

I'm a Girl.  
What's *your* superpower?

**Heather Gilligan**

2018

written for the NYC songSLAM Festival

Stephanie Weiss, mezzo-soprano

Christina Wright-Ivanova, piano

words by Lisa DeSiro

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

## **I'm a Girl. What's *your* superpower?**

said a familiar voice when I opened the front door a crack in answer to loud knocking. She stood there on the porch, arms akimbo, peering through the screen at me: Wonder Woman. My heart a-flutter, I stuttered *Would you like to come in?* We sat in the the parlor. Over cookies & tea she explained her reason for canvassing the neighborhood: voter registration. *Strike a blow to the patriarchy!* she urged. *The future is female!* She was handing out souvenir wristbands. I accepted a pair, put them on. Before saying goodbye, she asked again about my superpower. I knew it, then: I'm a Girl, too.

by Lisa DeSiro (b. 1970)

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

# I'm a Girl. What's *your* superpower?

Written for Stephanie Weiss and Christina Wright-Ivanova  
for the NYC songSLAM Festival

Words by Lisa DeSiro

Heather Gilligan (b. 1974)

With playful confidence  
and a bit of drama

Tempo I: ♩ = 144

Stephanie

*mp* throughout entire song

*mf*

I'm a Girl. \_\_\_\_\_ I'm a Girl. \_\_\_\_\_

Christina

Tempo I: ♩ = 144

*mf*

*p*

*mp*

Ped.

7

*f*

I'm a Girl. \_\_\_\_\_

Free and  
cadenza-like

*ff*

Ped.

11

*mp*

I'm a Girl. \_\_\_\_\_

Let all  
notes ring

*p*

*mp*

\*

\*

The musical score is written for two voices, Stephanie and Christina, and piano accompaniment. It begins with a tempo marking of 'Tempo I: ♩ = 144'. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb). The score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 1-6) shows Stephanie's vocal line starting with 'I'm a Girl.' and Christina's piano accompaniment. Dynamics include *mp* and *mf*. The second system (measures 7-10) features a vocal line with a fermata and a piano section marked 'Free and cadenza-like' with a dynamic of *ff*. The third system (measures 11-14) returns to the vocal line with 'I'm a Girl.' and piano accompaniment, with dynamics of *mp* and *p*. Performance instructions include 'Ped.' (pedal) and 'Let all notes ring'. A large red watermark 'FOR PERUSAL ONLY' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

16

*mf* What's your su - per - pow - er? *mp* What's your

22

su - per - pow - er? said a fa - mil - iar voice when I

28

o - pened the front door a crack, when I o - pened the front door a crack in\_

34

an - swer to a loud knock - ing. N.P.

natural pause

rit. . . . . Tempo II: Slightly slower and more relaxed

(Try ♩ = 130)

With a slightly mundane,  
conversational tone

41

She stood there on the

Lightly

*mp*

rit. . . . . Tempo II: Slightly slower and more relaxed

(Try ♩ = 130)

46

porch, arms a - kim - bo, peer - ing through the screen at

50

me: Won - der Wo - man. My heart a -

*simile*

54

flut - ter, I stut - tered Would you like \_\_\_\_\_ to come in?

*mp*

We sat in the par - lor. O - ver

*cresc. to m. 67*

Becoming more excited

cook-ies and tea she ex - plained the rea-son for can - vass-ing the neigh - bor -

*cresc. to m. 67* *Becoming more excited*

*accel.*

hood: vo - ter reg - is - tra - tion, vo - ter reg - is -

*f* *mp* *mf*

*accel.*

Tempo I

*Red.*

\*

*Red.*

tra - tion, vo - ter reg - is - tra tion. Strike a blow to the

*f*

Tempo I

\*

*Red.*

\*

pa - tri-ar - chy! she urged. The

fu - ture is fe - male!

Tempo II: winding down

She was han - ding out sou-ve-nir wrist-bands. I ac-

cept - ed a pair, put them on. *poco rit.* . . .

97 Even more relaxed and winding down

Be-fore say-ing good-bye, she asked a - gain a -

Even more relaxed and winding down

101

bout my su - per - pow - er. I knew it

106

Tempo I  
*mf*

then: I'm a Girl. I'm a Girl,

N.P. Tempo I

113

too.

At a free tempo