

LISTENING GUIDE 4

1:21

Farmer: *Fair Phyllis*

DATE: Published 1599

GENRE: English madrigal

What to listen for

Melody Dancelike, diatonic melody.

Rhythm/meter Lively rhythms; begins in duple meter, shifts to triple and back.

Texture Varied: first monophonic, then some imitation; homorhythmic for last line.

Form Short, repeated sections.

Expression Word painting on opening line (“all alone”) and “up and down.”

Performing forces Four voices (SATB), *a cappella*.

Text Light-hearted pastoral English poem.

TEXT

- 0:00 Fair Phyllis I saw sitting all alone,
Feeding her flock near to the mountain side.
The shepherds knew not whither she was gone,
But after her [her] lover Amyntas hied.
- 0:24 Up and down he wandered, whilst she was missing;
When he found her, oh, then they fell a-kissing.
- 0:48 Up and down . . .

Examples of word painting

“Fair Phyllis I saw sitting all alone”—sung by soprano alone:

Fair Phyl - lis I saw sit - ting all a - lone,

“Up and down”—descending line, repeated in all parts imitatively; shown in soprano and alto:

S Up and down he wan - dered, up and down he wan - dered.

A Up and down up and down he wan - dered, up and down he wan -

Now try the **Listening Quiz**.