

# Now, O Now, I Needs Must Part

John Dowland

The image shows a musical score for a four-part vocal setting. The title is "Now, O Now, I Needs Must Part" by John Dowland. The score is written in 3/2 time and consists of four staves: Cantus (Soprano), Altus (Alto), Tenor, and Bassus (Bass). Each staff has a treble clef (except for Bassus which has a bass clef) and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are printed below each staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across two notes. The lyrics are: "Now, O, now, I needs must part, / While I live I needs must love, / Dear, when from thee I am gone, / And, al - though your sight I leave, / Dear, if I do not re - turn, / Part, we must, though now I die,". The Cantus part starts with a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4, a half note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, and a whole note A4. The Altus part starts with a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4, a half note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, and a whole note A4. The Tenor part starts with a whole note G3, followed by a half note A3, a half note B3, a quarter note C4, a quarter note B3, and a whole note A3. The Bassus part starts with a whole note G2, followed by a half note A2, a half note B2, a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, and a whole note A2.

**Cantus**

Now, O, now, I needs must part,  
While I live I needs must love,  
Dear, when from thee I am gone,  
And, al - though your sight I leave,  
Dear, if I do not re - turn,  
Part, we must, though now I die,

**Altus**

Now, O, now, I needs must part,  
While I live I needs must love,  
Dear, when from thee I am gone,  
And, al - though your sight I leave,  
Dear, if I do not re - turn,  
Part, we must, though now I die,

**Tenor**

Now, O, now, I needs must part,  
While I live I needs must love,  
Dear, when from thee I am gone,  
And, al - though your sight I leave,  
Dear, if I do not re - turn,  
Part, we must, though now I die,

**Bassus**

Now, O, now, I needs must part,  
While I live I needs must love,  
Dear, when from thee I am gone,  
And, al - though your sight I leave,  
Dear, if I do not re - turn,  
Part, we must, though now I die,

⑤

par - ting though I ab - sent mourn. Ab - sence  
Love live not when hope is gone: Now, at  
Gone are all my joys at once. I lov'd  
slight where - in my joys do lie, 'Till that  
Love and I shall die to - geth'r. For my des-  
Die I do to part with you; Him des-

par - ting though I ab - sent mourn. Ab - sence  
Love live not when hope is gone: Now, at  
Gone are all my joys at once. I lov'd  
slight where - in my joys do lie, 'Till that  
Love and I shall die to - geth'r. For my des-  
Die I do to part with you; Him des-

par - ting though I ab - sent mourn. Ab - sence  
Love live not when hope is gone: Now, at  
Gone are all my joys at once. I lov'd  
slight where - in my joys do lie, 'Till that  
Love and I shall die to - geth'r. For my des-  
Die I do to part with you; Him des-

10

can no joy im - part, joy, once fled, can - not re-  
 last, des - pair doth prove, Love di - vi - ded lov - eth  
 thee and thee a - lone, in whose love I joy - ed  
 Death do sense be - reave, ne - ver shall af - fect - ion  
 ab - sence ne - ver mourn, whom you might have join'd ev -  
 pair doth cause to lie, who both lov'd and die - th

can no joy im - part, joy, once fled, can - not re-  
 last, des - pair doth prove, Love di - vi - ded lov - eth  
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 ab - sence ne - ver mourn, whom you might have join'd ev -  
 pair doth cause to lie, who both lov'd and die - th

15

- turn. none. once. die. - er. true. Sad des - pair doth drive me hence,

- turn. none. once. die. - er. true. Sad des - pair doth drive me hence,

- turn. none. once. die. - er. true. Sad des - pair doth drive me hence, this des-

- turn. none. once. die. - er. true. Sad des - pair doth drive me hence, me hence,

20

musical score for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) with lyrics. The score is written in treble clef for the top three parts and bass clef for the bottom part. The lyrics are: "this des-pair un-kind-ness sends. If that part-ing".

Soprano: this des-pair un-kind-ness sends. If that part-ing

Alto: this des-pair un-kind-ness sends. If that part-ing

Tenor: - pair, des-pair un-kind-ness sends. If that part-ing

Bass: this des-pair un-kind-ness sends. If that part-ing

25

be of - fence, it is she which then of - fends!

be of - fence, it is she which then of - fends!

be of - fence, it is she which then of - fends!

be of - fence, it is she which then of - fends!

The image shows a musical score for four voices: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. Each voice part is on a separate staff. The lyrics are: "be of - fence, it is she which then of - fends!". The Soprano part starts with a circled number 25. The music is written in a common time signature. The lyrics are aligned with the notes on each staff.