

SATB

Gangsta's (Gangster's) Paradise

\$2.50

Originally version by Coolio, adapted by Postmodern Jukebox

Gangsta's

(Gangster's)

Paradise

Arranged by

Christopher Alexander

SATB and Solo, accompanied

Full Score parts available separately:

Tenor Saxophone, 3 Trumpets, Trombone, Piano, Synthesizer, Bass Guitar, Drums

cantareworks

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

About the Work

When the original song was released in 1995 it became a worldwide sensation, inspiring many artists to create their own covers of this song with their unique twist. Postmodern Jukebox fashioned their version into a 1920's jazz and cabaret style to illustrate the gangsters of the era, of which this choral arrangement is based. With an easy swing feel and accessible harmonizations, your choir will love to perform this song over and over again.

Full score and instrumental parts available for purchase:

Tenor Saxophone, 3 Trumpets, Trombone, Piano, Synthesizer, Bass Guitar, Drums

About the Arranger



Mr. Christopher Alexander is an award-winning composer and arranger from St. Joseph, Missouri. He received his Bachelor of Science in Vocal Music Education degree from Missouri Western State University in 2009. A self-taught pianist, his compositions and arrangements ranging from instrumental works to vocal solo and choral literature. Mr. Alexander has been commissioned numerous times by singing groups and church choirs within the northwest Missouri and northeast Kansas regions. He is also active in musical theatre productions as a music director and pianist. His works have been published with GIA Music Publications and Hal Leonard.

In 2016, he was awarded the St. Joseph Allied Arts Council Mayor's Award for Artist of the Year. In 2022, he was inducted into the New Generation Singers Hall of Fame.

Mr. Alexander currently serves as the pianist and primary arranger for The New Generation Singers, a Christian singing youth group based in St. Joseph, Missouri. He is a member of NAFME, ACEN, MCDA, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity.

He is available for commissions and conducting events on request.

Arranged for the 2021-2022 Platte County High School Sound Express
Recorded by Postmodern Jukebox

GANGSTA'S (GANGSTER'S) PARADISE

for SATB and Solo, accompanied

Arranged by
CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

Words and Music by
ARTIS IVEY, STEVIE WONDER,
DOUG RASHEED, and LARRY SANDERS
Adapted by SCOTT BRADLEE

Old-time Relaxed Jazz Swing feel (♩ = c. 136) (♩♩ = ♩³) *mp* unis.

SOPRANO
ALTO

TENOR
BASS

APCOMP.

As I

5

walk through the val - ley of the shad - ow of death, I take a look at my life ___ and real - ize

walk through the val - ley of the shad - ow of death, I take a look at my life ___ and real - ize

mp

8^{va}₃

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Gangsta's (Gangster's) Paradise

8

there's no - thing left. 'Cause I've been blast - ing and laugh - ing for so — so long — that

there's no - thing left. 'Cause I've been blast - ing and laugh - ing for so — so long — that

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The music starts at measure 8. The lyrics are: "there's no - thing left. 'Cause I've been blast - ing and laugh - ing for so — so long — that".

8

(8^{va})

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for the first system, starting at measure 8. It features a treble clef staff with a *(8^{va})* marking, indicating an octave transposition. The accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands. The key signature is two flats and the time signature is 4/4.

11

mf

e'en my ma - ma thinks that my mind is gone. But I ain't ne - ver crossed a man that did -

e'en my ma - ma thinks that my mind is gone. But I ain't ne - ver crossed a man that did -

mf

Detailed description: This system contains the second two staves of music, starting at measure 11. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment. The key signature remains two flats. The lyrics are: "e'en my ma - ma thinks that my mind is gone. But I ain't ne - ver crossed a man that did -". The dynamic marking *mf* (mezzo-forte) is present above the vocal line and below the piano line.

11

mf

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for the second system, starting at measure 11. It features a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The accompaniment includes chords and moving lines. The dynamic marking *mf* is visible. The key signature is two flats and the time signature is 4/4.

14

n't de-serve it. Me be treat-ed like a punk- you know that's un-heard of. You bet-ter

n't de-serve it. Me be treat-ed like a punk- you know that's un-heard of. You bet-ter

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of music, measures 14 and 15. It features a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "n't de-serve it. Me be treat-ed like a punk- you know that's un-heard of. You bet-ter". The piano accompaniment consists of chords and eighth-note patterns.

14

8va-----

Detailed description: This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 14 and 15. It is written in two staves (treble and bass clef). A dynamic marking of *8va* is present above the treble staff, indicating an octave shift. The accompaniment features block chords and moving lines in both hands.

17

watch how you're talk-in' and where—you're walk-in' or you and your hom-ies might be

watch how you're talk-in' and where—you're walk-in' or you and your hom-ies might be

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of music, measures 17 and 18. It features a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staff. The key signature remains two flats. The lyrics are: "watch how you're talk-in' and where—you're walk-in' or you and your hom-ies might be". The piano accompaniment continues with chords and rhythmic patterns.

17

8va-----

Detailed description: This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 17 and 18. It is written in two staves. A dynamic marking of *8va* is present above the treble staff. The accompaniment features block chords and moving lines in both hands.

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21

20 *f mel.*

lined in chalk. Been spend - in' most — their lives liv - in'

20 *f*

lined in chalk. Been spend - in' most — their lives liv - in'

23

in the gang - sta's par - a - dise. Been spend - in' most

23

in the gang - sta's par - a - dise. Been spend - in' most

23