

White as lilies was her face

John Dowland

White as Li- lies was her face,
 When I swore my heart her own,
 Vows and oaths and faith as- sured,
 Oh that Love should have the art,
 All in vain is la- dies' love,
 For my heart, though set at naught,

The first system of musical notation for the song. It features a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature (C). The melody is written on a five-line staff. Below the staff, there are three staves of lute tablature, with letters 'a', 'b', and 'r' indicating fret positions. The lyrics are written in a justified, poetic style, with line breaks corresponding to the musical phrases.

When she smil- ed she be- guil- ed,
 She dis- dain- ed, I com- plain- ed,
 con- stant ev- er, chang- ing nev- er,
 by sur- mi- ses and dis- gui- ses,
 quick- ly choos- ed, short- ly los- ed,
 Since you will it, spoil and kill it!

The second system of musical notation, continuing the melody and lute tablature. The lyrics continue the narrative of the song, maintaining the same poetic formatting and line alignment with the music.

Quit- ting faith with foul dis- grace,
 Yet she left me ov- er- thrown,
 Yet she could not be pro- cur'd,
 To des- troy a faith- ful heart,
 For their pride is to re- move,
 I will nev- er change my thoughts, but

The third system of musical notation, concluding the piece. It includes a small square box with the number '5' in the left margin, likely indicating a page or measure number. The musical notation and lute tablature continue to the end of the system.

Vir- tue, ser- vice thus ne- glect- ed,
 Care- less of my bit- ter griev- ing,
 to be- lieve my pains ex- ceed- ing,
 or that wan- ton look- ing wo- men,
 out a- las their first won us,
 grieve that Beau- ty e'er was born, and

Heart with sor- row
 Ruth- less bent to-
 from her scant ne-
 should and re- ward their -
 and so I'll pride hath -
 as -

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hath in- fect- ed.
 no re- liev- ing.
 glect pro- ceed- ing.
 friends as foe- men.
 straight un- done us.
 one for- lorn. -