

XIX. Shall I sue shall I seeke for grace

John Dowland

S
1. Shall I sue shall I seeke for grace, Shall I pray shall I prove,
2. Sil - ly wretch for - sake these dreames, of a vaine de - sire,
3. Pit - tie is but a poor man de - fence, for a dy - ing hart,
4. Jus - tice gives each man his owne though my love bee just,

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Lute
8
a c d c a a a c d a c a a

T	a	c	d	c	a	a	a	c	d	a	c	a	a	e
A	c	c	b	c	b	a	d	b	c	f	e			
B														

5
Shall I strive to a heaven - ly Joye, with an earth - ly love?
O be - thinks what hie re - gard, ho - ly hopes doe re - quire?
La - dies eies res - spect no mone, in a meane de - sert.
Yet will not shee pit - tie my grieffe, there - fore die I must,

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shall I strive to a hea - ven - ly Joye, with an earth - ly love,
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5
a a b c a d a c d c a a
b d d d f d c
c c a a a c c
d c a d d a c c a

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9

Shall I think that a bleed - ing hart or a wound - ed eye,
 Fa - vour is as faire as things are, trea - sure is not bought,
 Shee - ly hart to then yeeld to thie far, for a worth so base,
 Sil - ly hart then yeeld to die, then yeeld to die, pe - rish in dis - paire,

8

Shall I think that a bleed - ing hart or a wound - ed eye,
 Fa - vour is as faire as things are, trea - sure is not bought,
 Shee - ly hart then yeeld to die, then yeeld to die, pe - rish in dis - paire,

9

Shall I think, shall I think that a bleed - ing hart or a wound - ed eye,
 Fa - vour is, fa - vour is as faire as things are, trea - sure is not bought,
 Shee - ly hart, shee - ly hart is to wor - thie far, for a worth so base,
 Sil - ly hart, sil - ly hart then yeeld to die, then yeeld to die, pe - rish in dis - paire,

9

d a f d c d c a e a c d a a e
 b a c a a a b f b e f
 c c c c a d a c d a c

13

Or a sigh can as - cend the cloudes to at - taine so hie.
 Fa - vour is not wonne with words, nor in the wish of a thought.
 Cru - ell and but just is shee, die, When I die for dis - grace.
 Wit - nesse yet how faire I die, When I die for the faire.

13

or a sigh can as - cend the cloudes, as - cend the cloudes, to at - taine so hie.
 Fa - vour is not wonne with words, not wonne with words, nor the wish of a thought.
 Cru - ell and but just is shee, die, how faire I die, When I die for dis - grace.
 Wit - nesse yet how faire I die, When I die for the faire.

8

or a sigh can as - cend the cloudes, the words, cloudes, to at - taine so hie.
 Fa - vour is not wonne with words, with shee, die, I die, When I die for dis - grace.
 Cru - ell and but just is shee, die, I die, When I die for the faire.

13

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 Fa - vour is not wonne with words, with shee, die, I die, When I die for dis - grace.
 Cru - ell and but just is shee, die, I die, When I die for the faire.

13

a a d d c f d d c a a
 a a d d c f d d c a a
 b a b d a b d e a
 c c e a b b d c c a c c a

Notes:

1. The source for this edition is John Dowland's "The Second Book of Songs or Ayres, of 2, 4, and 5 parts." Printed by Thomas Este for Thomas Morley, 1600.
2. Words are spelled as they appear in the edition of 1600. Obvious printing errors have been corrected.
3. The key signatures are as they appear in the original.
4. Additional bar lines have been used.
5. The original is laid out for a group of singers/players around a table, with the words of the first verse under the music of each part. The remaining verses are printed out once, separately.
6. There are discrepancies between the lute part and voice parts, e.g. at bar 10.
7. Songs numbered I to VIII are two-part songs.