

As I beheld I saw a herdman wild

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Superius
[Soprano]

Medius
[Alto]

Contratenor
[Tenor]

Tenor
[Tenor]

Bassus
[Bass]

As I be - held, I saw a herd - man

As I be - held, I saw a herd - man wild, a herd -

As I be - held, I saw a herd - man wild,

As I be - held, I saw a herd - man

As I be - held, I saw a herd - man wild,

wild, a herd - man wild, a herd - man wild with his sheep - hook

- man wild, as I be - held I saw a herd - man wild,

I saw a herd - man wild, with his sheep - hook

wild, as I be - held, I saw a herd - man wild,

10

with his sheep - hook a pic - ture fine de -

a pic - ture fine de - face, a pic - ture fine de - face,

with his sheep - hook a pic - ture, a pic - ture fine de -

a pic - ture fine de - face, with his sheep - hook a pic - ture fine de - face, de -

with his sheep - hook a pic - ture fine de - face, a pic - ture fine de -

-face, which he some - time his fan - cy to be - guile, had - face, which he some-time his fan - cy to be - guile, had - face, which he some - time his fan - cy to be -

to be - guile, had carved on bark of beech in se - cret - guile, had carved on bark of beech, of beech, in se - cret carved on bark of beech, in se - cret place, in se - cret carved on bark of beech, in se - cret place, - guile, had carved on bark of beech, in se - cret

20

place, and with de - place, and with de - spite of most af - flict - ed mind, af - flict - ed place, and with de - spite of most af - flict - ed mind, and with de - spite of most af - flict - ed mind, place, and with de - spite of most af - flict - ed mind, and with de -

-spite of most af - flict - ed mind,
 mind, through deep de - spair of heart, for love dis -
 and with de - spite of most af - flict - ed mind, through deep de -
 of most af - flict - ed mind, through deep de - spair of heart, for
 -spite of most af - flict - ed mind, through deep de -

30
 through deep de - spair, of heart, for love dis - mayed,
 -mayed, for love, dis - mayed, he pulled even
 -spair, of heart, of heart, for love dis - mayed, he pulled even
 love dis - mayed, through deep de - spair of heart, for love dis - mayed, he
 -spair, through deep de - spair of heart, for love dis - mayed, he pulled even

he pulled even from the tree, the carv - ed rind,
 from the tree, the carv - ed rind, and weep - ing
 from the tree, the carv - ed rind, and weep - ing sore these
 pulled even from the tree, the carv - ed rind, the carv - ed rind, the carv -
 from the tree, the carv - ed rind, the carv - ed rind, the carv - ed rind,

and weep - ing sore these woe - - ful words he said,
 sore these woe - - ful words, he said, he said, and
 woe - ful words he said, and weep - ing sore these woe -
 - ed rind, and weep - ing sore these woe - ful words, he
 and weep - ing sore, these woe - - ful words he said, and weep - ing

40

and weep - ing sore these woe - ful words he
 weep - ing sore these woe - ful words, these woe - ful words, he said, he
 -ful words he said, and weep - ing sore these woe - ful words he
 said, and weep - ing sore these woe - ful words, he said, he
 sore these woe - ful words he said, these woe - ful words, these woe - ful words he

said: ah **Phil - i - da**, ah **Phil - i - da**, would God
 said: ah **Phil - i - da**, ah **Phil - i - da**, would God thy pic - ture
 said: ah **Phil - i - da**, ah **Phil - i - da**, would God
 said, he said: ah **Phil - i - da**, **Phil - i - da**, ah **Phil - i - da**, would God
 said: ah **Phil - i - da**, ah **Phil - i - da**, would

50

thy pic - ture fair, I could as light - ly blot out of
 fair, I could as light - ly blot out of my
 thy pic - ture fair, I could as light - ly blot out, as
 thy pic - ture fair, I could as light - ly blot out
 God thy pic - ture fair, I could as light - ly blot out

my breast, then should I not thus rage,
 breast, blot out of my breast, then should I not thus rage, with
 light - ly blot out of my breast, then should I not thus
 of my breast, then should I not thus rage, with great
 of my breast, then should I not thus rage, with great de -

60

with great de - spite, and tear the thing some -
 great de - spite and tear the thing some - time I lik - ed
 rage, with great de - spite, and tear the thing some - time I lik -
 de - spite, de - spite, and tear the thing some - time I lik - ed best, some -
 -spite, with great de - spite, and tear the thing some - time

-time I lik - ed best: but all in
 best, I lik - ed best, I lik - ed best, but all in vain,
 - ed best, I lik - ed best, but all in vain, in vain, but all in vain, but
 -time I lik - ed best, but all in vain, but all in vain, but
 I lik - ed best, but all in vain, all in vain, but all

vain, but all in vain, it boot - eth not God wot,
 but all in vain, it boot - eth not God wot, God wot, what
 all in vain, it boot - eth not, it boot - eth not God wot,
 all in vain, it boot - eth not God wot, it boot - eth not God
 in vain, it boot - eth not God wot, it boot - eth not God wot,

⁷⁰
 what print - ed is in heart,
 print - ed is in heart, in heart, what print - ed is in
 what print - ed is in heart, on tree to
 wot, God wot, what print - ed is in heart, what print - ed
 what print - ed is in heart, on tree to blot, what

what print - ed is in heart, on tree to blot,
 heart, on tree to blot, on tree to blot, to blot,
 blot, what print - ed is in heart on tree to blot, but all in vain, in
 is in heart, on tree to blot, on tree to blot, but all in
 print - ed is in heart on tree to blot, but all in

80

but all in vain, but all in vain,
 but all in vain, but all in vain, it
 vain, but all in vain, but all in vain, it boot - eth
 vain, [but all in vain,] but all in vain, it boot - eth not God
 vain, all in vain, but all in vain, it boot - eth not God

it boot - eth not God wot, what
 boot - eth not God wot, God wot, what print - ed is in heart, in heart,
 not, it boot - eth not God wot, what print - ed is in heart,
 wot, it boot - eth not God wot, god wot, what print - ed
 wot, it boot - eth not God wot, what print - ed is in heart,

90

print - ed is in heart, what print - ed is in heart, on
 what print - ed is in heart, on tree to
 on tree to blot, what print - ed is in
 is in heart, what print - ed is in heart, on tree
 on tree to blot, what print - ed is in heart, on

tree to blot, on tree to blot.
 blot, on tree to blot, on tree to blot.
 heart, on tree to blot, on tree to blot.
 to blot, on tree to blot, on tree to blot.
 tree to blot, on tree to blot.

Source: William Byrd, *Psalms, Sonets, & songs of sadnes and pietie* (London, 1588), no.20.

III.17.1: *tree*

IV.34.3-5: underlay crowded; *carv ed* also possible

II.37.1-2: underlay crowded

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