

# MUSICK FOR A WHILE (Z.583)

*Orpheus Britannicus*, Book II (1702)<sup>†</sup>

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Henry Purcell (1659–1695)

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is a treble clef with a common time signature (C) and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lower staff is a bass clef with a common time signature (C) and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music begins with a whole rest in the treble staff and a series of eighth and sixteenth notes in the bass staff.

4

The second system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is a treble clef with a common time signature (C) and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lower staff is a bass clef with a common time signature (C) and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music continues with a series of eighth and sixteenth notes in the bass staff and a melodic line in the treble staff.

Mu - sick, mu - - sick for a - while, shall all your cares be -

7

The third system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is a treble clef with a common time signature (C) and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lower staff is a bass clef with a common time signature (C) and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music continues with a series of eighth and sixteenth notes in the bass staff and a melodic line in the treble staff.

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

10

The fourth system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is a treble clef with a common time signature (C) and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lower staff is a bass clef with a common time signature (C) and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music continues with a series of eighth and sixteenth notes in the bass staff and a melodic line in the treble staff.

guile; won - - d'ring, won - - d'ring, how your pains — were

<sup>†</sup>Song in *Cedipus, 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

19

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

22

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

Musical notation for measures 25-27, featuring a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "drop, drop, drop, drop from — her head; and the whip, and the whip from out her".

28

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

Musical notation for measures 28-31, featuring a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "hand; mu - sick, mu - - sick for a - while, shall all your cares be".

32

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

Musical notation for measures 32-34, featuring a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "guile; shall all, all, all, all, all, all, all — shall all — your cares be -".

35

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

Musical notation for measures 35-37, featuring a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "guile; all, all, all, all, all, all, all, all, shall all your cares be - guile.".