

# The Silver Swan

Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

The Sil - ver Swan who, liv - ing, had no  
The Sil - ver Swan who, liv - ing, had no note,  
The Sil - ver Swan who, liv - ing, had no  
The Sil - ver Swan who, liv - ing, had no  
The Sil - ver Swan who, liv - ing, had no

note, When death ap - proach'd, un - lock'd her si - lent  
When death ap - proach'd, un - lock'd her si - lent  
note, When death ap - proach'd, un - lock'd her si - lent  
note, When death ap - proach'd, un - lock'd her si - lent, si - lent

throat. Lean - ing her breast a -  
throat. Lean - ing her breast a - gainst the reed - y  
throat. Lean - ing her breast a - gainst the  
throat. a - gainst the reed - y shore,  
throat. Lean - ing her breast a - gainst the reed - y

- gainst the reed - y shore, Thus sung her first and  
 shore, Thus sung her first and last, And sung, and  
 reed - y shore, Thus sung her first and last, And  
 Thus sung her first and last, And sung no more, and sung  
 shore, Thus sung her first and last, And

last, And sung no more: "Fare - well all  
 sung no more: "Fare - well all joys, O death come  
 sung no more: "Fare - well all joys, O  
 no more: "Fare - well all joys, O  
 sung no more: "Fare - well all joys, O

joys, O death come close mine eyes. More  
 close mine eyes. More geese than swans now  
 death come close mine eyes. More geese than swans  
 death come close mine eyes. More geese than  
 death come close mine eyes. More geese than

geese than swans now live, more fools than wise."  
live, more fools, more fools than wise."  
now live, more fools than wise."  
swans now live, more fools than wise."  
swans now live, more fools than wise."

The image shows a musical score for five voices, arranged in a choir-like fashion. The score is written in a single system with five staves. The top four staves are in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: "geese than swans now live, more fools than wise." (Staff 1), "live, more fools, more fools than wise." (Staff 2), "now live, more fools than wise." (Staff 3), "swans now live, more fools than wise." (Staff 4), and "swans now live, more fools than wise." (Staff 5). The lyrics are distributed across the staves, with some words appearing on multiple staves. The music consists of simple rhythmic patterns, primarily quarter and eighth notes, with some rests and slurs. The lyrics are printed below the corresponding staves.