds away with a click of his fingers.But the Oxford Street pile of mud did its job. It got people talking. In that respect, Boris Johnsons Tuesday crime strategy announcement was also a pile of mud. Expect to see fluorescent-jacketed chain gangs of offenders, the prime minister declared, the words immediately ringing my woke alarm bells. I consulted humanitys hive mind. As I thought. About 65% of the Google image search results for the words chain gang were shackled black men, while 4% were of a convict Mickey Mouse, and of some chained babies, doing time for cheese theft and milk concealment offences respectively. Boris Johnson may of course have invoked the hot potato of race here deliberately, under instructions from his culture war guru, the former sex party fixer Dougie Smith (though its understood Smith may have been reined in now the government are being blamed for the football racism they actively encouraged). Was the chain gang idea announced to appeal to horrible Tory voters knowing that it would have to be quietly withdrawn later, a classic strategy of the Boris Johnson government?Come the revolution Priti Patel will be in a booth at Oxford Circus station reheeling a pair of Topshop sling heelsIn the Daily Telegraph, Britains worst newspaper, an unnamed spokesperson swiftly clarified that chain gang was just a turn of phrase, like piccaninnies, watermelon smiles, and bum boys. But one could be forgiven for thinking there were plans to shackle litter-pickers, given that the home secretary floated stashing child migrants on Ascension Island and is in the process of criminalising lifeboat volunteers if they assist drowning foreigners. If Priti Patel announced she was personally going to tar and feather shoplifters it would seem plausible. The shoe repair millionaire James Timpson took to Twitter to say he employs lots of ex-offenders and makes them wear not shackles and luminous waistcoats but a shirt and tie same people, different approach, a much better outcome. Come the revolution Timpson will be home secretary while Priti Patel will be in a booth at Oxford Circus tube station reheeling a pair of Topshop sling heels and burping.Next we learned that a Boris Johnson crackdown on drugs will focus on London, Liverpool, Bristol, Newcastle and Wakefield. But surely this must include Westminster itself where, in 2019, Vice magazine found cocaine in four out of nine parliamentary nooks toilets mainly that could only be accessed by passholders, or their guests. That cant all have been Michael Gove in the 1990s, or the young Boris Johnson, sneezing his way through his single ineffectual snort. Black Lives Matter want to defund the police and invest instead in community resources to keep people out of crime. Doing the Marxists work for them, the Conservatives have been defunding the police generally since 2010 (officer numbers still have not recovered), and personally in 2021 by refusing the mud of these unworkable new law and order pronouncements has worked. A prime minister who as London mayor allowed 126,000 of public money (11,500 of which came from a City Hall-funded agency) to go to a pole-dancing businesswoman he was having sex with, and whose ministers routinely appear to have awarded without due process contracts worth millions to cronies, continually escapes imprisonment, while petty offenders will be paraded in fluorescent jackets, like Chinese thought criminals in the Cultural Revolution.But its always edifying to hear a lecture on criminal behaviour from a prime minister who, after a simple YouTube search, can be heard agreeing to conspire with a convicted fraudster to have a journalist beaten up on the understanding that he remains anonymous. Done. Now, maybe I will go up that mud after all.Rescheduled 2022 dates of Stewarts 2020 tour are on sale Share copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licenser, and indicate if changes were made . license as the original. No additional restrictions You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation. No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights may limit how you use the material. We changed our Privacy Policy We take privacy rights and protection of the interests of Historypin users seriously and we seek to ensure the highest standards of compliance with global Data Protection Laws and Regulations. Our privacy policy explains to you how Historypin account Greate a new password for your Historypin account Sign up for a free account and become a member of the Historypin community Already have an account? Login to Historypin We use cookies to ensure that we give you the best experience on our website. This includes cookies from third party social media websites if you visit a page which contains embedded content from social media. Such third party cookies may track your use of the Historypin website. If you continue without changing your settings, we'll assume that you are happy to receive all cookies on the Historyping website. However, you can change your cookie settings at any time. Continue Chain Gang" by Sam Cooke portrays the harsh and grueling life of prisoners working on a chain gang. The repetitive chant of "hooh aah" in the background serves as a rhythmic backdrop, evoking a sense of laborious monotony and echoing the sounds of the men working. This repetition emphasizes the relentless nature of forced labor. The lyrics highlight the men's ceaseless labor, singing from dawn till dusk. They work on highways and byways, a metaphor for the relentless paths of life that they are bound to. The image of them wearing a frown underscores the burden they carry, indicating a life of hardship and sorrow. The phrase "That's the sound of the men working on the chain gang" serves as a powerful refrain, acting as a stark reminder of their imprisonment and the grinding routine they endure. It encapsulates the song's theme of captivity and the loss of freedom. The prisoners' longing for home and loved ones adds a poignant layer to the narrative. The lines "I'm goin' home one of these days / I'm goin' home see my woman / Whom I love so dear" reveal their deep yearning for freedom. and the warmth of their relationships. This contrast between their desire for freedom and their current reality of confinement creates a powerful emotional resonance. The plea for water and expressions of thirst further emphasize their physical suffering, underscoring the song's depiction of the harsh conditions they face. This also serves as a metaphor for their thirst for freedom and a better life. In summary, "Chain Gang" is a poignant portrayal of the hardships endured by prisoners on a chain gang. Through its vivid imagery, repetitive chants, and poignant lyrics, the song conveys a powerful message about the dehumanizing effects of forced labor and the yearning for freedom and human connection.2 people found it usefulThese sounds, "hooh aah," are likely vocalizations expressing a sense of effort or struggle. The singer hears something significant or meaningful, suggesting anticipation of the vocal sounds, reinforcing the sense of effort or struggle.
More vocal sounds, indicating continued effort or struggle. emotional intensity. An introduction to the central theme: the singer addresses the listener, asking if they know something. That's the sound of the men working on the chain gang. That's the sound of the men working on the chain gangThe repetition emphasizes the significance of the sound and the labor it represents. All day long they're singin'Describes the continuous nature of the work and its impact on the workers. Reiteration of the vocal sounds, signifying ongoing struggle and effort. More vocal sounds, possibly emphasizing the intensity of the labor. Reintroduces the central theme, emphasizing the importance of the sound of the men working on the chain ga-a-angThat's the sound of the men working on the cha on the chain gang. Till the sun is goin' downThe workers labor until sunset, highlighting the duration and difficulty of their unhappiness or suffering.You hear them moanin' their lives awayThe men express their misery through moans, illustrating the harshness of their situation. Then you hear somebody sa-aySomeone comments on the situation, acknowledging the workers' suffering. That's the sound of the men working on the chain ga-a-angReiterates the central theme of the sound associated with the chain gang's work. That's the sound of the men working on the chain gangCan't ya hear them singin'Expresses the men's desire to go home someday, revealing a glimmer of hope amidst the suffering. Mm, I'm goin' home one of these daysThe singer longs to return home to see their beloved woman, indicating their emotional attachment and desire for freedom.I'm goin' home see my womanThe singer recognizes the need to work on the chain gang for now, despite their desire to be with their loved one.But meanwhile I got to work right he-ereReiterates the singer's commitment to the difficult labor on the chain gang.Reintroduces the central theme, highlighting the significance of the sound associated with the work. That's the sound of the men working on the chain ga-a-angThat's the sound of the men working on the chain ga-angT my, my, my, my work is so hardReiteration of the challenging and demanding nature of their labor.1 people loved itSam Cooke SongsGroup of prisoners chained together as a form of punishmentFor other uses, see Chain gang (disambiguation). Chain gang street sweepers, Washington, D.C. 1909Female convicts in Dar es Salaam chained together by their necks, c. 18901927A chain gang or road gang is a group of prisoners chained together to perform menial or physically challenging work as a form of punishment. Such punishment might include repairing buildings, building roads, or clearing land.[1] The system was notably used in the convict era of Australia and in the Southern United States. By 1955, it had largely been phased out in the U.S., with Georgia among the last states to abandon the practice.[2] Clallam County, Washington, U.S. still refers to its inmate litter crew as the "Chain Gang."[3] North Carolina continued to use chain gangs into the 1970s.[4][5] Chain gangs were reintroduced by a few states during the 1990s: In 1995, Alabama was the first state to revive them. The experiment ended after about one year in all states except Arizona,[6] where in Maricopa County inmates can still volunteer for a chain gang to earn credit toward a high school diploma or avoid disciplinary lockdowns for rule infractions.[7] This section needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources in this section. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. Find sources: "Chain gang" news newspapers books scholar JSTOR (May 2024) (Learn how and when to remove this message) A single ankle shackle with a short length of chain attached to a heavy ball is known as a ball and chain. It limited prisoner movement and impeded escape. Two ankle shackles attached to each other by a short length of chain are known as a chain gang. The walk required to avoid tripping while in leg irons is known as the convict shuffle.Parchman Farm chain gang, 1911A group of prisoners working outside prison walls under close supervision, but without chains, is a work gang. Their distinctive attire (stripe wear or orange vests or jumpsuits) and shaven heads served the purpose of displaying their punishment to the public, as well as making them identifiable if they attempted to escape. However, the public was often brutal, swearing at convicts and even throwing things at them.[8]The use of chains could be hazardous. Some of the chains used in the Georgia system in the first half of the 20th century weighed 20 pounds (9kg). Some prisoners suffered from shackle soresulcers where the iron ground against their skin. Gangrene and other infections were serious risks. Falls could imperil several individuals at once. Modern prisoners are sometimes put into handcuffs, but with a longer length of chain) and leg irons, with both sets of manacles (wrist and ankle) being chained to a belly chain. This form of restraint is most often used on prisoners appearing in a setting where they may be near the public (a courthouse) or have an opportunity to flee (being transferred from a prison to a court). Although prisoners in these restraints are sometimes chained to one another during transport or other movement, this is not a chain gangalthough reporters may refer to it as suchbecause the restraints make any kind of manual laborVarious claims as to the purpose of chain gangs have been offered. These include: punishments ocietal restitution for the cost of housing, feeding, and guarding the inmates. The money earned by work performed goes to offset prison expenses by providing a large workforce at no cost for government projects, and at minimal convict leasing cost for private businesses[citation needed] a way of perpetuating African-American servitude after the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution ended slavery outside of the context of punishment for a crime.[9]reducing inmates' idleness[citation needed]to serve as a deterrent to crime[10]to satisfy the needs of politicians to appear "tough on crime"[citation needed]to serve as a deterrent to
crime[10]to satisfy the needs of politicians to appear "tough on crime"[citation needed]to serve as a deterrent to crime[10]to satisfy the needs of politicians to appear "tough on crime"[citation needed]to serve as a deterrent to crime[10]to satisfy the needs of politicians to appear "tough on crime"[citation needed]to serve as a deterrent to crime[10]to satisfy the needs of politicians to appear "tough on crime"[citation needed]to serve as a deterrent to crime[10]to satisfy the needs of politicians to appear "tough on crime"[citation needed]to serve as a deterrent to crime[10]to satisfy the needs of politicians to appear "tough on crime"[citation needed]to serve as a deterrent to crime[10]to satisfy the needs of politicians to appear "tough on crime"[citation needed]to serve as a deterrent to crime[10]to satisfy the needs of politicians to appear "tough on crime"[citation needed]to serve as a deterrent to crime[10]to satisfy the needs of politicians to appear "tough on crime"[citation needed]to serve as a deterrent to crime[10]to satisfy the needs of politicians to appear "tough on crime"[citation needed]to serve as a deterrent to crime[10]to satisfy the needs of politicians to appear "tough on crime"[citation needed]to serve as a deterrent to crime[10]to satisfy the needs of politicians to appear "tough on crime"[citation needed]to serve as a deterrent to crime[10]to satisfy the needs of politicians to appear "tough on crime"[citation needed]to serve as a deterrent to crime[10]to satisfy the needs of politicians to appear "tough on crime"[citation needed]to serve as a deterrent to crime[10]to serve as a deter Tasmania, in 1833, alongside six uniformed soldiers and a well-dressed man who is possibly a magistrate.[11]In the Australian penal colonies, chain gangs were frequently employed on the construction of roads in remote areas where escape was a possibility, such as on the Great North Road from Sydney to the Hunter Valley and the road from Sydney to Bathurst over the Blue Mountains. The leg irons were installed by blacksmiths using hot rivets, and then attached to a single "gang chain" to allow for control by an overseer.[12] The irons and chains could weigh as much as 4.5 kilograms (9.9lb) or more.[13] Some of the convicts on iron gangs were as young as 11 years old.[14] The use of iron gangs in the Colony of New South Wales was expanded by Governor Ralph Darling as part of his infrastructure program. Their tasks included "breaking rocks, clearing trees, [and] constructing stone culverts and bridges".[14] In 1828, the colony's chief surveyor Edmund Lockyer directed that each iron gangs could contain up to 60 men, supervised by one main overseer and three assistants. The iron gangs but were unshackled.[15] Convicts who escaped from iron gangs into the United States began after the American Civil War. The Southern US, 1903The introduction of chain gangs into the United States began after the American Civil War. The Southern US, 1903The introduction of chain gangs into the United States began after the American Civil War. The Southern US, 1903The introduction of chain gangs into the United States began after the American Civil War. free way for these works to be achieved.[16]The use of chain gangs for prison labor was the preferred method of punishment in some Southern states like Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Virginia, North Carolina, Arkansas, Texas, Mississippi, and Alabama.[17]Abuses in chain gangs led to reform and to their general elimination by 1955.[9]:456 There were still chain gangs in the South in December 1955. Chain gangs experienced a resurgence when Alabama began to use them again in 1995; they still existed in 1997. [9]: 456457 [needs update] Several jurisdictions in the United States have re-introduced prison labor. In 1995 Sheriff Joe Arpaio reintroduced chain gangs in Arizona. [18] A year after reintroducing the chain gang in 1995, Alabama was forced to again abandon the practice pending a lawsuit from the Southern Poverty Law Center, among other organizations. The SPLC's attorney, J. Richard Cohen, said, "They realized that chaining them together was inefficient; that it was unsafe". in 1996 for trying to put female prisoners on chain gangs.[19][20] However, as late as 2000, Jones had proposed reintroducing the chain gang of juvenile convicts in the US, 1903In 2011, Tim Hudak, former leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario in Canada, campaigned on introducing penal labour in the province, referred to by many as chain gangs. [21] He lost seats to the provincial Liberals which formed another majority government in the subsequent general election. According to their own policies, Britain First (a British far-right political organization) want to re-introduce chain gangs "to provide labour for national liberals which formed another majority government in the subsequent general election. According to their own policies, Britain First (a British far-right political organization) want to re-introduce chain gangs. public works". This is part of their aim to turn prisons from "cosy holiday camps" into "a place of hard labour".[22]In 2013, Brevard County Jail in Sharpes, Florida reintroduced chain gangs as a deterrent on crime in a pilot project. Ex-convict Larry Lawton, critical of this move, said, "Chain gangs send a bad message about our county", adding "I don't think people want to come to this county as a tourist or a beach person and see people in chains." Instead he proposed a better use of law enforcement resources would be to combat drug addiction because he says it is a "contributing factor" to criminal activity.[10]Bucket brigadePenal labourWork songI Am a Fugitive from a Chain Gang^ "Chain Gangs". Credo Reference. Archived from the original on 17 February 2021. Retrieved 3 October 2013. Roth, Mitchel P (2006). Prisons and prison systems. Greenwood Publishing Group. pp.5657. ISBN 978-0-313-32856-5. "Chain Gang | Clallam County, WA". www.clallamcountywa.gov. Retrieved 2024-08-16. "North Carolina: Voices from the Chain Gang | States of Incarceration". Statesofincarceration.org. Archived from the original on 2019-02-21. Retrieved 2019-02-21. Netrieved 2019-02-21. Retrieved 2019-02-21. Retrieved Form the original on 2019-02-21. Retrieved 2019-America: a reference handbook. ABC-CLIO. pp.154156. ISBN978-1-85109-676-3.^ "Anderson Cooper 360 transcript". CNN. March 10, 2004. Archived from the original on 2011-06-04. Retrieved 2009-06-07.^ McShane, Marilyn D. (1996). Encyclopedia of American Prisons. Garland Publishing Inc. p.71. ISBN978-0-8153-1350-2.^ a b c Gorman, Tessa M. (March 1997). "Back on the Chain Gangs". California Law Review. 85 (2): 441478. doi:10.2307/3481074. JSTOR3481074. JSTOR3481074 chain gang". USA TODAY. Gannett Satellite Information Network. Florida Today. Retrieved 2021-02-17. "R4171 Convict chain gang at Hobart, 1833". NSW Department of Education. Archived from the original on 12 November 2020. Retrieved 1 November 2020. * "The convict experience". State Library of New South Wales. Archived from the original on 3 November 2020. A b c "A world of pain". Sydney Living Museums. Archived from the original on 8 November 2020. Retrieved 1 Novemb "Defiance, Deference and Diligence: Three Views of Convicts in New South Wales Road Gangs" (PDF). Australasian Historical Archaeology. 4: 19. Archived (PDF) from the original on 17 February 2021. Retrieved 2 October 2013. McShane, Marilyn D. (1996). The Encyclopedia of American Prisons. Garland Publishing Inc. pp.7173. ISBN 978-0-8153-1350-2. Fernndez, Valeria (August 21, 2017). "Arizona's 'concentration camp': why was Tent City kept open for 24 years?". Guardian Media Group. Archived from the original on February 9, 2021. Retrieved February 10, 2021 Inmates were forced to work on chain gangs which, save for a few exceptions, had been abandoned by the US in 1955. Maricopa County ran the only all-female chain gangs which, save for a few exceptions, had been abandoned by the US in 1955. Maricopa County ran the only all-female chain gangs which, save for a few exceptions, had been abandoned by the US in 1955. Maricopa County ran the only all-female chain gangs which save for a few exceptions, had been abandoned by the US in 1955. Maricopa County ran the only all-female chain gangs which save for a few exceptions, had been abandoned by the US in 1955. 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of Georgia Press; Brown Thrasher Ed edition (October 1997; original copyright, late 1920s). Childs, Dennis. Slaves of the State: Black Incarceration from the Chain Gang! University of Georgia Press; Brown Thrasher Ed edition (October 1997; original copyright, late 1920s). Childs, Dennis. Slaves of the State: Black Incarceration from the Chain Gang! University of Georgia Press; Brown Thrasher Ed edition (October 1997; original copyright, late 1920s). Childs, Dennis. Slaves of the State: Black Incarceration from the Chain Gang! University of Georgia Press; Brown Thrasher Ed edition (October 1997; original copyright, late 1920s). Childs, Dennis. Slaves of the State: Black Incarceration from the Chain Gang! University of Georgia Press; Brown Thrasher Ed edition (October 1997; original copyright, late 1920s). Childs, Dennis. Slaves of the State: Black Incarceration from the Chain Gang! University of Georgia Press; Brown Thrasher Ed edition (October 1997; original copyright, late 1920s). 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Movie of chain gangs in Charleston, South Carolina; circa 1904The Labour of Doing TimeRetrieved from "Home Rock and roll Chain Gang by Sam Cookes Song on Resilience and Struggle By Mr.Pober November 1, 2024 Rock and roll Released in 1960, Chain Gang by Sam Cooke is a soulful track that captures the hardships and resilience of laborers working under difficult conditions. Inspired by a real-life encounter with a chain gang of prisoners, Cooke penned the song to highlight the daily struggles of physical labor and confinement. With its signature ooh, ah chorus and rhythmic beat, Chain Gang brings an authenticity and intensity that allows listeners to feel the weight of each step and each swing of the workers hammers. The song became an instant hit, reaching #2 on the Billboard Hot 100 and showcasing Cookes ability to mix socially relevant themes with his smooth vocal style. Chain Gang reflects Sam Cookes talent not only as a memorable piece that conveys themes of resilience, endurance, and the struggle for freedom. Chain Gang Sam Cooke wrote Chain Gang after he and his band encountered an actual chain gang working by the roadside, which moved him to write about their plight. The songs infectious ooh, and refrain became a signature part of Cookes style and influenced the call-and-response tradition in soul music.Chain Gang was one of Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B audiences.Sam Cookes compassionate storytelling in Chain Gang helped lay the groundwork for later socially conscious soul and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop and R&B music.Video In 1959, singer and songwriter Sam Cookes biggest crossover hits, appealing to both pop a highway during one of his tours. Moved by their plight, Cooke felt a deep sympathy for them and, reportedly, gave them cartons of cigarettes. That moment left a lasting impression on him and would go on to inspire his powerful anthem, Chain Gang, which was released on RCA Victor on July 26, 1960. Sam Cookes Chain Gang. Illustration by J.D. Humphreys COOKE HIGHLIGHTS THE PRISON-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX To promote the single, Cooke teamed up with his producers, Hugo & Luigi and songstar Sam Cooke admit to being guilty of getting together to produce a record titled Chain Gang, currently topping Music Vendor charts. The single went on to become Cooke's second-biggest hit and marked his first major triumph for RCA Victor, soaring to number two on both the Billboard Hot 100 and R&B charts.LISTEN TO CHAIN GANG BY SAM COOKEThe release of Chain Gang brought the grim realities of the prison-industrial complex into the mainstream consciousness of white America. However, the song was interpreted vastly differently by Black and white audiences, and its impact would resonate for generations. For many white listeners, the song was little more than a catchy tune, complete with rhythmic grunts that softened the harshness of the criminal justice system. In contrast, Black audiences recognized the deeper, more painful truth behind the lyrics. By 1960, the incarceration rate for white men was 262 per 10,000, while Black men faced a staggering rate of 1,313 per 10,000, making them five times more likely to be imprisoned, according to the Pew Research Center. The history of chain gangs traces back to the post-Civil War South, where they were used to replace the labor force of formerly enslaved people and reinvigorate the economy. The 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution abolished slavery, but with a key exception: except as punishment for crime. This loophole fueled the mass incarceration of Black men for minor offenses, many of whom were then leased out to private companies, forced to endure brutal and dangerous working conditions. For some, these conditions were arguably worse than the horrors of slavery itself. Illustration by J.D. Humphreys On a sultry January night in 1963, Sam Cooke took the stage at the Harlem Square Club in Miami, a vibrant hub in Overton, the heart of the city's Black community. The air buzzed with anticipation as Cooke, joined by some of his most devoted fans from his gospel days, prepared to deliver a performance for the ages. This wasnt the polished, crooning pop idol fans heard on the radio; this was raw, unfiltered soula sound forged in the church and lit ablaze by the energy of the crowdhis crowd. As Cooke launched into his set, hits like Chain Gang became electric moments, connecting him to the audience in a way that felt almost sacred. RCA Victor had planned this opportunity to be a live album One Night Stand, capturing the essence of his performance that night. But when the recordings came back, they werent what the label had envisioned. The grit, the sweat, the uninhibited passionit was all too real, too raw. Fearing it might tarnish Cookes carefully crafted pop image, the label shelved the recordings. For over two decades, that night remained a secret, hidden away in the vaults. It wasnt until 1985 that the albumLive at the Harlem Square Club, 1963 finally surfaced, revealing a side of Cooke the world had been denieda man at the peak of his soul-stirring powers, unrestrained and utterly alive.LISTEN TO CHAIN GANG PERFORMED LIVE BY SAM COOKE AT THE HARLEM SQUARE CLUBCooke was not the only musician who recognized chain gangs for what they truly weremodern-day slavery. Nina Simone followed with "Work Song" on her 1961 Forbidden Fruit album. Written by Oscar Brown Jr. and Nat Adderley, the song tells the story of a man who robs a grocery store out of hunger and poverty, only to be sentenced by the judge to five years on the chain gang, breaking rocks. The song appeared on albums by Simone through to her 1967 High Priestess of Soul album. Simone also performed it on the Merv Griffin Show in 1966, taking the message to an even broader mainstream audience. "Work Song" stands out in Simones catalog as one of her first songs, though often overlooked, that boldly addressed racial inequality through a specific social issue.LISTEN TO WORK SONG BY NINA SIMONE Nina Simone. Illustration by J.D. Humphreys As the Civil Rights Movement gained momentum, chain gang labor began to fade. However, some states, like North Carolina, continued the practice into the seventies, and certain jurisdictions even reintroduced chain gangs in the nineties. While the physical
presence of chain gangs diminished, the incarceration of Black individuals soared, becoming a deeply rooted social issue in America that remains without a viable solution. A CHANGE IS GONNA COME In the 1960s, opponents of civil rights reinforced long-standing, bigoted arguments, claiming that granting Black people more rights would "mongrelize" society and destroy the well-being of America through their supposed violent nature. In response, civil rights activists worked to transform the fear of arrest and imprisonment into a badge of honor. Imprisonment became a powerful tool for highlighting the injustices of Jim Crow and exposing racism to the broader American public.Non-violent sit-ins at segregated counters gained popularity among Black youth, who knew they would likely face violent attacks by white racists before being arrested. They sacrificed their safety in exchange for media attention. As Americans watched the news footage unfold on their television screens, they witnessed firsthand the brutal injustices and violent nature of white America. Sam Cooke. Illustration by J.D. Humphreys During his 1963 tour, Sam Cooke found himself deep in conversation with sit-in demonstrators in Durham, North Carolina. That afternoon, as he returned to his tour bus, inspiration struck, and he wrote what would become his iconic anthem, "A Change Is Gonna Come." Known for his smooth image and uplifting love songs, Cooke had long held back from addressing the rampant discrimination and racism in America, fearing it might alienate his large white fan base and jeopardize his crossover success. But in this moment, something shifted within him." A Change Is Gonna Come" emerged from a deeply personal and profoundly societal pain. That year, Cooke faced the devastating loss of his 18-month-old son and endured the sting of racism firsthand when he and his band were arrested for disturbing the peace after protesting their denial of a room at a Holiday Inn in Shreveport, Louisiana. These heart-wrenching moments subtly echo in the song's hauntingly poignant final verse. The song has often been hailed as a musical counterpart to Martin Luther King Jr.s iconic I Have a Dream speech, echoing the same themes of struggle and yearning for a better future. Years later, when Rosa Parks received the devastating news of Dr. Kings assassination in 1968, she found solace in Sam Cookes A Change Is Gonna Come. Calling it medicine for the soul, Parks described the song as deeply personal, saying, It was as if Dr. King was speaking to me.LISTEN TO A CHANGE IS GONNA COME BY SAM COOKEReleased in 1964, A Change Is Gonna Come came just eleven days after Cooke's tragic death. He was shot by the manager of a South Central LA motel following an altercation with a prostitute. After a brief 15-minute inquiry, the coroners jury ruled Cooke's death a justifiable homicide. At just 33 years old, the world lost one of its most influential voicesjust as his music began to echo the powerful calls for social change. With Cooke's death and Ray Charles incarceration and recovery, the end of 1964 created a vacuum of soul male talent. This great talent, no more or on hold, presented an opportunity for artists like Wilson Pickett and Otis Redding to take the helm. Within a few weeks into 1965, it was certain that the vacuum would be quickly filled with chart toppers like James Brown with Papas Got a Brand New Bag and I Got You (I Feel Good). LISTEN TO PAPAS GOT A BRAND NEW BAG BY JAMES BROWNBrown had already gained the reputation as the hardest working man in show business with three hundred plus shows a year, several performances on a given night and knew what audiences wanted were shows, not acts. The audience for Brown was also changing as more whites were attending his performances, even in the South. British music newspaper, Record Mirror, estimated that in 1964 in a 30-day period, he wore more than 960 songs. As his appearances increased, Brown also adapted his travel methods and acquired a \$714,00 Learjet to carry his personal manager, road managers, valet; a large bus and trailer carried the rest of the shows; business writing, clothes, arrangements, routines, its just great to be spared some of those long, tiring hours of travel, Brown said. The rest of the show goes on ahead, from one town to the next, but I can stay in town and then hop on the plane an hour or so before a show. Its really great! Redding would make 1965 a hallmark year with Ive Been Loving You Too Long, and Pickett with In the Midnight Hour. While these songs catapulted their careers into crossover fame, they were not comparable to Cookes perspective on the social climate. Other artists and groups, who did not chart as high or at all, took inspiration from where the Movement was going and the heartache endured along the way. Wilson Pickett. Illustration by J.D. Humphreys In conclusion, while the term "Chain Gang" may evoke images of a bygone era, its legacy lives on in our cultural consciousness. Whether we choose to remember it as a symbol of oppression or as a reminder of the progress we've made, it remains an important part of our shared history. "The only thing worse than being in prison is being in the Chain Gang, where you have to work all day in the hot sun." "If you can't follow the law, then maybe you should join the Chain Gang and learn some discipline." "Being part of the Chain Gang is like being a slave, but at least they don't have to deal with people like you." "The Chain Gang for your crimes, you filthy criminal." "Chain Gang" is a phrase that describes a group of prisoners who are forced to work together. The Chain Gangs were notorious for their harsh working conditions and cruel treatment of prisoners. by SMF AI Published January 22, 2024 Updated April 26, 2024 a-angThats the sound of the men working on the chain gangAll day long theyre singin(Hooh aah) (hooh aah)(Well, dont you know)Thats the sound of the men working on the chain gangAll day long they work so hardTill the sun is goin downWorking on the highways and bywaysAnd wearing, wearing a frownYou hear them moanin their lives awayThen you hear somebody sa-ayThats the sound of the men working on the chain gangCant ya hear them singinMm, Im goin home one of these daysIm goin home see my womanWhom I love so dearBut meanwhile I got to work right he-ere(Well, dont you know)Thats the sound of the men working on the chain ga-a-angThats the sound of the men working on the chain ga-a-angThats the sound of the men work is so hardGive me water, Im thirstyMy, my work is so hardGive me water, Im Cookes soulful tenor has long since transcended the era of its origin to become a timeless emblem of the human condition, and nowhere is this more apparent than in his evocative hit Chain Gang. Released in 1960, the song not only climbed the charts but also captured the toil and travails of those who labored under the oppressive weight of an unjust system. Drawing from the well of both pain and resilience, Chain Gang is a powerful exploration of the collective experience of African American men subjugated to the cruel realities of forced labor. But the song is more than a mere portrayal; its a canvas painted with the broader strokes of humanity, freedom, and the yearning for a life beyond the chains.Unlocking the Shackles of the Past: A Deeper DiveThe clang of metal and the rhythmic cadence of human suffering set the scene in Chain Gang, but beneath the surface-level portrayal of a convict work detail lies a rich layer of subtext. At its core, the song speaks to the African American experience, hinting at a lineage of suffering starting from the abhorrent practices of slavery to the disenfranchisement and systemic inequalities of Cookes present. Cookes soft yet piercing verses were a bold confrontation of issues many would rather have seen glossed over. At a time when the civil rights movement was starting to burn fiercely, Cooke wielded his art as a form of peaceful protest, a reminder that music has the power to challenge the status quo and to reflect the grit and tenacity of the oppressed. A Soundtrack for the Soul: The Songs Hidden MeaningsChain Gang operates on multiple levels, resonating with literal and figurative interpretations alike. limitations, every individual whos had to endure hardship and maintain hope when it seems most foolish to do so. The refrain, with its haunting simplicity, reveals the collective
anguish of the laborers while simultaneously exposing the listener to the systemic nature of their distress. audience, as if Cooke is both the narrator and participant in this unfolding drama of endurance. Gritty Realism and melodic eloquence. Through the use of field hollersa form of communication and song utilized by slaves in the cotton fieldsto the incorporation of gospel elements, Cooke interweaves black musical tradition into a single that would resonate in the hearts of a diverse audience. What makes Chain Gang musically indelible is Cookes ability to exude warmth and authenticity. labor against the enduring strength of the human spirit.Symbolic Lyrics and Resonant Phrases: The Cry of HumanityGive me water, Im thirsty, pleads Cooke in one of the songs most visceral moments, expressing a fundamental human need that exceeds the literal. Its more than physical thirst; its a thirst for justice, for acknowledgement, for an end to an unquenchable suffering felt by so many marginalized individuals. The song doesn't just speakit sings, it shouts, it resonates. The memorable lines are stitched with the experiences of those who have been silenced, becoming a vocal monument to the forgotten, the marginalized, and the weary but hopeful. Working on the Chain, Breaking the Bonds: The LegacySam Cookes Chain Gang is not only a classic hit from a bygone era; it is an enduring testament to the need for social change. The song has reverberated through the decades, influencing artists and activists alike, reminding us of musics role in capturing the spirit of a movement. From its mesmerizing rhythm to its poignant lyrics, Chain Gang stands as a beacon for future generations a reminder of where weve been, the strides weve made, and the long road still ahead. Its a call to action, a plea for reflection, and a rallying cry for those who believe in the power of change. remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licenser cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license as the original. have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Reddit and its partners use cookies and similar technologies to provide you with a better experience. By accepting all cookies, you agree to our use of cookies and site, improve the guality of Reddit, personalize Reddit content and advertising, and measure the effectiveness of advertising. By rejecting non-essential cookies, Reddit may still use certain cookies to ensure the proper functionality of our platform. For more information, please see our Cookie Notice and our Privacy Policy. Skip to content

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