5. O dear life

Poem by Sir Philip Sidney

Anonymous

O dear life. when shall it be, not,
O if I my self find thee,
Thought there- fore will I send bear,
Thought, see thou no place for- cease,
O my thoughts, my thoughts, sur-

that mine eyes thine eyes may see,
by thine ab- sence oft for- got,
to take ter up the place for me;
en- brave- ly ev- 'ry- where,
your de- lights my woes in- crease,

and in them thy mind dis- co- ver,
nor de- barr'd from beau- ty's trea- sure:
long I will not af- ter long- ry:
seize on all to her be- ing:
my life fleets with too much think- ing:

1) Note added by editor. Same in bar 24.

Robert Dowland A Musicall Banquet (1610), f.d1v. Encoded and edited by Sarge Gerbode.

Lyrics (underlay, by verse):

1. whe- ther ab- sence hath had force, thy re- mem- brance to di- vorce from the im- age of my lov- er?
2. Let no tongue as- pire to tell in what high I shall dwell, on- ly thought aims at the plea- sure.
3. There un- seen thou may'st be bold, those fair won- ders to be- hold, which in them my hopes do car- ry.
4. But if thou would'st guard- ed be, fear- ing her beams, take with thee strength of lik- ing, rage of long- ing.
5. Think no more, but die in me 'till thou shalt re- cei- ved be, at her lips my nec- tar drink- ing.