

# What Is Our Life?

Orlando Gibbons (1583 - 1625)

Sostenuto e Espressivo

s  
What is our life, our life? A play of pas - si - on,

a  
What is our life? a play of pas - si - on, a play of pas -

t1  
What is our life? a play of pas - si -

t2  
What is our life? a play of pas - si -

b  
What

15  
what is our life, what is our  
- si-on, what is our life, what is our life, what  
on, of pas - si - on, what is our life? a play of pas - si -  
on, a play of pas-si-on, what is our life? a play  
is our life? a play of pas - si - on, what is our life, our

20  
life? our life? a play of pas - si - on. Our mirth the mu-sic of  
is our life? a play of pas - si - on. Our  
on. Our mirth the mu - sic,  
of pas - si on, what is our life? a play of pas - si - on.  
life? a play of pas - si - on. Our mirth the mu - sic of di - vi-si-on, Our mirth the mu - sic of di - vi-si-on,

28

di-vi-si-on, of di-vi-si-on.

mirth the mu-sic of di-vi-si-on, our mirth the mu-

the mu-sic of di-vi-si-on, our mirth the mu-sic of di-vi-si-on, our

Our mirth the mu-sic of di-vi-si-on, our mirth the mu-

of di-vi-si-on, our mirth the mu-sic of di-vi-si-on,

33

Our mo-ther's wombs the 'tir-ing hou-ses be,

- sic of di-vi-si-on.

mirth the mu-sic of di-vi-si-on. Our mo-ther's wombs, our mo-

- sic of di-vi-si-on. Our mo-ther's wombs, our

our mo-ther's wombs the 'tir-ing hou-

38

where we are dress'd for this short

Our mo-ther's wombs the 'tir-ing hou-ses be,

- ther's wombs, the 'tir-ing, the 'tir-ing hou-ses be, where we are dress'd, are

mo-ther's wombs the 'tir-ing hou-ses be, where we are dress'd

- ses be, where we are dress'd, are dress'd for

44

co - me - dy. Heav'n the ju - di - cious sharp spec - ta - tor is,  
 Heav'n the ju - di - cious sharp spec - ta - tor is, heav'n the ju - di -  
 dress'd for this short co - me - dy. Heav'n the ju - di - cious  
 for this short co - me - dy, short co - me - dy.  
 this short co - me - dy. Heav'n the ju - di - cious sharp spec -

51

that sits and marks still who doth act a - miss,  
 - cious sharp spec - ta - tor is that sits and marks still who doth act a - miss,  
 sharp spec - ta - tor, spec - ta - tor is, that sits and marks, that sits and marks still  
 Spec - ta - tor is, that sits and marks, that sits and marks still  
 - ta - tor is, that sits and marks who doth a - miss,

57

that sits and marks still who doth act a - miss. Our  
 that sits and marks still who doth act a - miss, still who doth act a - miss.  
 who doth act a - miss, that sits and marks, marks still who doth act a - miss.  
 who doth act a - miss, still who doth act a - miss, that sits and marks still who doth act a - miss.  
 that sits and marks still who doth act a - miss, still who doth act a - miss.

63

graves, our graves, that hide us from the search - ing

Our graves that hide us from the search-ing sun, that hide us from the search-

Our graves that hide us from the search - ing

Our graves that hide us from the search - ing sun, from the search-ing sun, the

Our graves that hide, that hide us from the search - ing sun

72

sun are like drawn cur - tains when the play is done,

- ing sun are like drawn cur - tains when the play is done, are like drawn cur-

sun are like drawn cur - tains when the play is done, when the play is

search-ing sun are like drawn cur-tains, drawn cur - tains when

are like drawn cur - tains when the play is done, when the play

81

when the play is done, the play is done,

- tains when the play is done,

done, when the play is done, is done, are like drawn cur - tains

the play is done, the play is done, are like drawn cur - tains

is done.

89

are like drawn cur - tains when the play is done. Thus march we,  
 are like drawn cur - tains when the play is done. Thus  
 when the play is done, the play is done. Thus march we, play - ing,  
 when the play is done. Thus march we, play - ing,  
 Thus march we, play - ing, to our

Detailed description: This musical block contains measures 89 through 94. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line has five staves, with the first three staves containing lyrics and the last two staves containing lyrics and a final line of text. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass clefs) with notes and rests. Measure 89 starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature. The lyrics 'are like drawn cur - tains when the play is done. Thus march we,' are spread across the first five vocal staves. Measure 90 continues the vocal line with 'are like drawn cur - tains when the play is done. Thus'. Measure 91 has 'when the play is done, the play is done. Thus march we, play - ing,'. Measure 92 has 'when the play is done. Thus march we, play - ing,'. Measure 93 has 'Thus march we, play - ing, to our'. Measure 94 is the start of the next section.

95

play - ing, thus march we, play - ing, thus march we,  
 march we, play - ing, thus march we, play - ing, thus march we,  
 thus march we, play - ing, thus march we, play - ing,  
 thus march we, play - ing, thus march we, play - ing, thus  
 lat - est rest, thus march we, play - ing, to our

Detailed description: This musical block contains measures 95 through 99. It continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment from the previous section. The vocal line has five staves, with the first three staves containing lyrics and the last two staves containing lyrics and a final line of text. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass clefs) with notes and rests. Measure 95 starts with 'play - ing, thus march we, play - ing, thus march we,'. Measure 96 has 'march we, play - ing, thus march we, play - ing, thus march we,'. Measure 97 has 'thus march we, play - ing, thus march we, play - ing,'. Measure 98 has 'thus march we, play - ing, thus march we, play - ing, thus'. Measure 99 has 'lat - est rest, thus march we, play - ing, to our'.

100

play - ing to our lat - est rest, thus march we, play - ing, thus march we,  
 play - ing, to our lat - est rest, our lat - est rest, thus march we,  
 thus march we, play - ing, thus march we, play - ing,  
 march we, play - ing, to our lat - est rest, thus march we, play - ing, to our  
 lat - est rest, our lat - est rest,

Detailed description: This musical block contains measures 100 through 104. It continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line has five staves, with the first three staves containing lyrics and the last two staves containing lyrics and a final line of text. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass clefs) with notes and rests. Measure 100 starts with 'play - ing to our lat - est rest, thus march we, play - ing, thus march we,'. Measure 101 has 'play - ing, to our lat - est rest, our lat - est rest, thus march we,'. Measure 102 has 'thus march we, play - ing, thus march we, play - ing,'. Measure 103 has 'march we, play - ing, to our lat - est rest, thus march we, play - ing, to our'. Measure 104 has 'lat - est rest, our lat - est rest,'.

105

play - ing, to our lat - est rest, thus march we,  
 play - ing, thus march we, play - ing, to our  
 to our lat - est rest, thus march we, play - ing, to our lat - est rest,  
 lat - est rest, thus march we, play - ing, thus  
 thus march we play - ing, thus march we, play - ing, to our lat - est

110

play - ing, to our lat - est rest; On - ly, we die, we  
 lat - est rest; On - ly we die in earn - est, that's  
 thus march we, play - ing, to our lat - est rest; On - ly we die in earn - est,  
 march we, play - ing, to our lat - est rest; On - ly we  
 rest; On - ly we

*ritard.*

115

die in earn - est, that's no jest, we die in earn - est, that's no jest.  
 no jest, in earn - est, that's no jest.  
 that's no jest, we die in earn - est, that's no jest.  
 die, we die in earn - est, that's no jest.  
 die in earn - est, that's no jest, no jest.