

If that a sinner's sighs

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Superius [Soprano] *The first singing part*

Medius [Alto]

Contratenor [Tenor]

Tenor [Tenor]

Bassus [Bass]

If that a sin - ner's sighs, if that a sin - ner's sighs be

If that a sin - ner's

If that a sin - ner's sighs, if that a sin - ner's

If that a sin - ner's sighs, if that a sin - ner's

If that a sin - ner's sighs, if that a sin - ner's

_____ An - gels' food, or that re - pent - ant

sighs, be An - gels' food, or that re - pent - ant

sighs be An - gels' food, or that re - pent - ant tears be

sighs be An - gels' food, or that re - pent - ant tears be An -

sighs be An - gels' food, or that re - pent - ant

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tears be An - gels' wine, An - gels' wine, ac - cept O

tears be An - gels' wine, ac - cept O Lord, ac - cept O

An - gels' wine, ac - cept O Lord, O Lord, ac - cept O

-gels' wine, An-gels' wine, be An - gels' wine, ac - cept O Lord, ac - cept O

tears be An - gels' wine, ac - cept O Lord, O Lord,

Lord, in this most pen - - - sive mood, these heart - y sighs and
 Lord, in this most pen - - - sive mood, these
 Lord, in this most pen - sive mood, most pen - sive mood, these
 Lord, in this most pen - sive mood, most pen - sive mood, these heart - y
 in this most pen - sive mood, these heart - y sighs,

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tears of mine, these heart - y sighs and tears of
 heart - y sighs, *these heart - y sighs* and faith - ful tears of
 heart - y sighs, and tears of mine, and
 sighs, *these heart - - y sighs* and faith - - ful tears
 and faith - ful tears of mine, of mine, and faith - ful tears of

mine: That went with Pe - ter forth most sin - ful - ly, most sin -
 mine: That went with Pe -
 tears of mine: That went with Pe - ter forth most
 of mine: That went with Pe - ter forth most sin - ful - ly, most
 mine: That went with Pe - ter forth most sin - ful - ly,

ful - ly, but not with Pe - ter wept most bit - ter -
 -ter forth most sin - ful - ly, but not with Pe - ter wept most
 — sin - ful - ly, but not with Pe - ter wept, wept most bit -
 sin - ful - ly, sin - ful - ly, but not with Pe - ter wept most bit -
 — most sin - ful - ly, but not with Pe - ter wept most bit -

- ly. That went with Pe - ter forth most sin - ful - ly, most sin -
 bit - ter - ly. That went with Pe -
 - ter - ly. That went with Pe - ter forth most
 - ter - ly. That went with Pe - ter forth most sin - ful - ly, most
 - ter - ly. That went with Pe - ter forth most sin - ful - ly,

- ful - ly, but not with Pe - ter wept most
 -ter forth most sin - ful - ly, but not with Pe -
 — sin - ful - ly, but not with Pe - ter wept,
 sin - ful - ly, sin - ful - ly, but not with
 — most sin - ful - ly, but not with Pe -

bit - ter - ly, with Pe - ter wept most bit - ter - ly.
 -ter wept, with Pe - ter wept most bit - ter - ly.
 with Pe - ter wept most bit - ter - ly.
 Pe - ter wept most bit - ter - ly, most bit - ter - ly.
 -ter wept most bit - ter - ly, wept most bit - ter - ly.

1. If that a sinners sighes, bee Angels food,
 or that repentaunt teares bee Angels wine,
 accept O Lord in this most pensive moode,
 these hartie sighes and faithfull teares of mine:
 That went with Peter forth most sinfullie,
 but not with Peter wept most bitterlie.
2. If I had Davids Crowne to mee betide,
 or all his purple robes that hee did weare,
 I would lay then such honor all aside,
 and onely seeke a sackcloth weede to beare,
 his Pallace would I leave that I might show,
 and mourne in cell for such offence, my woe.
3. Ther should these hands beat on my pensive brest
 and sad, to death, for sorrow rend my haire,
 my voice to call on thee, should never rest,
 whose grace I seeke, whose judgement I doe feare:
 upon the ground all groveling on my face,
 I would beseech thy favour and good grace.
4. But since I have not meane to make the show
 of my repentaunt minde, and yet I see
 my sinne to greater heape than Peters grow,
 wherby the daunger more it is to mee,
 I put my trust in his most precious bloud,
 whose life was paid to purchase all our good.
5. Thy mercie greater is then any sinne,
 thy greatnesse non can ever comprehend:
 wherefore O Lord, let mee thy mercie winne,
 whose glorious name no time can ever end:
 wherefore I say all prayse belongs to thee,
 whom I beseech bee mercifull to mee.

Source: William Byrd, *Psalmes, Sonets, & songs of sadnes and pietie* (London, 1588), no.30.

IV.16.1-4: underlay crowded; *pen* ♪♪ *sive* ♪♪ also possible.

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