

“J’ouvert Barrio”

Text

Chorus

J’ouvert barre yeux
Pas leve la main a se yeux
J’ouvert barre yeux
Pas leve la main a se yeux
I’ll tell you a story you do not know
It’s about Carnival and calypso

(Chorus)

It is the folk song and ballad
Of that beautiful island of Trinidad

(Chorus)

Every year there’s Carnival—don’t forget
That is Trinidad national fete

(Chorus)

On Carnival morning, six bells chime
And everyone, they would start to rhyme

(Chorus)

Jump your jump, dance your dance, it’s bacchanal
Play mas* Monday morning Carnival

(Chorus)

Jump in the line and break away
Shake your hips, believe, and faint away

(Chorus)

Jump in the line and smack your lips
Roll your eyes, roll your head, and shake your hips

(Chorus)

Translation

Chorus

Daybreak, block them,
But don’t put a hand on them.
Daybreak, block them,
But don’t put a hand on them.

Monday morning on parade
Everybody, man, play masquerade

(Chorus)

*Mas is the West Indian tradition of masquerade.