

Shall I then silent be

LUTE with voice

Edmund Spenser
*Amoretti: Sonnet 43**

DAVID PROTHEROE

moderato appassionato **mp**

Shall I then si- lent be, or shall I speak? and if I speak, her wrath re-

9

new I shall; And if I si- lent be, my heart will break, or cho- ked be with o- ver- flow- ing

17 **mf**

gall. What ty- ran- ny is this, both my heart- to thrall, and eke my tongue with proud re- straint to tie That neith- er

25 **pp**

I may speak - nor think - at all, but like a stu- pid stock in sil- ence die! Yet I my

*Each day in spring 1595, Spenser wrote an amoret to his future wife Elizabeth Boyle, often referring to the church reading for that day.

31

mp

heart with si- lence sec- ret- ly will teach to speak and my just cause to

p *p* *p* *p* *p*

a a a c a b b c c e e b d a c a c c b a
c c c c c c c c a c e d e

36

plead, And eke mine eyes, with meek hu- mil- i- ty, love- learn- ed let- ters to her

p *p* *p* *p* *p* *p*

a c a b c a e e e c b c a a c b c c c a e a

42

mf

eyes to read; Which her deep wit, - that true hearts' thought can

p *p* *p* *p* *p* *colla voce*

c c a d c c a e a d a a c a c a c e a c
c b a d c c a c c a c a a a c
c c c c c c c c a a a

47

rit

spell, will soon con- ceive, and learn to con- stitue well.

p *p* *p* *p* *p* *rit*

e a a d c a a e a c a a e c a a
c c c e c c a a c a c e a c d c
c c c c c c a b c e a c a



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VOICE with stave accompaniment

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2)

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colla voce

47 *rit*

spell, will soon con- ceive, and learn to con- stue well.

rit

1) stupid stock: the reading for 6 March 1595, Luke 17, mentions the mulberry tree (Latin: morus arbor). Elizabeth would surely have construed Edmund's flippant mistranslation (morus = moronic, arbor = piece of wood).
 2) my heart with silence... speak: i.e. though silent, I will communicate my thoughts to her through my poetry.