

Blow thi horne, hunter

Edited by Jason Smart

William Cornysh (d.1523)

[Burden]

Mean

Tenor

Bass

Blow thi horne, hun - ter, and blow thi horne on

Blow thi horne, hun - ter, and blow thi horne on

Blow thi horne, hun - ter, and blow thi horne on

4

hye! Ther ys a do in yon - der wode; in faith she woll not dy: Now

hy! Ther is a do in yon - der wode; in faith she wyll not dy: Now

hye! Ther ys a do in yon - der wode; in faith she wyll nott dy: Now blow —

9

blow thi horne, hun - ter, now blow thi horne, jo - ly hun - ter!

blow thi horne, [hun - ter,] now blow thi horne, jo - ly hun - ter!

— thi horne, [hun - ter,] now blow thi horne, jo - ly hun - ter!

1. Sore this dere strykyn is,
and yet she bled no whytt;
She lay so fayre I cowde nott mys;
Lord, I was glad of it!

2. As I stod under a bank
the dere shoffe on the mede;
I stroke her so that downe she sanke,
but yet she was not dede.

3. Ther she gothe! Se ye nott
how she gothe over the playne?
And yf ye lust to have a shott,
I warrant her barayne.

4. He to go and I to go,
but he ran fast afore;
I had hym shott and strik the do,
for I myght shott no mere,

5. To the covert bothe thay went,
for I fownd wher she lay;
An arrow in her hanch she hent;
for faynte she myght nott bray.

6. I was wery of the game,
I went to tavern to drynk;
Now the construccyon of the same—
what do yow meane or thynk.

7. Here I leve and mak an end
now of this hunt[er]s lore:
I thynk his bow ys well un bent,
hys bolt may fle no more.

Sources

- A London, British Library Add. MS 31922 (c.1510–13), f.39v.
at end of verses: W Cornysh
- B London, British Library, MS Royal Appendix 58 (1520s?), f.7v. (Tenor only).
Music and words of burden only (no verses). No attribution.

Notes

- A No music is given for the verses, which were presumably sung by a soloist to a well-known tune. However, the verses can be fitted to the music of bars 1–8, with the remainder of bars 8–10 being used as a refrain.
10 M *and* for *now* / 4–12 T underlay misaligned / 8–12 B underlay misaligned /
- B 2 T *cum* for *now* / 4–6 T *in yonder wode there lyeth a dow* / 8 T *sbG* for *m-rest mG* /
9 T *mC mC* are *dot-mC crC* /