

Disdain me still

Words ascribed to William, Earl of Pembroke John Dowland

The musical score consists of four staves. The top three staves are for voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor) and the bottom staff is for the basso continuo (bassoon and harpsichord). The music is in common time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the staves, with some words aligned with specific notes or groups of notes. The basso continuo part includes lettered note heads (a, b, c, d, e, f) corresponding to a specific pitch and rhythm, likely indicating a drone or a set of harmonic guidelines.

1

Dis- dain me still, that I may ev- - er love,
As heat to life, so is de- sire - to love,
1
a a a a
r r r r
a b r e
r e r e r r
e
5
For who his Love en- joys - can love, can
And these once quench'd both life, - both life and
1
r r r r
f e f e
r r d r
r e a a
a a r
10
love no - - more. The war - - once past, with ease
love, and love are gone. Let not - - my tears, my tears
1
r r r r
a d e r
d e e d
a g a r a r
f r f e
15
- men cow- - ards prove: And ships re- - turn'd do -
- thy vir- - tue move, Like bas- er - - met- tals -
1
r r r r
a r a a
a r e a
f e f d
f a f d a
f a f d a
e a a a
a

[20]

rot up- on the shore. And - though thou frown, I'll
do not melt too soon. Laugh - at my woes al-

say thou art most fair, most - - fair: And still I'll
though I ev- er mourn, ev- - er mourn, Love sur- - .

- love, and still I'll - love, I'll love, though still, though
feits, love sur- feits - with re- ward, his nurse is .

still - I must des- pair.
scorn, - his nurse is scorn.