Farewell false Love







Farewell false love, the oracle of lies, a mortall foe, \& enimie to rest:
An envious boy, from whom all cares arise, A bastard vile, a beast, with rage possest:
A way of error, a temple full of treason, in all effects contrarie unto reason.

A poisoned serpent covered all with flowers, Mother of sighes, and murtherer of repose,

A fortresse foyld which reason dyd defend,
A Syren song, a feaver of the minde,
A maze wherein affection findes no ende,
A raging cloud that runnes before the winde,
A substance like the shadow of the Sunne,
A goale of griefe, for which the wisest runne.
A quenchlesse fire, a nurse of trembling feare,
A path that leades to perill and mishap, A sea of sorows from whence are drawen such showers*, A true retreat of sorrow and dispaire, As moisture lend to every griefe that growes, An idle boy that sleepes in pleasures lap, A schole of guile, a net of deepe deceit,
A guilded hooke that holds a poisoned baite.

A deepe mistrust of that which certaine seemes,
A hope of that which reason doubtfull deemes.

> Sir Walter Ralegh (c.1554-1618)

Source: William Byrd, Psalmes, Sonets, \& songs of sadnes and pietie (London, 1588), no. 25.
II.39.2: repeat sign in error for fermata

* flowers in all partbooks

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