

MUSICK FOR A WHILE (z.583)

Orpheus Britannicus, Book II (1702)†

Edited by R.D. Tennent

Henry Purcell (1659–1695)

The musical score consists of four systems of music, each with two staves: treble and bass. The key signature is C minor (one flat), and the time signature is common time (indicated by 'C'). The vocal line begins with 'Mu - sick,' followed by 'mu - - sick for a - while,' 'shall all your cares be -', 'guile; shall all, all, all, shall all, all, all ____ shall all, your cares be -', and 'guile; won - - d'ring, won - - d'ring, how your pains ____ were'. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support throughout.

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†Song in *Oedipus, a Tragedy*, by John Dryden and Nathaniel Lee (1678, 1692)

13

eas'd, — eas'd, — eas'd, — and dis dain-ing to be _ pleas'd, till A -

16

lec - to free the dead, till A-lec - - to _ free the dead, from

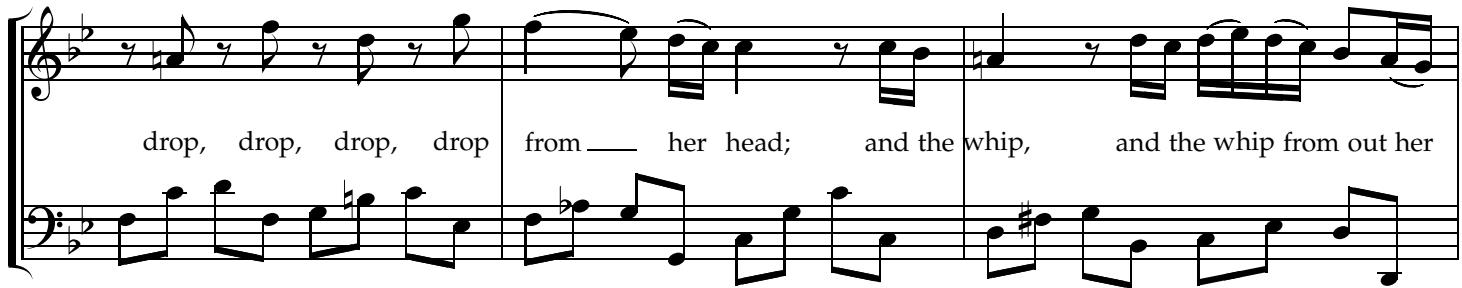
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their e - ter - - nal, e - ter - - - - - nal

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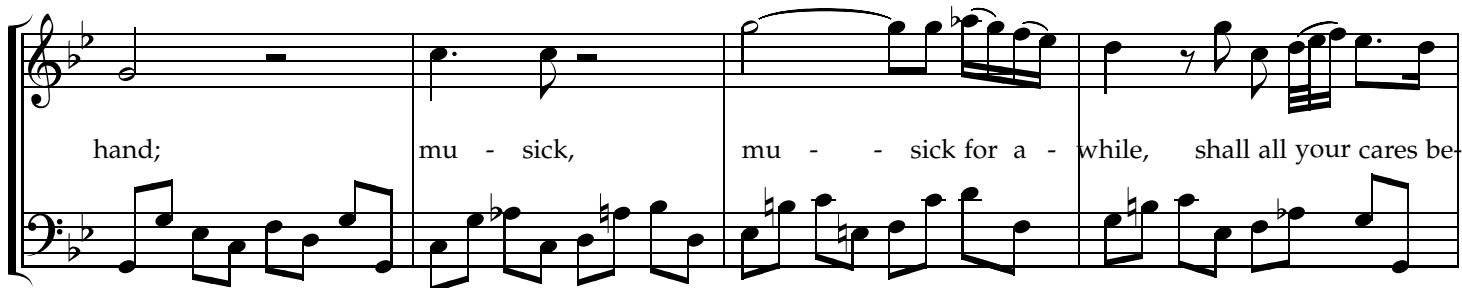
band; till the snakes drop, drop, drop, drop,

[25]



drop, drop, drop, drop from ___ her head; and the whip, and the whip from out her
hand; mu - sick, mu - - - sick for a - while, shall all your cares be -
guile; shall all, all, all, all, all, all, all ___ shall all - your cares be -

[28]



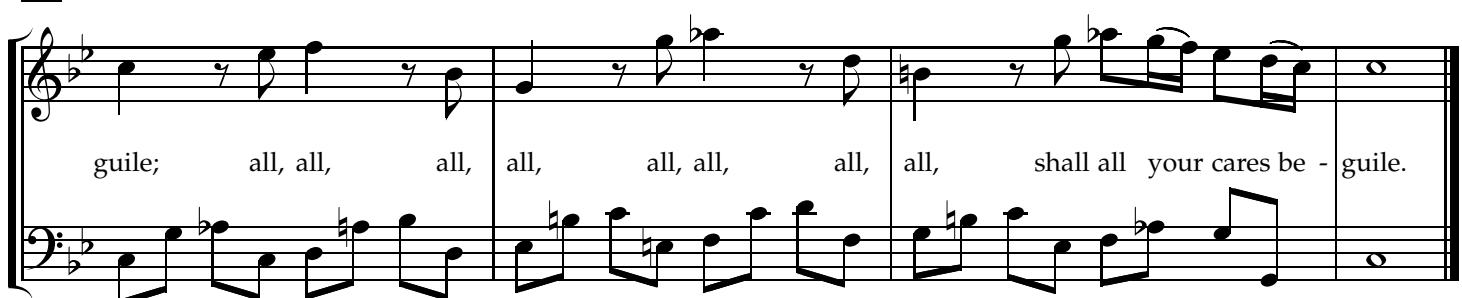
hand; mu - sick, mu - - - sick for a - while, shall all your cares be -
guile; shall all, all, all, all, all, all, all ___ shall all - your cares be -

[32]



guile; shall all, all, all, all, all, all, all ___ shall all - your cares be -

[35]



guile; all, all, all, all, all, all, all ___ shall all - your cares be - guile.