

IN THAT SLAVE HOLD BELOW

By Lew Toulmin, 2021, to the tune of "Sugar in the Hold Below;" DUDU
Written about Polee & Rose Allen, enslaved *Clotilda* survivors, and co-founders of Africatown, Alabama

Intro: **Dm C G G7 Dm**

Well, **[G]** my Africa **[C]** name is **[G]** KuPollee
[G7] In my native land I was **[Dm]** free!
[C] But those slave catchers -- they caught **[G]** me
[G7] Below, below, **[Dm]** below.

Chorus: **[Dm]** Hey, **[C]** ho, **[G]** below, below; In that slave hold **[G7]** below
[Dm] Hey, **[C]** ho, **[G]** below, below; In that slave hold **[Dm]** below

They **[G]** put me **[C]** in hell on the **[G]** *Clotildee*
[G7] for my shackles I had no **[Dm]** key
[C] Sixty days in our crap and **[G]** pee
[G7] Below, below, **[Dm]** below. **CHORUS**

Here **[G]** in Alabama **[C]** they **[G]** sold me
[G7] I was chained in **[Dm]** slavery
[C] But the Union Army gave us our **[G]** free
[G7] Below, below, **[Dm]** below. **CHORUS**

I'm **[G]** stuck here next to **[C]** Mobile **[G]** Bay
[G7] Cuttin' lumber all the **[Dm]** day.
And I just wants to **[C]** get **[G]** away,
[G7] Below, below, **[Dm]** below. **CHORUS**

My **[G]** main joy **[C]** is my Rosa- **[G]** lee
[G7] and the babies on my **[Dm]** knee.
But in Africa I **[C]** still wants to **[G]** be
[G7] Below, below, **[Dm]** below. **CHORUS**

We **[G]** built for us **[C]** our Africa-**[G]** town
[G7] mighty strong, I'll be **[Dm]** bound.
Our church and school **[C]** are very **[G]** sound
[G7] Below, below, **[Dm]** below. **CHORUS**

Well the **[G]** next generations **[C]** will have to **[G]** fight
'Cause **[G7]** slavery, it's still got some **[Dm]** bite.
Our young folks better work **[C]** for the **[G]** right
Break **[G7]** that slave hold **[Dm]** below. **CHORUS**