

# O you that hear this voice

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Superius  
*The first singing part*

Medius

Contratenor

Tenor

Bassus

O you, that hear this voice, O you that see this

O you, O you that hear this voice, O you

O you, that hear this voice, O you that hear this voice, O

O you, that hear this voice, O you that see this face, this

O you, that hear this voice, O you that

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face, say whe-ther\_ of the choice, may have the for-mer

\_ that see this face, say whe - ther\_ of the\_ choice, may

you that see this face, this face, say whe-ther\_ of the choice,

\_ face, say whe - ther of the choice, may

see this face, say whe - ther of the choice, may have the for - mer

place: Who dare judge this\_ de - bate,

have the for - mer place: Who

may have the for - mer place: Who dare judge this\_ de - bate, who

have the for - mer\_ place: Who dare judge this\_ de - bate, who

place, the for - mer place: Who dare judge this\_ de - bate, who

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that it be void of hate?

dare judge this de - bate, that it be void of hate, of

dare judge this de - bate, that it be void of

dare judge this de - bate, that it be void of hate, that it be void of

dare judge this de - bate, that it be void of hate, that it be void of

[ o → o . ]

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This side doth beau - ty take, for that doth

hate? This side doth beau - ty take, *this side doth beau - ty take,* for that

hate? This side doth beau - ty take, doth beau - ty take,

hate? This side doth beau - ty take, for that doth

hate? This side doth beau - ty take, for that, for that doth

Mu - sic speak, fit O - ra - tors to make,

doth Mu - sic speak, doth Mu - sic speak, fit O - ra - tors to

for that doth Mu - sic speak, fit O - ra - tors to

Mu - sic speak, for that doth Mu - sic speak, fit O - ra - tors to

Mu - sic speak, for that doth Mu - sic speak, Mu - sic speak, fit O -

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the strong - est judge - ments weak.  
 make, to make, the strong - est judge - ments weak, *the strong - est*  
 make, to make, the strong - est judge - ments weak, *the strong -*  
 make, the strong - est judge - ments weak, *the strong -*  
 -ra - tors to make, the strong - est judge - ments weak, *the strong -*

The bar to plead their right,  
 judge - ments weak. The bar to plead their right, their right, is on -  
 -est judge - ments weak. The bar to plead their right, their right,  
 -est judge - ments weak. The bar to plead their right, is on - ly  
 -est judge - ments weak. The bar to plead their right, their right, is

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is on - ly true de - light.  
 -ly true de - light, true de - light, is on - ly true de -  
 is on - ly true de - light, is on - ly true de -  
 true de - light, is on - ly true de - light, is on - ly true de -  
 on - ly true de - light, de - light, is on - ly true de -

The bar to plead their right,  
 -light. The bar to plead their right, their right,  
 -light. The bar to plead their right,  
 -light. The bar to plead their right, is  
 -light. The bar to plead their right, their right,

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 is on - - ly true de - - -  
 is on - - ly true de - light, true de -  
 right, their right, is on - - ly true de - - light,  
 on - - ly true de - light, is on - ly true de -  
 right, is on - - ly true de - light, de - - -

-light,  
 -light, is on - ly true de - light, true de - light.  
 is on - - ly true de - light, true de - - - light.  
 -light,  
 -light, is on - ly true de - - light.  
 -light, is on - ly true de - - light.

Source: William Byrd, *Psalmes, Sonets, & songs of sadnes and pietie* (London, 1588), no.16.  
Text: Sir Philip Sidney (1554-86): The Sixt Song from *Astrophel and Stella*.

IV.6.2: *this*

16: *ts c*, all parts

1. O You, that heare this voyce,  
O you that see this face,  
say whether of the choice,  
may have the former place.  
Who dare judge this debate,  
that it be void of hate:
2. This side doth beautie take,  
for that doth Musick speak,  
fit Orators to make,  
the strongest judgements weak.  
The bar to plead their right,  
is onely true delight.
3. Thus doth the voyce and face,  
these gentle lawiers wage:  
like loving brothers case\*,  
for fathers heritage:  
that each, while each contends,  
it selfe to other lends.
4. For beautie beautifies,  
with heavenly hew and grace,  
the heavenly harmonies,  
and in that faultlesse face,  
the perfect beauties bee,  
a perfect harmonie.
5. Musicke more loftie swells,  
in phrases finely plac'd:  
Beautie as farre excells,  
in action aptly grac'd:  
a friend each partie drawes,  
to countenance his cause.
6. Love more affected seemes,  
to beauties lovely light,  
and wonder more esteemes,  
of Musick wond'rous might,  
but both to both so bent,  
as both in both are spent.
7. Musicke doth witness call,  
the eare his truth doth trye:  
Beautie brings to the hall,  
eye witness of the eye,  
each in his object such,  
as none exceptions touch.
8. The comon sense which might,  
bee arbiter of this:  
to bee forsooth upright,  
to both sides parciall is:  
he layes on this chiefe praise,  
chiefe praise on that hee laies.
9. Then Reason, princesse hie,  
which sits in throne of minde:  
and Musicke can in Skye,  
with hidden beauties finde,  
say whether thou wilt crowne,  
with limit lesse renowne.

\* *cast* in all editions, all partbooks

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