

# Love's Sweet Repose

Robert Herrick or Thomas Carew<sup>(1)</sup>

Henry Lawes

*Select Muslicall Ayres and Dialogues ... John Playford* (London 1652), part 1, p. 8

Edited by Christopher Baum

A - midst the myr - tles as I walk, Love and my

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sighs thus en - ter talk; Tell me, said I, in deep dis -

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tress, Where I may find my shep - herd - ess.

(1) The text has been credited to both poets. It appears in Carew's *Poems* (1640) under the title "The Enquiry", and in Herrick's *Hesperides* (1648) under the heading "Mrs Elizabeth Wheeler, under the name of The Lost Shepherdess". The text as set by Lawes is closer to the version in Carew's volume. In the second stanza, for instance, Herrick's text reads "In yond' carnation" where Carew (and Lawes) have "In yonder tulip".

John Playford reprinted this song twice, first in his *Select Muslicall Ayres and Dialogues* of 1653, then again in his *Select Ayres and Dialogues* of 1659. The song was newly typeset in each instance, but the three editions are identical apart from minor differences of spelling and punctuation in the text. There are no musical differences whatever.

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Then, fool, (said Love,) know'st thou not this,  
In every thing that's good she is,  
In yonder tulip go and seek,  
There thou shalt find her lip and cheek.

In that enamelled fancy by  
There shalt thou find her curious eye;  
In bloom of peach, in rose's bud  
There was the streams of her blood.

'Tis true, said I, and thereupon,  
And went and plucked them one by one  
To make a part a union,  
But on a sudden all was gone.

At which I stopped; said Love, these be,  
Fond man, resemblances of thee;  
For as these flowers thy joy must die,  
Even in the turning of an eye.

And all thy hopes of her must wither,  
As do those flowers when knit together.