

Stay Put

8/29/97-11/1/97

Arriving at Piarco from Maracaibo

I met this hostess who said she was from Arima --

Began to lecture me on carnival -- I am, Carib,

Arawak, African and Indian -- having a flavor

For Chinese, Portuguese, Italian and Spanish

Spell bound and transfixed

I listened as she chanted --

Trinidad carnival

Don't give it up

Don't give it up

Stay put -- Suit case or no suitcase

Trinidad carnival is carnival

I travelled to South America, the Americas, Africa--

Zimbabwe, Nigeria, South Africa, Ghana, Kenya,

Senegal, and nothing is exciting and pulsating as

Trinidad carnival -- carnival

So don't give it up

Don't give it up

I say join a band and have some fun because we are

The ones setting the tone and stage -- not side

Stepping Jamaica, Barbados, Antigua, Grenada,

Guyana, Virgin Islands, -- Haiti, and other Caribbean
states --

New York, Canada, Baltimore, Washington, D.C.,

Connecticut, Boston and more all West Indian...

Stepping up I said -- I am a farmer and I know my roots

Trinidad carnival is carnival --

Big trucks moving -- D.Js -- brass --

People-- flouncing, -- dancing on streets -- mass --
With pan -- waving, shouting --
And she said Trinidad carnival -- is carnival
Don't give it up
Don't give it up
Join a band -- free up and have fun --
With this she smiled and said
I travelled to Europe, India, Asia --
Half stepping -- half stepping
Then Brazil -- Rio de Janeiro --
Bouncing -- bouncing with colors
New Orleans -- Mardi Gras -- puzzling --
Don't give it up
Don't give it up --
Trinidad carnival --
Standing tall --
Rhythm -- pulsating -- jamming --
People shuffling -- bouncing -- flouncing
And she glided towards me and we held each other
Flouncing, dancing, singing
Don't give it up -- Trinidad carnival
A universal thing
Don't give it up -- Trinidad carnival
A universal thing...
Stay put
Join a band -- free up and have fun
Trinidad carnival is a --
Universal thing -- universal thing --
Stay put
Join a band -- free up and have fun
Trinidad carnival is a --

Universal thing -- universal thing --
Stay put

© Arnold Bathersfield 1981,1999