

# Now Robin laugh and sing

*Private Musicke. Or the First Booke of Ayres and Dialogues, 1620, No. 10.*

Martin Peerson (c.1571-c.1651)

Cantus  
(Descant)

Altus  
(Descant or Treble)

Tenor  
(Treble)

Bassus  
(C- or F-Bass)

Now Rob - in  
And while the

5

C

A

T

B

laugh and sing, now Rob - in laugh and sing, thy Mas - ter's sheepe-sheer - ing, When  
droane doth play, and while the droane doth play, Up - on this mer - ry day: The

laugh and sing, now Rob - in laugh and sing, thy Mas - ter's sheepe-sheer - ing, When  
droane doth play, and while the droane doth play, Up - on this mer - ry day: The

9

C

A

T

B

Pyes and Cus - tards smoake, then Rob - in plyes his poake, And plaies the mer-ry, mer-ry  
Coun - try Las - ses throng, With Tim-brels to their song, In praise of lust-y, lust-y

Pyes and Cus - tards smoake, then Rob - in plyes his poake, And plaies the mer-ry, mer-ry  
Coun - try Las - ses throng, With Tim-brels to their song, In praise of lust-y, lust-y

14

C

A

T

B

Ca - ter, My teeth doth run, doth run a - wa - ter, my teeth doth run a -  
Bob - in, The Townes chiefe jol - ly, jol - ly Rob - in, my the Townes chiefe jol - ly

Ca - ter, My teeth doth run, doth run a - wa - ter, my teeth doth run a -  
Bob - in, The Townes chiefe jol - ly, jol - ly Rob - in, my the Townes chiefe jol - ly

18

C

A

T

B

wa - ter, And when the Bag-pipes play for this the mer-ry, mer - ry day,  
Rob - in, Who footes it ore the Downes, Not car - ing, car-ing for such Clownes

23

C

A

T

B

And bids strike up, strike up the droane,  
Then strike up, strike up, still the droane,  
Then comes in lit-tle Joane, Then comes in lit-tle Joane, And bids strike up, strike up the droane, and  
As scorne his lit-tle Joane, As scorne his lit-tle Joane, Then strike up, strike up, still the droane, then  
Then comes in lit-tle Joane, And bids strike up, strike up the droane,  
As scorne his lit-tle Joane, Then strike up, strike up, still the droane,  
And bids strike up, strike up the droane,  
Then strike up, strike up, still the droane,

27

C

A

T

B

and bids strike up the droane. droane.  
and then strike up still the droane. droane.  
bids strike up, strike up, strike up, and bids strike up the droane. And droane.  
strike up, strike up, strike up still, and then strike up still the droane. Who droane.  
and then bids strike up still the droane. droane.  
and then bids strike up still the droane. droane.  
and then bids strike up still the droane. droane.

1. 2.

The song depicts a rural *sheep-shearing festival*. "It is interesting to note the presence of a piper hired to cheer on the shearers through their labours. That evening, neighbours, friends, and all those who had taken part in the day's shearing would be invited to a hearty meal." (François Laroque, *Shakespeare's Festive World*, New York 1993, p. 156).