

Where fancy fond for pleasure pleads

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Superius
[Soprano]
The first singing part

Medius
[Alto]

Contratenor
[Tenor]

Tenor
[Tenor]

Bassus
[Bass]

Where fan-cy

Where fan-cy fond for plea - sure pleads, where

Where fan - cy fond

Where fan-cy fond for plea - sure pleads, *for plea-sure pleads*, where fan-cy

Where fan - cy fond for plea - sure pleads, *where fan - cy*

fond for plea - sure pleads, and rea-son keeps poor hope in

fan - cy fond for plea - sure pleads, and rea-son keeps poor hope in Jail, poor hope in

for plea - sure pleads, and rea - son, and rea-son, keeps poor hope in

fond for plea - sure pleads, and rea-son keeps poor hope in Jail, poor hope in Jail:

fond for plea - sure pleads, and rea - son keeps poor hope in

Jail: there time it is to take my beads,

Jail: there time it is to take my beads, my

Jail: there time it is to take my beads, and pray, that

there time it is to take my beads, to take my beads, and

Jail: there time it is to take my beads, and

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and pray, that beau - - ty may pre - - vail:
 beads, and pray, that beau - ty may pre - vail, may pre -
 beau - ty may, that beau - ty may pre - vail:
 pray, and pray, that beau - ty may pre - vail: or
 pray, and pray, that beau - ty may pre - vail:

or else de - spair, or else de - spair will win the field, where
 -vail: or else de - spair, will win the field, the field, where rea -
 or else de - spair, will win the field, where rea - son,
 else de - spair, or else de - spair will win the field, the field,
 or else de - spair, de - spair, will win the field, the

rea - son, where rea - son, hope, and plea - - - - sure, yield.
 -son hope and plea - sure, where rea - son hope and plea - sure yield, and plea - sure yield. Or
 where rea - son, hope and plea - - - - sure yield.
 where rea - son, hope, and plea - sure yield, and plea - sure yield. Or
 field, where rea - son, hope, and plea - sure yield.

or else de - spair, or else de - spair will win the field, where
 else de - spair, or else de - spair, will win the field, the field, where rea -
 Or else de - spair will win the field, where rea - son,
 else de - spair, or else de - spair will win the field, the field,
 or else de - spair, de - spair will win the field, the
 rea - son, where rea - son, hope, and plea - - - - - sure yield.
 -son, hope and plea -sure, where rea -son hope, and plea -sure yield, and plea - sure yield.
 where rea - son, hope, and plea - - - - - sure yield.
 where rea - son, hope, and plea - sure yield, and plea - sure yield.
 field, where rea - son, hope and plea - - - - - sure yield.

Source: William Byrd, *Psalmes, Sonets, & songs of sadnes and pietie* (London, 1588), no.15.

- 1. Wher fancie fond for pleasure pleads,
and reason keeps poore hope in Jayle,
there time it is to take my beads,
and pray, that beautie may prevaile:
or else dispaire will win the field,
wher reason, hope, and pleasure yeeld.
- 2. My eyes presume to judge this case,
whose judgement reason doth disdain:
but beautie with her wanton face,
stands to defend, the case is plaine:
and at the barre of sweet delight,
she pleads that fancie must be rig
- 3. But shame will not have reason yeeld,
though grieffe doe swear it shall be so:
as though it were a perfect shield,
to blush and feare to tell my woe:
where silence force will at the last,
to wish for wit when hope is past.ht.
- 4. So farre hath fond desire out runne,
the bond which reason set out first:
that where delight the fray begun,
I would now say if that I durst:
that in her steed ten thousand woes,
have sprong in field where pleasure growes.
- 5. O that I might declare the rest,
of all the toies which fancie turnes:
like towres of winde within my brest,
where fire is hid that never burnes,
then should I try one of the twaine,
either to love, or to disdain.
- 6. But since conceit dares not declare,
the strange conflict of hope and feares
least reason should be left so bare,
that love durst whisper in mine eare,
and tell mee how my fancie shall,
bring reason to be beauties thrall.
- 7. I must therefore with silence build,
the Laborinth of my delight:
till Love hath try'd in open field,
which of the twaine shall win the fight:
I feare mee reason must give place,
If fancy fond win beauties grace.

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