ONE KIND FAVOR

I was listening to Lightnin' Hopkins sing this on 33rpm vinyl before I ever heard him do it at the Will Rice commons in Houston in 1962. But this song goes way back before that. It was recorded (and some say written) by Blind Lemon Jefferson in 1927. The list of people who have recorded it since goes on forever, as does the number of different ways to treat the song. Listening to different versions on Youtube was so interesting that I have provided two versions for contrast. First, a modern ensemble arrangement by Del McCoury and Friends where they treat it almost like a spiritual: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zsTd-SjxMX8 I have transcribed the chords from that version. Next, Blind Lemon himself: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6tVxz 1wigw.

SEE THAT MY GRAVE IS KEPT CLEAN

By Blind Lemon Jefferson

Am

Well, there's one kind favor I'll ask of you

Am

Well, there's one kind favor I'll ask of you

Am DFAm

There's just one kind favor I'll ask of you

Am E7 Am

You can see that my grave is kept clean

And there's two white horses in a line And there's two white horses in a line Two white horses in a line Gonna take me to my burying ground

Did you ever hear that coughin' sound? Did you ever hear that coughin' sound? Did you ever hear that coughin' sound? Means another poor boy is underground

Did you ever hear them church bells tone? Have you ever hear that church bells tone? Did you ever hear them church bells tone? Means another poor boy is dead and gone

There's just one last favor I'll ask of you And there's one last favor I'll ask of you There's just one last favor I'll ask of you See that my grave is kept clean