

# Softly, O! drop mine eyes

John Wilbye  
(1574-1638)

Musical score for Soprano I, Soprano II, Alto I, Alto II, Tenor, and Bass, measures 1-9. The score is in common time (C) and begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. Soprano I and II have lyrics: *p* Soft- ly, soft- ly, O! soft - ly drop mine eyes, with a measure number 5 above the first measure. Alto I has a whole rest. Alto II has lyrics: *p* Soft - ly, O! soft - ly drop, mine eyes, lest. Tenor and Bass have whole rests.

Musical score for Soprano I, Soprano II, Alto I, Alto II, Tenor, and Bass, measures 10-19. The score continues in common time. Soprano I and II have lyrics: lest you be dry, And make my heart with grief to melt, with measure numbers 10 and 15 above the first and fifth measures respectively. Alto I has a whole rest. Alto II has lyrics: lest you be dry, And make my heart with grief, with. Tenor has lyrics: you be dry, And make my heart with, and a piano (*p*) dynamic marking below the final measure. Bass has a whole rest.

20

S and die. *f* Now pour out tears a - pace, now

grief \_\_\_\_\_ to melt and die. *f* Now

A \_\_\_\_\_ *f* Now pour out tears a -

grief to melt and \_\_\_\_\_ die. *f* Now pour out tears a - pace, a-pace,

T 8 to melt \_\_\_\_\_ and die. *f* Now pour out tears a -

B \_\_\_\_\_ *f* Now pour out tears a - pace,

25

S pour out tears a - pace, *p* now pour out tears a - pace,

pour out tears a - pace, *p* now pour out tears a - pace,

A pace, now pour out tears a - pace, *p* now

Now pour out tears a - pace, *p* now pour out tears a -

T 8 pace, now pour out tears a - pace, *p* now

B now pour out tears a - pace, \_\_\_\_\_ *p* now pour out tears a -

S  
Now stay, *f* O hea- vy case! *p* O sour

A  
pour out tears a - pace, *f* Now stay, O hea- vy case!

T  
8 pour out tears a - pace, *f* Now stay, O hea- vy case!

B  
pace, *f* Now stay, O hea- vy case!

now pour out tears a - pace, *f* Now stay, O hea- vy case! *p* O

S  
35 sweet woe! a-las! woe a-las! a - las! O grief! O joy! why strive

A  
40 *p* O grief! O joy! why strive

T  
8 sour sweet woe! a - las! a - las! O grief! O joy! why strive

B

S you so? Can griefs and joys, can griefs and  
 strive you so? Can griefs and joys, can griefs and  
 A you so? Can griefs and joys, can griefs and  
 you so? Can griefs and joys, can griefs and  
 T *p* Can griefs and joys, can griefs and joys at  
 B *p* Can griefs and joys at once con-sent, can griefs and joys at once con-sent, can

S joys at once in one poor heart con - sent? *f* Then sigh and sing, re -  
 joys, and joys in one poor heart con - sent? *f* Then sigh, then  
 A joys in one poor heart con - sent? *f* Then sigh, then  
 joys at once in one poor heart con - sent? *f* Then  
 T *p* once in one poor heart con - sent? *f* Then sigh and sing, re -  
 B griefs and joys in one poor heart con - sent? *f* Then sigh and sing, re -

S  
 joyce, la-ment, then sigh and sing, re - joyce, la - ment, la - ment.  
 sigh and sing, re - joyce, la-ment, then sigh and sing, re - joyce, la - ment. *p* Ah

A  
 sigh and sing, re - joyce, la-ment, then sigh and sing, re - joyce, la-ment, \_\_\_\_\_ la -  
 sigh and sing, re - joyce, then sigh and sing. \_\_\_\_\_ *p* Ah

T  
 8 joyce, la-ment, then sigh and sing. \_\_\_\_\_

B  
 joyce, la-ment, then sigh and sing, re - joyce, la-ment,

S  
*p* Ah \_\_\_\_\_ me! Ah \_\_\_\_\_ me! O \_\_\_\_\_ pas-sions  
*cresc.*

A  
 me! Ah \_\_\_\_\_ me! Ah \_\_\_\_\_ me! \_\_\_\_\_ O pas-sions  
*cresc.*  
 ment. *p* Ah me! Ah me! Ah me! O pas-  
*cresc.*  
 me! Ah me! Ah me! Ah me! O

T  
 8 *p* Ah me! Ah \_\_\_\_\_ me! Ah \_\_\_\_\_ me! \_\_\_\_\_ O  
*cresc.*

B  
*p* Ah me! Ah me! O pas - sions strange  
*cresc.*

S  
strange and vi- o - lent! *mf* Was ne- ver poor wretch

A  
strange and vi - o - lent! *mf* Was ne - ver poor wretch

A  
sions strange and vi- o - lent! *mf* Was ne - ver wretch

T  
pas - sions strange and vi - o - lent! *mf* Was ne - ver wretch so

T  
8 pas - sions strange and vi - o - lent! *mf* Was ne - ver wretch so sore tor -

B  
and vi- o - lent! *mf* Was ne - ver

S  
so sore tor - ment - ed: Nor joy, nor grief can make my heart con - tent -

A  
so sore tor - ment - ed, was ne - ver poor wretch so sore tor - ment -

A  
so sore tor - ment - ed: Nor joy, nor grief can make my heart con - tent -

T  
sore tor - ment - ed:

T  
8 ment - ed: Nor joy nor grief can make my heart con - tent -

B  
wretch so sore tor - ment - ed: Nor joy, nor grief can make my heart con - tent -

75

S ed. Was ne- ver poor wretch so sore tor - ment- ed: *p* Nor

ed: Nor joy, nor grief can make my heart con-tent- ed, *p* nor

A ed, nor joy, nor grief can make my heart

Nor joy, nor grief can make my heart *p* con -

T ed. Was ne - ver wretch so sore tor - ment- ed: *p* nor joy,

B ed. Was ne - ver wretch so sore tor - ment- ed: *p* Nor

80

S joy, nor grief can make my heart con- tent- ed.

joy, nor grief can make my heart con - tent- ed.

A *p* con-tent- ed. *f* For while with joy I look on

tent - ed, can make my heart con - tent - ed.

T nor grief, *f* For while with

B joy, nor grief, *f* Down, down I

85

S *f* For while with joy I look on high, Down, down I fall, with grief and—

A *f* Down, down I fall, \_\_\_\_\_ for while with high, Down, down I fall, with grief and—

T *f* For while with joy I look on high, joy I look on high, Down, down I fall, down, down I

B fall, \_\_\_\_\_ For while with joy I look on

90

S die, down, down I fall with grief and— die, down I

A joy I look on high, for while with joy I look on die, down, down I fall, down, down I fall, down, down I

T for while with joy I look on high, down, down I fall, fall, with grief, I look on

B high, for while with joy I look on high,



S fall. *p* down, down I fall, down, down I

high, *p* for while with joy I look on high,

A fall, *p* down, down I fall, down, down I fall, for while with joy I look on

*p* I look on high, down, down I fall

T high, *p* down, down I fall, down, down I fall, for while with

B *p* for while with joy I look on high, down, down I fall, down, down I

S fall, *f* for while with joy I look on

down, down I fall, down, down I fall, *f* down, down I fall, for while with

A high, for while with joy *f* I look on high,

down, down I fall, *f* down, down I

T joy I look on high, I look on high, *f* down, down I

B fall, down, down I fall, *f* down, down I fall,

S high, down, down I fall, for while with joy I look on high, down, down I  
 joy I look on high, down, down I fall, down, down I

A for while with joy I look on high, down, down I fall, for while with  
 fall, down, down I fall, down, down I fall, with grief and

T 8 fall with grief and die, and die,

B down, down I fall, down, down I fall with grief, with

105  
 S fall, down, down I fall *p* with grief, and die.  
 fall, down, down I fall, *p* with grief and die.

A joy I look on high, *p* I fall and die.  
 die, *p* down, down I fall with grief and die.

T 8 for while with joy *p* I look on high, down, down I fall and die.

B grief *p* and die.