

# What is our life?

Orlando Gibbons  
(1583-1625)

Soprano

Alto

Tenor 1

Tenor 2

Bass

S

A

T

B

25

S on. *f* Our mirth the mu-sic of di-vi-si-on, of di-vi - si -  
A si - on. *f* Our mirth the mu - sic of di -  
T *f* Our mirth the mu - sic, the mu - sic of di - vi - si-on,  
B play of pas - si - on. *f* Our  
on. *f* Our mirth the mu - sic of di-vi-si-on, of di - vi-si-on, our mirth the

30

S on. *mf* Our mo-thers'  
A vi - si - on, our - mirth the mu - sic of di-vi - si - on.  
T our mirth the mu - sic of di-vi-si-on, our mirth the mu - sic of di - vi - si -  
B mirth the mu - sic of di-vi - si - on, our mirth the mu - sic of di - vi - si -  
mu - sic of di-vi - si - on,

35

S wombs the tir - ing-hou - ses be,  
A - - - - - *mf* Our mo-thers' wombs the  
T on. *mf* Our mo-thers' wombs, our mo - thers' wombs the tir - ing, the -  
B on. *mf* Our mo - thers' wombs, our mo-thers' wombs the tir - ing -  
*mf* Our mo-thers' wombs the tir - ing-hou - ses be,

Soprano (S) - Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#).  
 Alto (A) - Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#).  
 Tenor (T) - Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#).  
 Bass (B) - Bass clef, key signature of one sharp (F#).

**40**

Where we are dressed \_\_\_\_\_ for this short co - me -  
 tir-ing-hou-ses be, Heaven  
 tir-ing-hou - ses be, Where we are dressed, \_\_\_\_\_ are dressed for  
 hou-ses be, Where we are dressed \_\_\_\_\_ for this short

**45**

Where we are dressed, are dressed for this short

**50**

dy. Heaven \_\_\_\_\_ the ju - di - cious sharp spec - ta-tor is,  
 the ju - di - cious sharp spec - ta - tor is, heaven the ju-di-\_\_\_\_\_ cious  
 this short co - me\_ dy. Heaven \_\_\_\_\_ the ju - di - cious sharp spe -  
 co - me\_ dy, short co - me - dy. spe-cta-

**55**

co- \_\_\_\_\_ me - dy. Heaven \_\_\_\_\_ the ju - di - cious sharp spe - cta -  
 That sits and marks still who doth act a - miss,  
 sharp spe - cta-tor is, **f** That sits and marks still who doth act a - miss,  
 cta-tor, spe-cta - tor is, **f** That sits and marks, that sits and marks still  
 tor is, **f** That sits and marks, that sits and marks still  
 tor is, **f** That sits and marks who doth a - miss,

Soprano (S) vocal line:

A (Alto) vocal line:

Tenor (T) vocal line:

Bass (B) vocal line:

Chorus vocal line:

Instrumental accompaniment:

Soprano (S) - Treble clef, key signature one sharp. Measure 65 starts with a rest followed by a dotted half note. The lyrics are: "Our graves, our graves that hide us from miss." The dynamic is **p**.

Alto (A) - Treble clef, key signature one sharp. Measures 65-66 continue the lyrics: "Our graves that hide us from the search-ing sun, that hide miss." The dynamic is **p**.

Tenor (T) - Treble clef, key signature one sharp. Measures 65-66 continue the lyrics: "Our graves that hide us from the search - miss." The dynamic is **p**.

Bass (B) - Bass clef, key signature one sharp. Measures 65-66 continue the lyrics: "Our graves that hide us from the search - ing sun, from miss." The dynamic is **p**.

Soprano (S) vocal line:

70 the search - ing sun Are like drawn cur - tains when

Alto (A) vocal line:

us from the search- ing sun Are like drawn cur - tains when the play

Tenor (T) vocal line:

ing sun Are like drawn cur - tains

Bass (B) vocal line:

the search-ing sun, the search-ing sun Are like drawn curtains, drawn

75

80

Soprano (S): the play is done,  
is done, are like drawn curtains when the play is

Alto (A): when the play is done, when the play is done,

Tenor (T): when the play is done, when the play is

Bass (B): cur- tains when the play is

play is done, when the play is done.

85

Soprano (S): when the play is done, the play is done, are like drawn  
Alto (A): done, are like drawn  
Tenor (T): is done, is done, are like drawn curtains when the  
Bass (B): done, the play is done, are like drawn curtains when the

Soprano (S) vocal line:

cur - tains\_ when the play is done. **f** Thus march we,

Alto (A) vocal line:

cur-tains when the play is done. **f** Thus

Tenor (T) vocal line:

play is done, the play is done. **f** Thus march we, play - ing,

Bass (B) vocal line:

play is done. **f** Thus march we, play - ing,

Chorus (all voices): **f** Thus march we, play- ing, to our

95

S play- ing, thus march we, play - ing,  
A march we, play - ing, thus march we, play - ing, thus  
T thus march we, play- ing, thus march  
B thus march we, play - ing, thus march we, play -  
lat - est rest, thus march we, play - ing,

100

S thus march we, play - ing, to our lat-est rest, thus march we, play-ing,  
A march we, play - ing to our lat - est rest, our lat - est rest,  
T we, play-ing, thus march we, play- ing, thus  
B ing, thus march we, play-ing, to our lat-est rest, thus march we, play-ing  
to our lat - est rest, our lat - est rest,

105

S thus march we, play - ing, to our lat- est rest  
A thus march we, play - ing,  
T march we, play - ing, to our lat - est rest, thus march we, play-ing, to our  
B to our lat - est rest, thus march we, play -  
thus march we play - ing, thus

110

S rest, thus march we, play-ing, to our lat - est rest, On -

A thus march we, play-ing, to our lat - est rest, On - ly we die in

T lat - est rest, thus march we, play-ing, to our lat-est

8 ing, thus march we, play-ing, to our lat-est rest,

B dim.

march we, play-ing, to our lat-est rest, On -

115

S ly we die, we die in ear- nest, that's no

A ear - nest, that's no jest, dim.

T rest, On - ly we die in ear - nest, that's no

8 On- ly we die, we

B die in

120

S jest, we die in ear - nest, that's no **p** jest.

A in ear - nest, that's no **p** jest.

T jest, we die in ear - nest, that's no **p** jest.

8 die in ear - nest, that's no **p** jest.

B ear - nest, that's no jest, no **p** jest.