

What pleasure have great Princes

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Superius
[Soprano]
The first singing part

Medius
[Alto]

Contratenor
[Tenor]

Tenor
[Bass]

Bassus
[Bass]

What plea - sure have great prin - ces, have great prin -

What plea - sure have great prin - ces, have great

What plea - sure have great

What plea - sure have great prin - ces, more

What plea - sure have great prin - ces, what plea - sure have great prin - ces, more dain - ty

-ces, what plea - sure have great prin - ces, great prin - ces, more dain - ty to

prin - ces, what plea - sure have great prin - ces, more dain - ty

prin - ces, more dain - ty to their choice, what plea - sure have great prin - ces, more dain - ty to their

dain - ty to their choice, than

to their choice, than herd - men wild, who care - less, in qui - et life re - joice,

their choice, to their choice, than herd - men wild, who care - less,

to their choice, to their choice, than

choice, to their choice, more dain - ty to their choice, than herd - men wild, who care - less, in

herd-men wild, who care - less in qui - et life re - joice:

re - joice, in qui - et life re - joice, in qui - et life re-joice: and

care-less, in qui - et life re - joice, re - - - joice: and

herd - men wild, who care - less, in qui - et life re - joice: and

qui - et life re - joice, in qui - et life, in qui - et life re - joice: and

and for - tune's fate not fear - ing,

for - tune's fate not fear - ing, not fear - - - ing, sing

for - tune's fate not fear - ing, and for - tune's fate not fear - ing, sing sweet, in

for - tune's fate not fear - ing, not fear - - - ing, sing

for - tune's fate not fear - ing, and for - tune's fate not fear - - - ing, sing

sing sweet, in Sum - mer morn - ing,

sweet, in Sum - mer, sing sweet in Sum - mer morn - ing,

Sum - mer morn - ing, in Sum - mer morn - ing,

sweet, in Sum - mer, sing sweet in Sum - mer morn - ing,

sweet, sing sweet, in Sum - mer morn - ing, Sum - mer morn - ing,

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and for - tune's fate not fear - ing, and for - tune's fate not fear - ing, sing -

and for - tune's fate not fear - ing, not fear - - - ing,

and for - tune's fate not fear - ing, and for - tune's fate not fear - - -

fear - ing, sing sweet, in Sum - mer morn - ing.

-ing, sing sweet, in Sum - mer, sing sweet in Sum - mer morn - ing.

- sweet, in Sum - mer morn - ing, in Sum - mer morn - ing.

sing sweet, in Sum - mer, sing sweet in Sum - mer morn - ing.

-ing, sing sweet, sing sweet, in Sum - mer morn - ing, Sum - mer morn - ing.

Source: William Byrd, *Psalmes, Sonets, & songs of sadnes and pietie* (London, 1588), no.19.

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|---|--|---|
| <p>1. What pleasure have great princes,
more daintie to their choice,
then heardmen wild, who carelesse,
in quiet life rejoyce,
& fortunes fate not fearing,
sing sweet, in Sommer morning.</p> | <p>3. All day their flocks each tendeth,
at night they take their rest,
more quiet than who sendeth
his ship into the East,
where gold and pearle are plentie,
but getting very daintie.</p> | <p>5. O happie who thus liveth,
not caring much for gold,
with clothing which suffiseth,
too keepe him from the cold,
though poore and plaine his diet,
yet merrie it is and quiet.</p> |
| <p>2. Their dealings plaine and rightfull,
are voyde of all disceit:
they never know how spightfull,
it is to kneele and waite
on favorite presumptuous,
whose pride is vaine and sumptuous.</p> | <p>4. For Lawiers and their pleading,
the'steeme it not a straw,
they think that honest meaning
is of it selfe a law,
where conscience judgeth plainely,
they spend no mony vainely.</p> | |

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