## XXI. Away with these self-loving lads

John Dowland



- God Cupid's shaft like destiny, Doth either good or ill decree: Desert is born out of his bow, Reward upon his feet doth go, What fools are they that have not known That love likes no laws but his own?
- My songs they be of Cynthia's praise, I wear her rings on holidays, On every tree I write her name, And every day I read the same: Where honour, Cupid's rival is, There miracles are seen of his.
- If Cynthia crave her ring of me, I blot her name out of the tree, If doubt do darken things held dear, Then well fare nothing once a year: For many run, but one must win, Fools only hedge the Cuckoo in.
- The worth that worthiness should move Is love, which is the bow of love, And love as well the foster can, As can the mighty nobleman: Sweet Saint, 'tis true you worthy be, Yet without love naught worth to me.