

# Now, o now I needs must part (1597)

John DOWLAND (1563-1626)

Now, o now I needs must part, Part - ing though I ab - sent mourn, Ab - sence can no joy im - part, Joy once fled \_\_\_\_\_ can - not re - turn.\_\_\_\_  
 While I live I needs must love; Love lives not when hope is gone, Now at last des - pair doth prove, Love di - vi - - ded lov - eth none.\_\_\_\_

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 While I live I needs must love; Love lives not when hope is gone, Now at last des - pair doth prove, Love di - vi - ded lov - eth none.\_\_\_\_

Sad des - pair doth drive me hence, This des - pair un - kind - ness sends, If that part - ing be off fence, It is she \_\_\_\_\_ which then of - fends.\_\_\_\_

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2. Dear, when I from thee am gone,  
 Gone are all my joys at once,  
 I loved thee and thee alone  
 In whose love I joyed once:

And although your sight I leave,  
 Sight wherein my joys do lie,  
 Till that death do sense bereave,  
 Never shall affection die.

3. Dear, if I do not return,  
 Love and I shall die together,  
 For my absence never mourn  
 Whom you might have joyed ever:

Part we must though now I die,  
 Die I do to part with you.  
 Him despair doth cause to lie,  
 Who both lived and dieth true.

## Now, o now I needs must part

1

Now, o now I needs must part,  
Parting though I absent mourn,  
Absence can no joy impart,  
Joy once fled cannot return.  
While I live I needs must love;  
Love lives not when hope is gone,  
Now at last despair doth prove,  
Love divided loveth none.

Nun, ach nun muss ich scheiden,  
obgleich scheidend ich abwesend trauere,  
Abwesenheit kann keine Freude geben,  
Freude, einmal entflohen, kehrt nicht zurück.  
Solange ich lebe, muss ich lieben;  
Liebe lebt nicht, wenn die Hoffnung fort ist,  
jetzt endlich beweist die Verzweiflung,  
dass getrennte Liebe niemanden liebt.

*Refrain:*

Sad despair doth drive me hence,  
This despair unkindness sends,  
If that parting be offence,  
It is she which then offends.

Traurige Verzweiflung treibt mich von hier,  
Lieblosigkeit schickt diese Verzweiflung,  
wenn Abschied Kränkung ist,  
dann ist sie es, die kränkt.

2

Dear, when I from thee am gone,  
Gone are all my joys at once,  
I loved thee and thee alone  
In whose love I joyed once:  
And although your sight I leave,  
Sight wherein my joys do lie,  
Till that death do sense bereave,  
Never shall affection die.

Teure, wenn ich von dir fortgegangen bin,  
sind auch gleich alle meine Freuden dahin,  
ich liebte dich und nur dich  
an deren Liebe ich mich einst erfreute:  
und obgleich ich deinen Anblick verlasse,  
den Anblick, worin meine Freude liegt,  
bis der Tod den Verstand raubt,  
niemals wird die Zuneigung sterben.

3

Dear, if I do not return,  
Love and I shall die together,  
For my absence never mourn  
Whom  
you might have joyed ever:  
Part we must though now I die,  
Die I do to part with you.  
Him despair doth cause to lie,  
Who both lived and dieth true.

Teure, wenn ich nicht zurückkehre,  
werden die Liebe und ich zusammen sterben.  
Traure niemals um meine Abwesenheit,  
um den,  
den du für immer hättest erfreuen können:  
scheiden müssen wir, obgleich ich nun sterbe,  
sterben tue ich, indem ich von dir scheide.  
Verzweiflung veranlasst denjenigen zu lügen,  
der lebte und starb in Wahrhaftigkeit.

*(eine andere Übersetzung der beiden letzten Zeilen:*

*Verzweiflung lässt jenen daniederliegen,  
der treu lebte und treu stirbt.)*

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