

**Pick a bale o' cotton - traditional - version Raffi**

1. Gonna jump down, turn around, ***pick a bale o' cotton***  
Jump down, turn around, ***pick a bale a day***  
jump down, turn around, ***pick a bale o' cotton***  
jump down, turn around, ***pick a bale a day***

**Refrain :**

***oh Lordy, pick a bale o' cotton***  
***oh Lordy, pick a bale a day***  
***oh Lordy, pick a bale o' cotton***  
***oh Lordy, pick a bale a day***

2. Me and my gal gonna ***pick a bale o' cotton***  
Me and my gal gonna ***pick a bale a day***  
Me and my gal gonna ***pick a bale o' cotton***  
Me and my gal gonna ***pick a bale a day***

3. Peter and Tara gonna ***pick a bale o' cotton***  
Peter and Tara gonna ***pick a bale a day***  
Cindy and Franco gonna ***pick a bale o' cotton***  
Cindy and Franco gonna ***pick a bale a day***

**Refrain :**

***oh Lordy, pick a bale o' cotton***  
***oh Lordy, pick a bale a day***  
***oh Lordy, pick a bale o' cotton***  
***oh Lordy, pick a bale a day***

4. jump down, turn around, ***pick a bale o' cotton***  
Jump down, turn around, ***pick a bale a day***  
jump down, turn around, ***pick a bale o' cotton***  
jump down, turn around, ***pick a bale a day***

**Refrain :**

***oh Lordy, pick a bale o' cotton***  
***oh Lordy, pick a bale a day***  
***oh Lordy, pick a bale o' cotton***  
***oh Lordy, pick a bale a day***

\*Pour rythmer le travail pénible dans les champs où *Pick a bale o' cotton* était chanté par les esclaves lors de la cueillette du coton au sud des Etats Unis au 19ème et au 20ème siècle.

Les esclaves noirs pratiquaient les Work Songs (chants de travail). Il leur était interdit de parler, alors ils usaient de chants simples sans accompagnement musical, constitués de phrases courtes et percutantes.