

Why do I use?

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Superius [Soprano]

Medius [Alto]
The first singing part

Contratenor [Alto]

Tenor [Tenor]

Bassus [Bass]

Why do I use my pa - per ink and pen, my pa - per ink

Why do I use my pa - per ink and pen, my pa -

Why do I use my pa - per

Why do I use my pa - per ink and pen, and

Why do I use, why do I use my pa - per ink and

- and pen, and pen, why do I use my pa - per ink and

- per ink and pen, why do I use my pa - per ink and

ink and pen, why do I use my pa - per ink and

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pen, and call my wits to coun - sel what to

pen, and call my wits to coun - sel what to

pen, and call my wits to coun - sel what to say? Such

pen, and call my wits to coun - sel what to say?

pen, and call my wits to coun - sel what to

say? Such me - mo-ries were made for mor-tal men, were made for
 say? Such me - mo-ries were made for mor - tal men,
 me - mo - ries, such me-mo - ries, such me - mo-ries were made for mor - tal
 Such me - mo-ries, such me-mo - ries were made for mor - tal men,
 say, what to say? Such me-mo - ries, were made for mor - tal men, were

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mor - tal men, I speak of Saints, whose names can - not de -
 I speak of Saints, whose names can - - - not de -
 men, for mor - tal men, I speak of Saints, whose names can - not de - cay, whose
 for mor - tal men, I speak of Saints whose names can - not de -
 made for mor - tal men, I speak of Saints whose names can - not de -

-cay, an An - gel's trump, an An - gel's trump, an An - gel's trump,
 -cay, an An - gel's trump, an An - gel's trump,
 names can-not de - cay, an An - gel's trump, were fit - ter
 -cay, an An - gel's trump, an An - gel's trump, an An - gel's trump, were
 -cay, an An - gel's trump, an An - gel's trump,

were_ fit - ter for to sound, their glo - ri - ous death, *their*

were_ fit - ter for to sound, their glo - ri - ous death,

for to_ sound, to sound, their glo - ri - ous death, *their glo - ri - ous death, their*

fit - ter for to sound, to_ sound, their glo - ri - ous death, *their glo - ri - ous death,*

were_ fit - ter for to sound, their glo - ri - ous death,

glo - ri - ous death, if such on earth were found. An An - gel's

their glo - ri - ous death, if such on earth were found.

glo - ri - ous death, if such on earth were found. An An - gel's

if such on earth were found, on earth were found. An An - gel's trump, *an An -*

their glo - ri - ous death, if such on earth were found. An An - gel's_

trump, *an An - gel's trump, an An - gel's trump,* were_ fit - ter

An An - gel's trump, *an An - gel's trump,* were_ fit - ter

trump, *an An - gel's trump,* were fit - ter_ for to_ sound,

- gel's_ trump, an An - gel's trump, *an An - gel's trump* were_ fit - ter for to

_ trump, an An - gel's_ trump were_ fit -

for to sound, their glo - ri - ous death, *their glo - ri ous death* if
 for to sound their glo - ri - ous death, their glo - ri - ous
 to sound, their glo - ri - ous death, *their glo - ri - ous death, their glo - ri - ous death*
 sound, to sound, their glo - ri - ous death, *their glo - ri - ous death* if such on earth were
 - ter for to sound, their glo - ri - ous death, *their glo - ri - ous*

such on earth were found, if such on earth were found.
 death, if such on earth were found, if such on earth were found.
 if such on earth were found, if such on earth were found.
 found, if such on earth were found, *if such on earth were found.*
 death, if such on earth were found, if such on earth were found.

1. Why doe I use my paper inck and pen,
 and cal my wits to counsel what to say,
 such memories were made for mortal men,
 I speak of Saints, whose names cannot decay,
 an Angels trump, were fitter for to sound,
 their glorious death, if such on earth were found.
2. That store of such were once on earth pursu'd,
 the histories of aunient times record,
 whose constancie great tyrants rage subdu'd,
 through patient death professing Christ their lord
 as his Apostles perfect witnessse beare,
 with many more that blessed Martirs were.
3. Whose patience rare & most couragious minde,
 with fame renom'd perpetuall shall endure,
 by whose examples wee may rightly finde,
 of holy lyfe and death a patterne pure:
 that wee therefore their vertues may embrace,
 pray wee to Christ to guide us with his grace.

Source: William Byrd, *Psalmes, Sonets, & songs of sadnes and pietie* (London, 1588), no.33.

Text: Traditionally attributed to St. Henry Walpole (1558-95). Byrd's first stanza, but not the second or third printed below the music, appears in *A true reporte of the death & martyrdom of M. Campion, Jesuite and priest, & M. Sherwin, & M. Bryan priestes, at Tiborne the first of December 1581*.

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