

# The nightingale so pleasant and so gay

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Superius (part 1 of 3)

*Songs of sundrie natures* (London, 1589)

1  
The nightingale so pleasant and so gay, so pleasant and so gay,  
5  
in green-wood groves, delights to make his dwelling, his dwelling, delights to make his dwell-  
10  
ling, in fields to fly, to fly, chanting his roundelay, chanting his  
15  
roundelay, at liberty, against the cage rebel - ling. a -  
20  
gainst the cage rebel - ling. But my poor heart, my poor heart with sorrows o-ver  
25  
swelling, with sorrows o-ver swelling, through bondage vile, binding my free-dom  
30  
short, binding my free-dom short, binding my free-dom short, no pleasure takes, no plea-  
35  
- sure takes in these his sports excellent, nor in his song receive no com - fort,  
40  
nor in his song receive no com - fort, nor in his song receive no com - fort, no com - fort.