

# All as a Sea

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Superius  
[Soprano]  
*The first singing part*

Medius  
[Alto]

Contratenor  
[Tenor]

Tenor  
[Tenor]

Bassus  
[Bass]

All as a  
All as a  
All as a Sea, the world no o - ther is, all as a  
All as a Sea, the world no o - ther is, no o - ther is,  
All as a Sea, the world no o - ther is,

Sea, the world no o - ther is, our selves are ships still toss - ed to and  
Sea, the world no o - - ther is, our selves are ships still toss - ed to and  
Sea, the world no o - - ther is, our selves are ships still toss - ed, still toss - ed to and  
no o - ther is, our selves are ships still toss - ed to  
all as a Sea, the world no o - ther is, our selves are ships still toss - ed to and

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fro, and lo, each man, his love to that or this, is  
fro, and lo, each man, his love to that, and lo, each man his love to that or this, is like a  
fro, and lo, each man, his love to that or this, his love to that or this, is like a storm,  
and fro, and lo, each man, his love to that or this, his love to that or this, is like a  
fro, and lo, each man, and lo, each man, his love to that or this, is

like a storm, that drives the ship to go, that thus our life in  
 storm, that drives the ship to go, that thus our life in doubt of  
 that drives, that drives the ship to go, that thus our life in doubt of ship-  
 storm, that drives the ship to go, that thus our life in doubt of  
 like a storm, that drives the ship to go, that thus our life in doubt of ship-wrack

doubt of ship - wrack stands, our wills the rocks, our want of skill the  
 ship - - wrack stands, our want of skill the  
 - wrack stands, of ship-wrack stands, our wills the rocks, our want of skill the  
 ship - wrack stands, of ship-wrack stands, our wills the rocks, our want of skill the sands, the  
 stands, of ship - wrack stands, our wills the rocks, our want of skill the

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 sands. That thus our life in doubt of ship - wrack  
 sands. That thus our life in doubt of ship - - wrack  
 sands, the sands. That thus our life in doubt of ship - wrack stands, of ship-wrack  
 sands. That thus our life in doubt of ship - wrack stands, of ship-wrack  
 sands. That thus our life in doubt of ship - wrack stands, of ship - wrack

stands, our wills the rocks, our want of skill the sands.

stands, our want of skill the sands.

stands, our wills the rocks, our want of skill the sands.

stands, our wills the rocks, our want of skill the sands, the sands.

stands, our wills the rocks, our want of skill the sands.

1. Al as a Sea, the world no other is,  
our selves are ships still tossed to & fro,  
and loe, each man, his love to that or this,  
is like a storme, that drives the ship to goe,  
that thus our life in doubt of shipwrack stands,  
our wils the rocks, our want of skill the sands.
2. Our passions be Pirates still that spoyle,  
and overboard cast's out our reasons freight:  
the Marriners that day and night doe toyle,  
bee our conceits that doe on pleasure waight:  
pleasure Master doth tirannize the Ship,  
and giveth Vertue secretly the nip.
3. The compasse is a minde to compasse all,  
both pleasure, profit, place and fame, for naught:  
the windes that blow men overweening call,  
the Merchandise is wit full deerely bought:  
tryal the Anker cast upon experience,  
for labor, lyfe and all a doe the recompence.

Source: William Byrd, *Psalmes, Sonets, & songs of sadnes and pietie* (London, 1588), no.28.

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