

Swanee was George Gershwin's first big song hit, written in 1919. It was first sung in a musical show at the Capitol Theater in New York, but not until Gershwin's friend Al Jolson heard this song and incorporated it into one of his shows, *Sinbad*, did the tune become a national favorite.

The recording sold two million records and the publisher sold a million copies of the sheet music. Lyrics are by Irving Caesar with whom Gershwin frequently collaborated in his early days as a composer. Gershwin had written many songs before *Swanee*, and had even composed a musical, but this song made him famous.

SWANEE

Words by
IRVING CAESAR

Music by
GEORGE GERSHWIN

Moderato

Piano

Voice:

Fm Bbm Fm Gm7 C7

I've been a - way from you a long time _____

Fm G7 Bbm7 Fm Bb

I nev - er thought I'd miss you so _____ Some - how I

Fm Bb Fm C7 Fm

feel Your love was real, Near you I long to

C C7 Fm Bbm Fm

be, The birds are sing - ing, It is song - time,

Gm7 C7 Fm G7 Bbm7 Fm

The ban - jos strum - min' soft and low,

Bb Fm Bb Fm C7

I know that you Yearn for me too;