

ORLANDO GIBBONS, WHAT IS OUR LIFE?
(The First Set of Madrigals and Mottets, 1612, no. 14)

CANTVS

5

What is our life? _____ our _____ life? a

ALTVS

QVINTVS

What is our life? _____ a ___ play _____ of pas - si -

TENOR

What _____

BASSVS

10

play of ___ pas - sion,

What is our life? _____ a ___ play of pas - sion, of _____

- on, a _____ play _____ of ___ pas - si - on,

is our life? _____ a _____ play of pas - sion,

What _____ is our life? _____

Orlando Gibbons, *What is our life*, p. 2

15

ij.
pas - si - on, what, &c.
what is our life? what,
a play of pas - si - on, what, &c.
a play of pas - sion,

20

what is our life?
&c. what, &c.
what is our life? our life?

Orlando Gibbons, *What is our life*, p. 3

25

our life? a play of pas - si - on, Our mirth

what, &c.

a play of pas - - si - on, Our

30

Our mirth the mu - sic of di - vi - si - on, of di - vi - si - on,

the mu - sic, the mu - sic of di - vi - si - on, our, &c.

Our mirth the mu - sic of di - vi - si - on, Our mirth the mu -

mirth the mu - sic of di - vi - si - on, of di - vi - si - on, our, &c.

Orlando Gibbons, *What is our life*, p. 4

35

Our moth-er's wombs the tir-

our, &c.

our, &c.

- sic of di-vi-si-on, our, &c. Our

Our moth-er's

40

- ing hou - ers be, Where

Our moth-er's wombs, our, &c. the tir - ing, the tir - ing hou - ers

Our moth-er's wombs the tir - ing hou - ers

moth - er's wombs, our, &c. the tir - ing hou - ers be,

wombs the tir - ing hou - ers be,

Orlando Gibbons, *What is our life*, p. 5

45

we are dressed _____ for this short com - e - dy, Heaven _____
be, Where we are dressed, _____ are dressed for this short
be, Heaven _____ the ju -
Where we are dressed _____ for this short com - e -
Where we are dressed, are dressed for this short com -

50

_____ the ju - dic - ious sharp spec - ta - tor is,
com - e - dy, Heaven _____ the ju - dic - ious
- dic - ious sharp spec - ta - tor _____ is, Heaven, &c.
- dy, short com - e - dy,
- e - dy, Heaven _____ the ju - dic - ious sharp spec -

Orlando Gibbons, *What is our life*, p. 6

55

That sits and marks still who doth act a -
sharp spec - ta - tor, spec - ta - tor is, That sits and marks, that
That sits and marks still who doth act -
spec - ta - tor - is, That sits and marks, that
- ta - tor - is, That sits and marks who

60

- miss, that, &c.
&c. still who doth act a - miss, that sits and marks, marks still
- a - miss, that, &c. still who doth act
sits and marks still who doth act a - miss, still who doth act a - miss, that, &c.
doth a - miss, that sits and marks still who doth act a - miss, still

Orlando Gibbons, *What is our life*, p. 7

65

Our graves ij.

who doth act a - miss, Our graves that hide, ___

a - miss, Our graves that hide, ___

Our graves that hide, ___

who doth act a - miss, Our graves that hide, ___

70

___ that hide ___ us from ___ the

___ us from ___ the search - ing

___ us from the search - ing sun, that, &c.

___ us from the search - ing sun, from ___ the search - ing

___ that hide us from ___ the search - ing

Orlando Gibbons, *What is our life*, p. 8

75

search - ing sun, Are like drawn cur -
sun, Are like drawn
Are like drawn cur - tains,
sun, the search - ing sun, Are like drawn cur - tains,
sun, Are like drawn cur - tains,

80

- tains when the play is done,
cur - tains when the play is done, when, &c.
when the play is done, are, &c.
drawn cur - tains when
when the play is done, when, &c.

Orlando Gibbons, *What is our life*, p. 9

85

when _____ the _ play _____

when _____ the _ play _____ is done, _____ is _____

_____ the play is ___ done, the ___ play is ___

90

_____ is ___ done, _____ the _ play _____ is done, _____ are, _ like drawn cur - tains _____

done, are, &c. the

are, &c.

done, are, _ like drawn cur - tains when the ___ play is

Orlando Gibbons, *What is our life*, p. 10

95

when the play is done, Thus march we play - ing, _____
play is _____ done, Thus march _____ we play - ing, thus,
_____ Thus march we play -
done, _____ Thus march _____ we play - ing, thus
_____ Thus march we play - ing, to our lat - est rest,

100

thus &c. _____ thus march we _____ play - ing,
&c. _____ thus march _____ we play - ing,
- ing, _____ thus, &c. _____ thus march we play - ing,
march we play - ing, _____ thus, &c. _____ thus march we play - ing,
_____ thus, &c. _____ our

Orlando Gibbons, *What is our life*, p. 11

105

to our lat - est rest, thus march we play - ing, thus march we _____ play - ing, to our
thus, &c. thus march we play - ing to our lat - est
to our lat - est rest, our lat - est rest, thus, &c.
to our lat - est rest, thus, &c.
lat - est rest, thus

Detailed description: This block contains five staves of musical notation for measures 105 through 109. The music is in a minor key with a common time signature. The lyrics are distributed across the staves, with some lines having gaps (indicated by underscores) where the notes are not yet written. The lyrics include: 'to our lat - est rest, thus march we play - ing, thus march we _____ play - ing, to our', 'thus, &c. thus march we play - ing to our lat - est', 'to our lat - est rest, our lat - est rest, thus, &c.', 'to our lat - est rest, thus, &c.', and 'lat - est rest, thus'.

110

lat - - - est rest, thus, &c.
rest, thus, &c. thus,
thus march we play - ing to our _____ lat - est
thus, &c. thus, &c.
march we play - ing thus, &c.

Detailed description: This block contains five staves of musical notation for measures 110 through 114. The music continues from the previous block. The lyrics are: 'lat - - - est rest, thus, &c.', 'rest, thus, &c. thus,', 'thus march we play - ing to our _____ lat - est', 'thus, &c. thus, &c.', and 'march we play - ing thus, &c.'.

Orlando Gibbons, *What is our life*, p. 12

115

On - ly we die, we die in earn -

&c. On - ly we die in earn - est, that's

rest, On - ly we die in earn - est, that's no

On - ly we die,

On - ly we

120

- est that's no jest, we die in earn - est, that's no jest.

no jest, we, &c.

jest, in earn - est, that's no jest.

we die in earn - est, that's no jest.

die in earn - est, that's no jest, no jest.