

Why presumes thy pride

The Third and Fourth Booke of Ayres (1617)

Thomas Campion (1567 - 1620)

Why pre - sumes thy pride on that_ that must so pri - vate be?

Scarce that it can good be cal'd though it_ seemes_ best to thee.
Best of all that Nat - ure fram'd, or cu - rious_ eye can see.

2. Tis thy beauty, foolish Maid, that like a blossome growes,
Which who viewes no more enjoyes then on a bush a Rose,
That by manies handling fades; and thou art one of those.
3. If to one thou shalt prove true, and all beside reject,
Then art thou but one mans good, which yeelds a poore effect;
For the common'st good by farre deserves the best respect.
4. But if for this goodnesse thou thy selfe wilt common make,
Thou art then not good at all; so thou canst no way take
But to prove the meanest good, or else all good forsake.
5. Be not then of beauty proud, but so her colours beare,
That they prove not staines to her that them for grace would weare;
So shalt thou to all more fayre then thou were borne appeare.