

It was a time when silly bees could speak

John Dowland
(1562- 1626)

Soprano

It was a time when sil-ly bees could speak,
Then thus I buzzed, when time no sap would give,
My liege, gods grant thy time may ne-ver end,

Alto

It was a time, a time when sil-ly bees could speak,
Then thus I buzzed, I buzzed, when time no sap would give,
My liege, gods grant, gods grant thy time may ne-ver end,

Tenor

It was a time, a time when sil-ly bees could speak,
Then thus I buzzed, I buzzed, when time no sap would give,
My liege, gods grant, gods grant thy time may ne-ver end,

Bass

It was a time, a time when sil-ly bees could speak,
Then thus I buzzed, I buzzed, when time no sap would give,
My liege, gods grant, gods grant thy time may ne-ver end,

Practice

S

And in that time I was a sil-ly bee,
Why should this bles-sed time to me be dry,
And yet vouch-safe to hear my 'plaint of time,

A

And in that time I was, I was a sil-ly Bee,
Why should this bles-sed time, this time to me be dry,
And yet vouch-safe to hear, to hear my 'plaint of time,

T

And in that time I was a sil-ly bee,
Why should this bles-sed time to me be dry,
And yet vouch-safe to hear my 'plaint of time,

B

And in that time I was a sil-ly bee,
Why should this bles-sed time to me be dry,
And yet vouch-safe to hear my 'plaint of time,

10

S
Who fed on time un - til my heart 'gan break, Yet ne - ver
Sith by this time the la - zy drone doth live, The wasp, the
Which fruit - less flies have found to have a friend, And I cast

A
Who fed on time un - til my heart, my heart 'gan break, Yet ne - ver
Sith by this Time the la - zy drone, the drone doth live, The wasp, the
Which fruit-less flies have found to have, to have a friend, And I cast

T
Who fed on time un - til my heart 'gan break, Yet ne - ver
Sith by this time the la - zy drone doth live, The wasp, the
Which fruit-less flies have found to have a friend, And I cast

B
Who fed on time un - til my heart 'gan break, Yet ne - ver
Sith by this time the la - zy drone doth live, The wasp, the
Which fruit-less flies have found to have a friend, And I cast

15

S
found the time would fa - vour me. Of all the
worm, the gnat, the but - ter - fly. Mat - ted with
down when a - to - mies do climb. The king re -

A
found the time would fa - vour me. Of all the
worm, the gnat, the but - ter - fly. Mat - ted with
down when a - to - mies do climb. The king re -

T
found the time, the time would fa - vour me. Of all the
worm, the gnat, the gnat, the but - ter - fly. Mat - ted with
down, cast down when a - to - mies do climb. The king re -

B
found the time would fa - vour me. Of all the
worm, the gnat, the but - ter - fly. Mat - ted with
down when a - to - mies do climb. The king re -

S
swarm I on - ly did not thrive,
grief, I kneel - ed on my knees,
plied but thus, Peace peev- ish Bee,

A
swarm I on ly, I on - ly did not thrive,
grief, I kneel - ed, I kneel - ed on my knees,
plied but thus, Peace peev - ish, peev - ish bee,

T
swarm, the swarm I on - ly, on - ly did not thrive,
grief, with grief, I kneel - ed, kneel - ed on my knees,
plied, re - plied but thus, Peace peev - ish, peev - ish bee,

B
swarm, the swarm I on - ly, I on - ly did not thrive,
grief, with grief, I kneel - ed, I kneel - ed on my knees,
plied, re - plied but thus, Peace peev - ish, peev - ish Bee,

S
Yet brought I wax and ho- ney to the hive.
And thus com-plained un - to the king of bees.
Thou art bound to serve the time, the time, not thee.

A
Yet brought I wax and ho- ney, ho- ney to the hive.
And thus com - plained un - to the king, the king of bees.
Thou'rt bound to serve the time, the time, the time, not thee.

T
Yet brought I wax and ho- ney to the hive.
And thus com - plained un - to the king of bees.
Thou'rt bound to serve the time, the time, not thee.

B
Yet brought I wax and ho - ney to the hive.
And thus com - plained un - to the king of bees.
Thou'rt bound to serve the time, the time, not thee.