

## Capitalist System

## Hate this



Zines about Kentucky Folk songs



Dump the Bosses Off Your back Song Suggestions Solidarity Forever I've Endured Oh, Death

Labor\_Union\_Songs/I-Hate-Company-Bosses.phtml https://www.protestsonglyrics.net/ Background on the song

york-city-1137/i-hate-capitalist

molly-jackson-sara-gunning-jim-garland-1937/newhttps://archive.culturalequity.org/field-work/aunt-Transcript of a doc about Gunning.

https://www.folkstreams.net/contexts/dreadful· memories-transcription

References:



vantages of capitalism to the struggle in Vietnam.

We're all going to join the union,

To right this dreadful wrong?

What can we do about it.

For the union makes us strong.

social commentary on the Ludlow American working class on I Hate Barbara Dane the opportunity to speak about the struggles of the The Capitalist System. She offers Massacre of 1914 and the disad-In 1973, Paredon Records gave



their privately hired guards.

time of the Harlan County Coal War Sarah Ogan Gunning, born 1910 in of the early 1930's. With her sister, songs in support of the push to or-Aunt Molly Jackson, Gunning sang singer and union supporter at the Bell County, Kentucky, was a folk ganize in the midst of strong re-



Well, what killed your mother?

Oh tell us, if you please.

Excuse me, it was Pellagra,

That starvation disease.

To these men of power and might?

I tell you, company bosses,

Well, what can I do about it,

I'm going to fight, fight, fight.

But that's to the company bosses,

To them I guess it's true.

Not workers like me and you.

They call this the land of plenty,

sistance from company bosses and

I'm going to tell you, mister, My husband had T.B. They cause me so much suffering And my dearest friends to die. What they have done to me, Oh yes, I guess you wonder, I hate the company bosses, I'll tell you the reason why,

Brought on by hard work and low wages But I must say you're crazy, And did not want to work. For work he did not shirk. I guess you'll say he's lazy Going naked and hungry, And not enough to eat, No shoes on his feet.



To try to support three children Himself, his mother, and wife My husband was a coal miner He worked and risked his life

> But my darling blue-eyed baby These mighty company bosses She starved to death for milk They dress in jewels and silk, But from my little darling Her mother had to part. The darling of my heart,

I had a blue-eyed baby,



I had a darling mother,

Dead of hard work and starvation, But with them rotten conditions Well, what killed your mother? I heard these bosses say. My mother had to pay. My mother had to die. For her I often cry,



accompaniment. She kept the original title the company bosses. She added her own and lyrics, directed to "capitalists", not just Gunning for Alan Lomax in 1937. It was Dane covered the song with instrumental Later, in 1973, Activist-Songwriter Barbara which her husband was one. the mistreatment of Harlan coal miners, of written by Gunning about her feelings on

Well they call this the land of plenty For the rich and mighty capitalists Not for workers like me and you And for them I guess its true

## SARAH GUNNING:

This song was first sung by Sarah Ogan

ones that I meant in the first place." and them heard me sing that song, they said, "Oh the money. Then I said, "Well after all, they was the know. So I found out it was the people that had all and find out what it was, about the capitalist, you searching something, so I thought I'd research that tle research on it, you know; they all the time retem was at the time so I got, you know, I done a litsystem." Well I didn't know what the capitalist sysbosses was the ones you hated, not the capitalist that sounds too radical. Don't sing it. The company Hate the Capitalist System." Then when Moe Ashe When I first composed that song, I said, I called it "I

## ARCHIE GREEN:

spin on the song, including the lyrics:

song, she didn't feel that she had to set it to an upate to carry new messages. depth and such continuity that they were appropritown melody or a jazzy melody or a protest melody. concept of the evils of capitalism and put it into a cal content, that is when she took, say, a Marxist conservative style and when she wrote songs of radi-You see, Sarah took traditional melodies and old These old songs were to her of such beauty and such