

CAN SHE EXCUSE MY WRONGS?

VOICE

Can she ex - cuse my wrongs with Vir - tue's cloak? Shall I call her
 Are those clear fires which van - ish in - to smoke? Must I praise the

LUTE

good when she proves un - kind? No, no, where sha - dows do for
 leaves where no fruit I find? Cold love is like to words writ -

bo - dies stand Thou may'st be a - bused if thy sight be dim;
 - ten on sand Or to bub - bles which on the wa - ter swim.

Wilt thou be thus a - bu - sed still See - ing that she will right thee nev - er?

★

Chord symbols: a c d a d | a c a d | c d a c a | a d c a

If thou canst not o'er - come her will Thy love will be thus fruit - less ev - - er.

Chord symbols: e a c d f | e f d f e c | a a c e | a a a

1

Can she excuse my wrongs with Virtue's cloak?
 Shall I call her good when she proves unkind?
 Are those clear fires which vanish into smoke?
 Must I praise the leaves where no fruit I find?

No, no, where shadows do for bodies stand
 Thou may'st be abused if thy sight be dim;
 Cold love is like to words written on sand
 Or to bubbles which on the water swim.

Wilt thou be thus abused still
 Seeing that she will right thee never?
 If thou canst not o'ercome her will
 Thy love will be thus fruitless ever.

2

Was I so base that I might not aspire
 Unto those high joys which she holds from me?
 As they are high, so high is my desire.
 If she this deny what can granted be?

If she will yield to that which Reason is,
 It is Reason's will that Love should be just.
 Dear, make me happy still by granting this,
 Or cut off delays if that die I must.

Better a thousand times to die
 Than for to live thus still tormented.
 Dear, but remember it was I
 Who for thy sake did die contented.

★ The melody of the accompaniment is that of a popular Elizabethan song "Shall I go walk the woods so wild?"