

# Susanna fayre

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Bassus (part 3 of 3)

*Songs of sundrie natures* (London, 1589)

Su - san - na fair some-time, some-time as-saul-ted was by two old men,  
5 de - si-ring their de-light, which lewd in-tent they thought to bring to pass, to bring  
10 - to pass, if not by ten-der love, by force and might, by *force and* might, by force and  
15 - might, to whom she said, *to whom she said*, if I your suit de - ny, de - ny,  
20 you will me false-ly ac - cuse, and make me die, and make me die. **1**  
25 And if I grant to that which you re-quest, my chas - ti - ty shall then de - flower -  
30 - ed be, shall then de-flower-ed be, which is so dear to me, to me, that I de - test my  
35 life, my life, if it be-reft - ed be from me, and ra-ther would I die of mine ac-cord,  
of mine ac - cord, *of mine ac - cord*, ten thou - sand times, *ten thou - sand times*,  
40 ten thou - sand times, than once, than once of - fend our Lord, of - fend our Lord.