

# Susanna fair

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Superius  
 Tenor  
 Bassus

Su - san - na fair some time as - sault - ed was, by two old  
 Su - san - na fair, some time as - sault - ed was,  
 Su - san - na fair some time, some time as - sault - ed was by

men, de - sir-ing their de-light, their de - light, which lewd in - tent, they thought to bring to  
 by two old men, de - sir-ing their de - light, which lewd in - tent, which lewd in -  
 two old men, de - sir-ing their de - light, which lewd in - tent they thought

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pass, if not by ten - der love, by ten - der love, if  
 - tent, which lewd in - tent they thought to bring to pass, if not by ten - der  
 to bring to pass, to bring to pass, if not by ten - der love, by force and

not by ten - der love, if not by ten - der love, by force and might, to  
 love, if not by ten - der love, by force and might, to  
 might, by force and might, by force and might, to

whom she said, to whom she said, if I your suit de - ny, you will me false - ly ac - cuse and  
 whom she said, if I your suit de - ny, your suit de - ny, you will me false - ly ac -  
 whom she said, to whom she said, if I your suit de - ny, de - ny, you will me false - ly ac -

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make me die, and make me die, and make me die.  
 -cuse, and make me die, me die and make me die, make me die.  
 -cuse, and make me die, and make me die.

And if I grant to that which you re-quest, my cha - sti - ty, shall then de -  
 And if I grant to that which you re-quest, my cha -  
 And if I grant to that which you re-quest,

-flower-ed be, shall then de-flower-ed be, my cha - sti - ty shall  
 -sti - ty shall then de-flower-ed be, my cha - sti - ty shall then de-flower-ed  
 my cha - sti - ty shall then de-flower - ed be, shall then de -

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then de - flower - ed be, which is so dear to me, that I de - test,  
 be, de - flower-ed be, which is so dear to me, to me, that I de -  
 -flower - ed be, which is so dear to me, to me, that I de - test my

my life, my life, if it be - reft - ed be from me, from  
 -test, my life, my life, if it be - reft - ed be from me, from  
 life, my life, if it be - reft - ed be from me,

me, and ra - ther would I die, and ra - ther would I die of mine ac -

me, and ra - ther would I die, and ra - ther would I die

and ra - ther would I die of mine ac - cord, of mine ac - cord, of

- cord, of mine ac - cord, ten thou - sand times, ten thou -

of mine ac - cord, of mine ac - cord, ten thou - sand times, ten

mine ac - cord, ten thou - sand times, ten thou - sand times,

<sup>40</sup> - sand times than once of - fend our Lord, of - fend our Lord, than once of - fend our Lord.

thou - sand times, ten thou - sand times than once of - fend our Lord, than once of - fend our Lord.

ten thou - sand times than once, than once of - fend our Lord, of - fend our Lord.

Source: William Byrd, *Songs of sundrie natures...* (London, 1589-1610), no.8.

Text: Anonymous translation of *Susanne un jour* (Guillaume Guérault).

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