

SUGARBIRD LADY

SSA and Piano

Robin Miller (1940-1975), aviator and nurse, was a Western Australian pioneer. Her nickname amongst the indigenous community was 'Sugarbird Lady'; she flew, often solo, all over outback Western Australia administering more than 30,000 doses of the polio vaccine, sabin, by putting it on sugar cubes for her patients to take orally. She also worked for the Royal Flying Doctor Service, saving lives and attending to the sick, transporting people to hospitals in WA from remote locations. Robin flew across the world delivering small planes to Western Australia for the use of the RFDS. She died aged 35 of cancer, a courageous woman still working for the good of the community to the very end.

J=75 **Intro**

Music and Lyrics by Mark Puddy

The musical score for the Intro section consists of four staves. The top two staves are for SSA voices, and the bottom two staves are for piano. The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The time signature is common time (indicated by '2'). The vocal parts begin with a series of rests followed by a melodic line. The piano part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and sixteenth notes. Chords indicated include Am, G/B, C, F⁵, G, Am, B_b(add2), F(add2), and F.

Verse 1 *mf*

The musical score for Verse 1 begins at measure 8. The vocal part is labeled 'SOLO:' and starts with a series of eighth notes. The lyrics 'Su-gar-bird La-dy looks down from the sky,' are followed by 'Su-gar-bird La-dy, a'. The piano part provides harmonic support with chords such as G⁶, G, C, C/E, F(add2), G(sus4), G, C, and C/E. The vocal line continues with a melodic line of eighth and sixteenth notes.

15

The musical score continues from measure 15. The vocal line includes the lyrics 'spi - rit from on high,' 'The re - mo - test - part -' and 'of Aus -'. The piano part features chords in Fmaj7, G(sus4), G, Am, G/B, and C. The vocal line concludes with a melodic line of eighth and sixteenth notes.

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2

Soloist remains on top part
Choir joins on all parts:

S1 and 2:

19

tra - lia's_ heart_ was touched by her, the Su - gar -

Alto: As divisi:
the Su - gar -

F⁵ G Am B_b(add2) F(add2) F G⁶ G

d.=110 Interlude

End solo:

25 *mf* bird.

12 Sing of the wo - man of the la - dy who flew; chas - ing ho - ri - zons where

mf Sing of the wo - man bird. of the la - dy who flew; chas - ing ho - ri - zons where

F⁵(add2) C/E F⁵(add2)

12 *mf*

28

72

brown fades to blue. Go to bar 72 showed us the way so let's sing of Rob - in

brown fades to blue. Go to bar 72 so let's sing of Rob - in

Am⁷(omits) G(sus4) G C/E D/F# F G/F

Go to bar 72

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3

74 **Interlude 3**

Mil - ler, Su - gar - bird. S2: of the la - dy who flew; S1:

Mil - ler, Su - gar, Sing of the wo - man of the la - dy who flew;

F/G G F/G G F^{5(add2)} C/E

land! A-cross the land!

77

chas - ing ho - ri - zons where brown fades to blue. Sing of the su-gar-bird, of the

chas - ing ho - ri - zons where brown fades to blue. Sing of the su-gar-bird, of the

F^{5(add2)} Am^{7(omits5)} G(sus4) G F^{5(add2)}

A vast e - ter - ni - ty. sing of this le - gend who braved west - ern skies!

80

lows and the highs; sing of this le - gend who braved west - ern skies!

lows and the highs; sing of this le - gend who braved west - ern skies!

C/E F^{5(add2)} Am^{7(omits5)} G(sus4) G

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4

83 **Coda**

Down from on
Su - gar - bird la - dy, looks down from on
Su - gar - bird la - dy, looks down from on

C⁵ C/E Am G

85 high!

high! Down from on
high! Su - gar - bird la - dy, looks down from on
high; Su - gar - bird la - dy, looks down from on

C⁵ C/E Am G

87 high!

high! Soars through the
high! Su - gar - bird la - dy, still soars through the
high! Su - gar - bird la - dy, still soars through the

C⁵ C/E F(add2) G⁶ G

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5

89

sky! _____

sky! _____

sky! _____

N.C.

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