

Yellow Bird.



Pioneer choreographer Katherine Dunham first adapted this West Indian folk melody in the '40s for use in one of her dances, titling it "Chaconne." But in 1957, choral director Norman Luboff teamed with Alan Bergman and Marilyn Keith (soon to become husband and wife) in adding a lyric and transforming it into the popular calypso-tinged song "Yellow Bird." Hit records by such artists as The Mills Brothers did the rest.

Moderate Calypso tempo

Words by Marilyn Keith and Alan Bergman; Music by Norman Luboff

1 frets) → D

 Card → F

G6
Bb6

1. 3. Did your la - dy frien' leave in de nest a - gain?
2. Bet - ter fly a - way in de sky a - way.

D
F

A7
C7

Dat is ver - y sad, make me feel so bad.
Pick - er com - in' soon, pick from night to noon.

D
F

G6
Bb6

You can fly a - way in the sky a - way.
Black an' yel - low you, in like the ba - na - na, too.

D
F

A7
C7

You more luck - y dan me!
Dey might pick you some day!

D
F

Go directly to Verse on next page

D
F

Fine (Final ending only)

YELLOW BIRD

Verse

D
F 3 1 5 2 2 1

I al - so have a
Wish dat I was a

Em7
Gm7 3 1 5 2 2 1

pret - ty gal,
yel - low bird,

A7
C7

she not with me to - day.
I fly a - way with you.

D
F

Dey all de same, de
But I am not a

Em7
Gm7

pret - ty gal,
yel - low bird,

A7
C7

make dem de nest,
so here I sit,

D
F

den dey fly a - way.
noth - in' else to do.

D.S.*