

# Sweet stay a while

To my worthy friend Mr. *William Jewel* of Exceter Colledge in Oxford

John Dowland (c.1563-1626)

Cantus

Altus

Tenor

Bassus

Lute

Sweet stay a while, why will you rise? The

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Lute tuning: (D), G, c, f, a, d', g'

light you see comes from your eyes: The day breaks not, it is my

light you see comes from your eyes: The day breaks, breaks not, it is my

light you see comes from your eyes: The day breaks not, it is my

light you see comes from your eyes: The day breaks not, it is my

Lute tuning: (D), G, c, f, a, d', g'

heart, To think that you and I must part.

heart, To think that you and I must part.

heart, To think that you, that you, that you and I must part.

heart, To think that you, that you and I must part.

Lute tuning: (D), G, c, f, a, d', g'

O stay, O stay, or else my joys, my joys, my joys must die,  
 O stay, stay, stay; O stay, stay, stay, or else my joys, my

die, And pe - rish in their in - fan - cy.  
 my joys must die, And pe - rish in their in - fan - cy.  
 joys must die, must die, die, my joys must die, And pe - rish in their in - fan - cy.  
 joys, my joys must die, and pe - rish in their in - fan - cy.

Sweet stay a while, why will you rise?  
 The light you see comes from your eyes:  
 The day breakes not, it is my heart,  
 To thinke that you and I must part.  
 O stay, or else my joyes must dye,  
 And perish in their infancie.

Deare let me dye in this faire breast,  
 Farre sweeter then the Phoenix next.  
 Love raise desire by his sweete charmes  
 Within this circle of thine armes:  
 And let thy blissefull kisses cherish  
 Mine infant joyes, that else must perish.

attrib. John Donne (1572-1631)

Source: John Dowland, *A Pilgrimes Solace* (London, 1612), no.2.

5: ts **c** (voices), **c** (lute)

I.19.6: redundant sharp (= natural)