

# Welcome black night

John Dowland (c.1563-1626)

Cantus primus

Cantus secundus  
Wel - come, wel - come black night, Hy-men's fair

Tenor

Quintus

Bassus

Lute

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

10

day, help, help, help Hy-men Love's due debt to pay,

Love's due debt is chaste de-light, which if the tur-tles,

20

the tur-tles, the tur-tles want to-night, Hy-men for-feits

his De-i-ty, and night in love, in love her dig-ni-ty,

30

Help, help black night Hy - men's fair day, Help

Chord letters: c, d, e, a, b, c, e, a, c, e, a, c, e

/a

40 [o → o.]

Hy - men, help Hy - men Love's due debt to pay.

Chord letters: a, a, b, a, b, c, a, d, b, a, d, a, a, e, d, a, c, a, a, e, d, a

3/2

Chorus [o → o.]

Hy - men, O Hy - men, mine of trea - sures more di - vine, what de - i -

Hy - men, O Hy - men, mine of trea - sures more di - vine, what de - i - ty

Hy - men, O Hy - men, mine of trea - sures more di - vine, what de - i - ty, what de - i -

Hy - men, O Hy - men, mine of trea - sures more di - vine, what de - i - ty

Hy - men, O Hy - men, mine of trea - sures more di - vine, what de - i - ty is like,

Chord letters: a, c, d, d, f, d, a, b, a, c, d, d, d, d, f, d, d, f, d, d, d, f, d, d, d, f, f, e, f, f, f, e

50

-ty is like to thee, that free - est from mor - ta - li - ty?  
 is like to thee that free - est from mor - ta - li - ty?  
 -ty is like to thee, that free - est from mor - ta - li - ty?  
 is like to thee, to thee, that free - est from mor - ta - li - ty?  
 is like to thee, that free - est from mor - ta - li - ty?

$\begin{matrix} a & a & a & a & a & a & a & a & a \\ f & c & c & d & a & b & c & d & e & a & f & e & a & a \\ & & & c & c & c & d & a & a & b & d & e & c & c \\ & & & & a & a & a & c & c & a & c & e & c & a \end{matrix}$

Welcome black night, *Hymens* faire day,  
 help *Hymen* Loves due debt to pay,  
 Loves due debt is chaste delight,  
 which if the turtles want to night,  
*Hymen* forfeits his Dietie,  
 and night in love her dignitie.  
 Help, help blacke night *Hymens* faire day,  
 Help *Hymen* Loves due debt to pay.

Chorus  
*Hymen*, O *Hymen*, myne of treasures more divine,  
 what dietie is like to thee that freest from mortalitie?

Stay (happy paire) stay but a while,  
*Hymen* comes not, love to beguile,  
 These sports are alluring baite,  
 And sawce are to Loves sweetest Cates:  
 Longing hope doth no hurt but this,  
 It heightens Loves attained blisse.  
 Then stay (most happie) stay a while,  
*Hymen* comes not, Love to beguile.

Source: John Dowland, *A Pilgrimes Solace* (London, 1612), no.20.

Lute.12: c string *a* (= c), f string *c* (= g)

I, III-V: 30 semibreves' rest (II has 29) before *Chorus*.  
 (The existence of these rests in II suggests that many voices to a part are intended in the Chorus)

42: *ts* 3, all parts  
 V.42: wrongly-placed F4 clef (for F3); *ks* missing e flat  
 Lute.42.3: a string *c* (= b natural)

43: *ts* C, all parts. Clef & *ks* in V corrected  
 III.44.1: d'  
 All parts, 51: the editor can think of no way to avoid the triple *e* in the disyllable *free-est*