The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses

Story by Paul Goble

Music by Bruce Adolphe

Distant, enchanted \( \frac{\text{\textdegree}}{2} = 76 \)

Narrator/Children's Voices

Flute

Clarinet in B♭

Violin

Cello

Percussion

Percussion

Marimba/Vibes

Piano

* Tom-toms should be Native-American drums if possible. Otherwise, standard tom-toms may be used.
Nar. In ancient times, the Indian peoples who lived on the Great Plains were always moving from place to place, following the herds of buffalo.

They trained their fastest horses to hunt buffalo.

Ecstatic, ritualistic $\frac{3}{4} = 110$
Nar. There was a girl in the village who loved horses.
Nar. She would often get up at daybreak when the birds were singing about the rising sun.
Nar. She led the horses to drink at the river.
She spoke softly and they followed.
Flowing, mysteriously \( \frac{\text{\textdollar}}{= 76} \)

Ch. V.

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vlc.

Perc.

Tom-toms

Perc.

Mrbmba/ Vbs

Pno.
Ch. V.

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vlc.

Perc.

Mrmba/ Vbs

Pno.

Come drink at the river.
Come, follow me fol-low me fol-low me fol-low me fol-low me fol-low me fol-low me fol-low me
Follow me

Follow me
come

fol-low

me
Come drink at the river

Come, follow me follow me
Ch. V.

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vlc.

Perc.

Perc.

Mrmba/ Vbs

Pno.

follow me.

let ring
Nar. People noticed that she understood horses in a special way. She knew which grass they liked best and where to find them shelter from the winter blizzards. If a horse was hurt she looked after it.

Every day when she had helped her mother carry water and collect firewood, she would run off to be with the horses. She stayed with them in the meadows, but was careful never to go beyond the sight of home.

One hot day when the sun was overhead she felt sleepy.

**Gently** $\frac{1}{4} = 66$

Nar. She spread her blanket and lay down.
Nar. It was nice to hear the horses eating and moving slowly among the flowers.

Nar. Soon she fell asleep.
Dreaming (same tempo) \( \frac{4}{4} = 66 \)
Freely, illustrating words $\text{\textbf{\textdagger}} = 50$

Nar. Angry clouds began to roll out across the sky with lightening flashes in the darkness beneath.
Calmly, but moving $\frac{3}{4} = 50$
Nar. But the fresh breeze and scent of rain made her sleep soundly.
Nar. Suddenly there was a flash of lightning, a crash and rumbling which shook the earth.

Stormy, frighteningly $\mathbf{\cdot} = 90$
Nar. (over repeated music)
The girl leapt to her feet in fright.
Everything was awake. Horses were rearing up on their hind legs and snorting in terror. She grabbed a horse's mane and jumped on his back.
In an instant the herd was galloping away like the wind.
She called to the horses to stop, but her voice was lost in the thunder. Nothing could stop them.

repeat under text until cue:
"Nothing could stop them!"
Slowly, floating $\frac{4}{4} = 90$

Nar. (spoken freely over the music): Stars came out and the moon shone over hills the girl had never seen before.
Nar. (during fermata):
She knew they were lost.
Next morning she was wakened by a loud neighing.
A beautiful spotted stallion was prancing to and fro
in front of her, stamping his hooves and shaking
his mane.
Powerfully, proudly $\bullet = 150$

Nar. He was strong and proud and more handsome than any horse she had ever dreamed of. He told her that he was the leader of all the wild horses who roamed the hills. He welcomed her to live with them. She was glad, and all her horses lifted their heads and neighed joyfully, happy to be free with the wild horses.
Sadly, freely, without feeling of pulse $\mathbb{f} = 50$

Nar. The people searched everywhere for the girl and the vanished horses.

freely, as if improvised
Nar. They were nowhere to be found.
Nar. But a year later, two hunters rode into the hills where the wild horses lived. When they climbed a hill and looked over the top they saw wild horses led by a beautiful spotted stallion. Beside him rode the girl leading a colt. They called out to her. She waved back, but the stallion quickly drove her away with all his horses.

The hungers galloped home and told what they had seen. The men mounted their fastest horses and set out at once.
Nar. It was a long chase. The stallion defended the girl and the colt. He circled round and round them so that the riders could not get near. They tried to catch him with ropes, but he dodged them. He had no fear. His eyes shone like cold stars. He snorted and his hooves struck as fast as lightning.
Nar. The riders admired his courage. They might never have caught the girl except her horse stumbled and she fell.
Sadly, slowly $\frac{\rightarrow}{\downarrow} = 60$

Nar. (over music): Each evening as the sun went down people would hear the stallion neighing sadly from the hilltop above the village, calling for her to come back.
Same tempo $\frac{3}{4} = 120$
Nar. The days passed. Her parents knew the girl was lonely. She became ill and the doctors could do nothing to help her. They asked what would make her well again. "I love to run with the wild horses," she answered. "They are my relatives. If you let me go back to them I shall be happy for evermore."
Nar. (over ringing chord) Her parents loved her and agreed that she should go back to live with the wild horses.

Nar. (spoken over ringing chord) They gave her a beautiful dress and the best horse in the village to ride.
Moving, majestically $\frac{d}{4} = 76$

Nar. (over music) The spotted stallion led his wild horses down from the hills.
Nar. The people gave them fine things to wear: colorful blankets and decorated saddles.

Nar. They painted designs on their bodies and tied eagle feathers and ribbons in their manes and tails.
Nar. In return, the girl gave the colt to her parents.

Everyone was joyful. Once again the girl rode beside the spotted stallion. They were proud and happy together.
Nar. But she did not forget her people.

Nar. Each year she would come back, and she always brought her parents a colt.

gently, not hurried
freely, as if improvised

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Exalted, with energy $\downarrow = 86$

Nar. And then one year she did not return
and was never seen again.
Nar. But when hunters next saw the wild horses there galloped beside the mighty stallion a beautiful mare with a mane and tail floating like wispy clouds about her.

(repeat measure until cue: "wispy clouds about her")
Nar. They said the girl had surely become one of the wild horses at last.

(Repeat measure until cue: "one of the wild horses at last.")
Nar. Today we are still glad to remember that we have relatives among the Horse People. And it gives us joy to see the wild horses running free. Our thoughts fly with them.

(repeat measure until cue: "Our thoughts fly with them.")
My horses prancing they are coming
My horses
neigh-ing they are com-ing

Pranc-ing they are com-ing.
They will come

universe they
dance

May you behold them.
Ch. V.

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vlc.

Perc.

Mrmba/Vbs

Pno.

they will dance

nation
May you behold them.
Ch. V.

May you behold them.

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vlc.

Perc.

Perc.

Mrmba/ Vbs

Pno.