

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

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?

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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?

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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.

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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,

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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 -

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

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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

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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.

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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

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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

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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 words appearing on multiple staves. The notation includes various note values, rests, and accidentals.

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 distributed across the staves, with some words appearing on multiple staves. The notation includes various note values, rests, and accidentals.

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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.