



Fly Me to the Moon

Composed by Bart Howard



Ukulele Club of Santa Cruz "Love Songs" February 2005

Composer and pianist Bart Howard, whose "Fly Me to the Moon" (in "Other Words") was sent rocketing onto the charts by Peggy Lee and Frank Sinatra, died on February 23, 2004. He was 88 years old. His career began as a pianist for a touring dance band at the age of 16, backing Shmese twins Daisy and Violet Hilton. In 1934 he went to Los Angeles, aspiring to become a film composer. Three years later Howard went to New York City where he was encouraged by none other than Cole Porter to learn to sing his songs himself so he could get a better feel for them. In 1951 he became the MC and accompanist at Manhattan's "Blue Angel" nightclub. The artists he backed there included the young Johnny Mathis, Eartha Kitt, Dorothy Loudon, and Felicia Sanders, who was the first to perform the song Howard had entitled "In Other Words". The song took off quickly. Nancy Wilson recorded it in 1959 on her Capitol Records debut, and the following year Howard's musical fame was assured by Peggy Lee, who performed the tune on the Ed Sullivan Show for millions of viewers. From then on the tune was billed as "Fly Me to the Moon" (in "Other Words"), and eventually the original title was all but forgotten. Frank Sinatra guaranteed the song's endurance when he covered it in 1961 and kept it in his repertoire for the rest of his life. Since then the song has been recorded well over 500 times. Though several of Bart Howard's other songs achieved popularity he remained chiefly known for "Fly Me to the Moon". Howard had little problem with that, as the tune made him wealthy enough to cut back on his songwriting and playing. In 1999 Bart Howard was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

An easy arrangement

Am7 Dm
Fly me to the moon
G7 C
and let me play among the stars.
F **G7** Am7
Let me see what spring is like
on Jupiter and Mars.
Dm **G7** C
In other words, hold my hand,
Dm **G7** C
In other words, darling, kiss me
Am7 Dm
Fill my heart with song,
and let me sing for ever more.
F **G7** Am7
You are all I long for,
All I worship and adore.
Dm **G7** C
In other words, please be true
Dm **G7** C (turn E7)
In other words, I love you

Now add a few more chords...

Am7 Dm
Fly me to the moon
G7 CM7 > C7
and let me play among the stars.
F Bm7 Am7 A7
Let me see what spring is like
on Jupiter and Mars.
Dm **G7** Em7-5 > A7
In other words, hold my hand,
Dm **G7** Bm7 E7
In other words, darling, kiss me
Am7 Dm
Fill my heart with song,
and let me sing for ever more.
F Bm7
You are all I long for,
All I worship and adore.
Dm **G7** Em7-5 > A7
In other words, please be true
Dm **G7** C (turn E7)
In other words, I love you (end G7 C)

...and add some more "color" chords

C CM7 Am7 Dm
Fly me to the moon
F Dm Dm7 G7 G7sus2 CM7 > C7
and let me play among the stars.
F Dm Bm7-5
Let me see what spring is like
E7sus4 E7 A+7sus4 E7 Am7 A7
on Jupiter and Mars.
Dm > **Dm7** G7sus4 G7 Em7-5 > A7
In other words, hold my hand,
Dm > **Dm7** G7 G7sus2 Bm7-5 E7
In other words, darling, kiss me
C CM7 Am7 Dm
Fill my heart with song,
F Dm Dm7 G7 G7sus2 CM7 > C7
and let me sing for ever more.
F Dm Bm7-5
You are all I long for,
E7sus4 E7 A+7sus4 E7 Am7 A7
All I worship and adore.
Dm > **Dm7** G7sus4 G7 Em7-5 > A7
In other words, please be true
Dm **G7** C (turn Fdim E7)
In other words, I love you (end Fdim C)

