

Whiles life or breath

Verse 1

My sovereign lord for my poor sake
Six courses at the ring did make,
Of which four times he did it take;
Wherefore my heart I him bequest,
And of all other for to love best
My sovereign lord.

Verse 2

My sovereign lord of puissant power
As the chieftain of a warrior,
With spear and sword t the barrier
As hardy with the hardiest,
He proveth himself that I saw best,
My sovereign lord.

Verse 3

My sovereign lord in every thing
Above all other as a king,
In that he doth no comparing
But of a truth he worthiest
To have the praise of all the best;
My sovereign lord.

Verse 4

My sovereign lord when that I meet,
His cheerful countenance doth replete
My heart with joy that I be hete
Next God but he and ever prest
With heart and body to love best
My sovereign lord.

Verse 5

So many virtues given of grace
There is none alive that has;
Behold his favour and his face
His personage most goodliest!
A vengeance on them that loveth not
best
My Sovereign lord.

Verse 6

My sovereign lord that is of all
My sovereign lord save principal!
He hath my heart and ever shall.
Of God I ask for him request,
Of all good fortunes to send him best,
My sovereign Lord.