

This Sweet and Merry Month of May

William Byrd

Cantus
This sweet and mer-ry, mer-ry month, and mer-ry mer-ry

Quintus
This sweet and mer ry, mer-ry month, and

Altus

Sextus

Tenor

Bassus

The first system of the musical score is for the vocal parts. It consists of six staves: Cantus, Quintus, Altus, Sextus, Tenor, and Bassus. The time signature is 2/4. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The Cantus part has a melodic line with lyrics. The Quintus part has a similar melodic line with lyrics. The Altus, Sextus, Tenor, and Bassus parts are currently silent, indicated by horizontal lines on their respective staves.

4
month of May, and mer - rry month of May, of
mer-ry, mer-ry month of May, and mer - rry month of
This sweet and mer-ry, mer-ry month, and mer-ry, mer-ry
And mer-ry, mer-ry month, and mer-ry, mer-ry month of

The second system of the musical score continues the vocal parts. It starts with a circled number '4' at the beginning of the first staff. The Cantus and Quintus parts continue with their melodic lines and lyrics. The Altus, Sextus, Tenor, and Bassus parts remain silent, indicated by horizontal lines on their respective staves.

7

May, While Na - ture wan - tons

May, of May, While

month of May, While Na - ture wan - tons, wantons in her prime,

8 May, While Na - ture wan - tons, wan - tons in her prime,

While Na - ture wan - tons, wan - tons in her

11

in her prime, wan - tons in her prime,

Na - ture wan - tons, wan - tons in her prime, in her

While Na - ture wan - tons in her prime, in

- ture wan - tons, wan - tons in her prime, in her

wan tons in her prime, in her prime,

prime, while Na - ture wan - tons, wan - tons in her

15

And birds do sing, and birds do
prime, And birds do sing, and
her prime, And birds do sing, and birds do
prime, And birds do sing, and birds do sing,
And birds do sing, and birds do sing,
prime, And birds do sing,

19

sing, and birds do sing, and beasts do
birds do sing, and beasts do play, do play
sing, do sing, and beasts do play, and
and birds do sing, and beasts do play, and
and beasts do play, do play,
and birds do sing, and beasts do play, do

23

play, do play, do play, and
and beasts do play, do play, do play,
beasts do ay, do play, and beasts do play, do play,
⁸ bea do play, do play, and beasts do play, do play,
and beasts do play, do play, and beasts do play, do play, do
play, and beasts do play, do play, and beasts do play,

27

beasts do play, do play For plea - sure
and beasts do play For plea - sure
and beasts do play, do play For plea - sure, for plea - sure
⁸ and beasts do play For plea - sure
play, do play, do play For plea - sure
do play, do play, do play, do play For plea - sure

32

of the joy - ful time, of the joy - ful
of the joy - ful time, of the joy - ful time, the joy - ful
of the joy - ful time, the joy - ful time, the joy ful time,
of the joy - ful time, the joy - ful time, the joy - ful
of the joy - ful time, the joy - ful time, of the joy - ful
of the joy - ful time, of the joy - ful time, the joy - ful

36

time, I choose the first for
time, I choose the first for ho - li - day, for ho -
I choose the first for ho - li - day,
time, I choose the first for
time, I choose the first for ho - li - day,
time, I choose the first for ho - li - day, I choose the

40

ho - li - day, for ho - li - day, for ho - li - day, And
 - li - day, for ho - li - day, for ho - li - day,
 for ho - li - day, for ho - li - day, for ho - li - day,
 ho - li - day, for ho - li - day, for ho - li - day, for ho - li - day, And greet
 for ho - li - day, for ho - li - day, And greet
 first for ho - li - day, for ho - li - day, for ho - li - day, And

45

greet E - li - za, E - li - za with a rhyme, with a rhyme,
 And greet E -
 And greet E - li - za, E - li -
 E - li - za, E - li - za with a rhyme, And greet
 E - li - za, E - li - za with a rhyme,
 greet E - li - za, E - li - za with a rhyme, with

49

and greet E - li - za, E -
 - li - za, E - li - za with a rhyme, with a rhyme,
 - za with a rhyme, with a rhyme, and greet E - li - za, E - li -
 E - li - za, E - li - za, and greet E - li -
 and greet E - li - za with a rhyme, and greet E -
 a rhyme, And greet E - li - za,

53

- li - za with a rhyme, with a
 with a rhyme, with a rhyme, with a rhyme,
 - za with a rhyme, with
 - za with a rhyme, with a rhyme,
 - li - za with a rhyme with
 E - li - za with a rhyme, with a

56

rhyme, with a rhyme: O beau - te-ous

with a rhyme: O beau - te-ous

a rhyme: O beau - te-ous

with a rhyme: O beau - te-ous

a rhyme, with a rhyme: O beau - te - ous Queen

rhyme, with a rhyme: O beau - te-ous

62

Queen of se - cond Troy,

Queen, O beau - te-ous

Queen, O beau - te - us Queen

Queen of se - cond Troy, O beau - te - ous Queen of

of se - cond Troy, O beau - te - ous Queen

Queen of se - cond Troy, O beau - te-ous

68

Take well in worth,
 Queen of se - cond Troy,
 of se - cond Troy, Take well in worth a
 se - cond Troy, of se - cond Troy, Take
 of se - cond of se - cond, of se - cond Troy, Take
 Queen of se - cond Troy, Take well in worth,

73

take well in worth a sim - ple toy,
 Take well in worth a sim - ple toy, a sim - ple toy,
 sim - ple toy, a sim - ple toy, a sim - ple toy, take
 well in worth, take well in worth a sim - ple toy, a sim - ple toy,
 well in worth a sim - ple toy, take well in worth a
 take well in worth a sim - ple toy, take well in worth a

78

a sim-ple toy, take well in worth a sim-ple toy,
 take well in worth a sim-ple toy, a sim-ple toy,
 well in worth a sim-ple toy, a sim-ple toy, take
 take well in vworth a sim ple toy,
 sim-ple toy, a sim-ple toy, take well in worth a
 sim-ple toy, a sim-ple toy, a sim-ple toy, a

83

a sim-ple y, a sim - ple toy,
 take well in worth a sim-ple toy, a sim-
 well in worth a sim-ple toy, a sim - ple toy, a sim - ple
 take well in worth a sim - ple toy, a sim - ple
 sim-ple toy, take well in worth a sim - ple toy, a
 sim-ple toy, take well in worth a sim - ple

88

a sim - ple toy.
 - ple toy, a sim - ple toy.
 toy, a sim - ple toy.
⁸ toy, a sim - ple toy.
 sim-ple toy, a sim - ple toy.
 toy, a sim - ple toy.