

THE LION SLEEPS TONIGHT/MBUBE 1939 Solomon Linda

Zulu artist Solomon Linda recorded his song, Mbube, with The Evening Birds. RCA Records hired a Juilliard grad in 1961, to arrange it into a pop music cover for the Tokens, a doo-wop group. "Wimoweh" was a mishearing in 1950 by Pete Seeger of the Weavers, of "Uyimbube" (pronounced "oo-yim-bweh-beh"), Zulu for "you are a lion".

4 beats/chord 1,2,3,4 1,2,3,4

F Bb F C7
Dee ee ee ee, dee dee ee ee ee, Wee-um-mum-a weh; repeat

F Bb F C7 **repeat**
A wimaweh, a wimaweh, a wimaweh, a wimaweh, a wimaweh, a wimaweh, a wimaweh, a wimaweh

F Bb F C7
 In the jungle, the mighty jungle, the Lion sleeps tonight;
 F Bb F C7
 In the jungle, the mighty jungle, the Lion sleeps tonight;

CHORUS

Left half of group sing twice:

F Bb F C7
 A wimaweh, a wimaweh, a wimaweh, a wimaweh, a wimaweh, a wimaweh, a wimaweh, a wimaweh

Right half of group sing twice:

F Bb F C7
 Weeeeee, ee ee ee, wee um mum a weh;

F Bb F C7
 Near the village, the peaceful village, the Lion sleeps tonight;
 F Bb F C7
 Near the village, the quiet village, the Lion sleeps tonight; **repeat CHORUS**

F Bb F C7
 Hush my darling, don't fear my darling, the Lion sleeps tonight;
 F Bb F C7
 Hush my darling, don't fear my darling, the Lion sleeps tonight; **repeat CHORUS**

F Bb F C7
Weeeeee, ee ee ee, wee um mum a weh; repeat 3 times, fading



