

Recorded by THE BEATLES
Blackbird

For 3-Part Mixed* and Piano

Duration: ca. 2:15

Arranged by
AUDREY SNYDER

Words and Music by JOHN LENNON
and PAUL McCARTNEY

Ballad (♩ = 92)

Piano

mf *p*

Part III *Solo or Unison* *mf*

Black - bird sing - ing in the dead of night,

take these brok - en wings and learn to fly. —

3 5

* Available separately:
3-Part Mixed, 2-Part, VoiceTrax CD



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All your life, _____

mf

p

7

you were on - ly wait - ing for this mo - ment to a - rise...

mf

end solo

9

Part I *mf*

Black - bird sing - ing in the dead of night,

Part II *mp*

Tm tm tm tm

Part III *mp*

Tm tm tm tm

mf continue sim. dynamic pattern

12

13

* Sing cue note instead only if range is more comfortable

BLACKBIRD – 3-Part Mixed

take these sun-ken eyes_ and learn_ to see.---

tm tm tm tm tm tm tm tm

tm tm tm tm tm tm tm tm

15

Detailed description: This system contains measures 15 and 16. It features three staves: vocal, tenor, and piano. The vocal line has lyrics 'take these sun-ken eyes_ and learn_ to see.---'. The tenor and piano parts include 'tm' (tenor) and 'tm' (piano) markings. The piano part has a measure rest in measure 16. The key signature has one flat and the time signature is 2/4.

All your life,---

tm tm tm tm tm tm

tm tm tm tm tm tm

17

Detailed description: This system contains measures 17 and 18. It features three staves: vocal, tenor, and piano. The vocal line has lyrics 'All your life,---'. The tenor and piano parts include 'tm' (tenor) and 'tm' (piano) markings. The piano part has a measure rest in measure 18. The key signature has one flat and the time signature is 2/4.

BLACKBIRD – 3-Part Mixed

you were on - ly wait - ing for this mo - ment to be free. _

tm tm tm tm tm tm tm

tm tm tm tm tm tm tm

19

21

Black - bird, _ fly. Black - bird, _

mf Black - bird, _ fly. Black - bird, _

mf * Black - bird, _ fly. Black - bird, _

21

21

* Optional harmony if range is not a problem

BLACKBIRD – 3-Part Mixed

fly in - to the light of the dark black_

fly.

fly.

24

night.

Tm tm tm tm

Black - bird sing - ing in the dead of night,

mf

26

BLACKBIRD – 3-Part Mixed

Musical score for measures 28-30. The score is in B-flat major and 4/4 time. It features three vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, and Bass) and piano accompaniment. The tempo is marked *Mm* (Moderato). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score includes dynamic markings and articulation such as slurs and accents. Measure numbers 28, 29, and 30 are indicated at the beginning of their respective systems.

Musical score for measures 31-33. The score is in B-flat major and 4/4 time. It features three vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, and Bass) and piano accompaniment. The tempo is marked *Mm* (Moderato). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score includes dynamic markings and articulation such as slurs and accents. Measure numbers 31, 32, and 33 are indicated at the beginning of their respective systems.

BLACKBIRD – 3-Part Mixed

f
Black - bird, fly. Black - bird, fly.
f
Black - bird, fly. Black - bird, fly.
Black - bird, fly. Black - bird, fly.

f

34

fly in - to the light of the dark black night.
fly.
fly.

mf

37

BLACKBIRD – 3-Part Mixed

Musical score for measures 37-40. It consists of three staves: two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and one piano accompaniment staff. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 37-39 contain rests for all parts. Measure 40 begins with a piano accompaniment consisting of a sustained chord in the right hand and a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the left hand.

Musical score for measures 41-44. It consists of three staves: two vocal staves and one piano accompaniment staff. The key signature is one flat (Bb). Measure 41 is in 3/4 time, and measure 42 is in 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Black - bird sing-ing in the dead of night,". The vocal parts are marked *mf*. The piano accompaniment includes drum notation: "Tm" and "tm".

Musical score for measures 45-48. It consists of two staves: a vocal staff and a piano accompaniment staff. The key signature is one flat (Bb). Measure 45 is in 3/4 time, and measure 46 is in 4/4 time. The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

BLACKBIRD – 3-Part Mixed

take these brok-en wings and learn to fly. All your life,-

take these brok-en wings and learn to fly. All your life,-

take these brok-en wings and learn to fly. All your life,-

45

— you were on - ly wait - ing for this

— you were on - ly wait - ing for this

— you were on - ly wait - ing for this

48

BLACKBIRD – 3-Part Mixed

mo-ment to a - rise..

mo-ment to a - rise..

Solo or Unison mo-ment to a - rise.. *end solo* You were on - ly wait - ing for this mo-ment to a - rise..

50

Slower

rit.

You were on - ly wait - ing for this mo - ment to a - rise..

rit.

You were on - ly wait - ing for this mo - ment to a - rise..

rit.

You were on - ly wait - ing for this mo - ment to a - rise..

Slower

rit.

53

BLACKBIRD – 3-Part Mixed



RANGES

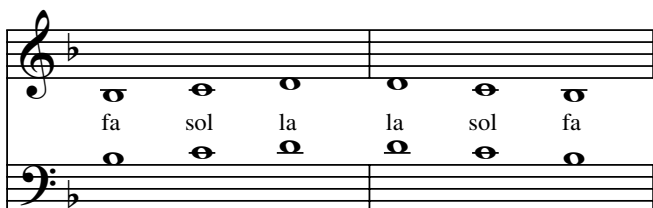


PERFORMANCE NOTES

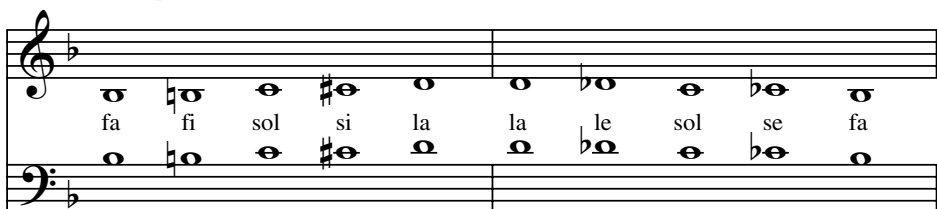
Paul McCartney, a member of The Beatles, wrote “Blackbird” in 1968. Although the song is about a blackbird, its underlying meaning parallels the racial tensions in America at the time. McCartney has acknowledged that his guitar accompaniment was inspired by Johann Sebastian Bach’s *Bourree in E Minor*, written three hundred years ago in 1708.

Choral Preparation

An *interval* is the difference in pitch between two notes. A *half step* is the smallest distance between two notes. A *whole step* is two half steps in succession. Sing the pattern below to practice moving in whole steps.



In this arrangement, the melodic lines for Parts II and III sometimes move in half steps. Sing the pattern below to practice moving in half steps. Half steps are very little steps, so strive to keep your pitch as accurate as possible.



ARRANGER

Audrey Snyder, a choral composer and arranger, is widely recognized as one of the top educational choral writers today. During her many successful years as a public school music teacher she began to write choral music for her own students, publishing her first choral piece in 1978. Since that time Audrey has published numerous original choral compositions and arrangements spanning the entire spectrum of choral music. Her music reflects a rare beauty, simplicity and charm.



AUDIO

The VoiceTrax CD includes a full performance with vocals of the primary voicing, an instrumental only version, and individual part predominant tracks. A pronunciation guide is included for non-English texts.