

# XVIII. It Was a Time When Silly Bees Could Speake

John Dowland

1. It was a time when sil-ly Bees could speake,  
 2. Then thus I buzd, when time no sap would give,  
 3. My liege, Gods graunt thy time may ne-ver end,

1. It was a time, a time, when sil-ly Bees could speake,  
 2. Then thus I buzd, I buzd, when time no sap would give,  
 3. My liege, Gods graunt, Gods graunt, thy time may ne-ver end,

1. It was a time, a time when sil-ly Bees could speake,  
 2. Then thus I buzd, I buzd, when time no sap would give,  
 3. My liege, Gods graunt, Gods graunt thy time may ne-ver end,

And in that time I was a sil-lie Bee,  
 Why should this bless-ed time to me be drie,  
 And yet vouch-safe to heare my plaint of Time,

And in that time I was, I was a sil-lie Bee,  
 Why should this bless-ed time, ed time to me be drie,  
 And yet vouch-safe to heare, to heare my plaint of Time,

And in that time I was a sil-lie Bee,  
 Why should this bless-ed time to me be drie,  
 And yet vouch-safe to heare my plaint of Time,

And in that time I was a sil-lie Bee,  
 Why should this bless-ed time to me be drie,  
 And yet vouch-safe to heare my plaint of Time,

Who fed on Time un- til my heart gan break,  
 Sith by this Time the la- zie drone doth live,  
 Which fruit- lesse Flies have found to have a friend,

Who fed on Time un- til my heart, my heart gan break,  
 Sith by this Time the la- zie drone, zie drone doth live,  
 Which fruit- lesse Flies have found to have, to have a friend,

Who fed on Time un- til my heart gan break,  
 Sith by this Time the la- zie drone doth live,  
 Which fruit- lesse Flies have found to have a friend,

Who fed on Time un- til my heart gan break,  
 Sith by this Time the la- zie drone doth live,  
 Which fruit- lesse Flies have found to have a friend,

Yet ne- ver found the time would fa- vour mee. Of all the swarme I  
 The waspe, the worme, the gnat, the but- ter- flie, Mat- ed with griefe, I  
 And I cast downe when A- ro- mies do clime. The king re- plied but

Yet ne- ver found the time would fa- vour mee. Of all the swarme I  
 The waspe, the worme, the gnat, the but- ter- flie, Mat- ed with griefe, I  
 And I cast downe when A- ro- mies do clime. The king re- plied but

Yet ne- ver found the time, the time would fa- vour mee. Of all the swarme, the swarme I  
 The waspe, the worme, the gnat, the gnat, the but- ter- flie, Mat- ed with griefe, with griefe, I  
 And I cast downe, cast downe when A- ro- mies do clime. The king re- plied, re- plied but

Yet ne- ver found the time would fa- vour mee. Of all the swarme, the swarme I  
 The waspe, the worme, the gnat, the but- ter- flie, Mat- ed with griefe, with griefe, I  
 And I cast downe when A- ro- mies do clime. The king re- plied, re- plied but

19

one-ly did not thrive, Yet brought I waxe and ho-ney to the hive.  
 kneel-ed on my knees, And thus com-plaind un-to the king of Bees.  
 thus, Peace pee-vish Bee, Th'art bound to serve the time, the time not thee.

one-ly, I one-ly did not thrive, Yet brought I waxe and ho-ny, ho-ny to the hive.  
 kneel-ed, I kneel-ed on my knees, And thus com-plaind un-to the king, the king of Bees.  
 thus, Peace pee-vish, pee-vish Bee, Th'art bound to serve the time, the time, the time not thee.

one-ly, one-ly did not thrive, Yet brought I waxe and ho-ney to the hive.  
 kneel-ed, kneel-ed on my knees, And thus com-plaind un-to the king of Bees.  
 thus, Peace pee-vish, pee-vish Bee, Th'art bound to serve the time, the time not thee.

one-ly, I one-ly did not thrive, Yet brought I waxe and ho-ney to the hive.  
 kneel-ed, I kneel-ed on my knees, And thus com-plaind un-to the king of Bees.  
 thus, Peace pee-vish, pee-vish Bee, Th'art bound to serve the time, the time not thee.