

## Bid Me to Live, and I Will Live

Text by *Robert Herrick* (1591-1674) [Br]

Set by *John Alden Carpenter* (1876-1951) [Am], *Bid Me to Live*; *John Linton Gardner* (1917-) [Br], *To Anthea, Who May Command Him Anything*, from the *Herrick Cantata*, op. 49, #10; *John Liptrot Hatton* (1809-1886) [Br], *To Anthea, Who May Command Him Anything*; *Lord Mervyn Horder* (1910-1998) [Br], *Bid me to live: To Anthea*; *Ned Rorem* (1923-) [Am], *To Anthea, Who May Command Him Anything*, from *Flight For Heaven*, #10

**Bid me to live, and I will live**  
[bɪd mi tu lɪv ænd aɪ wɪl lɪv]

**Thy Protestant to be:**  
[ðəːɪ 'prɒt.ɪ.stənt tu bi]

Or bid me love, and I will give  
A loving heart to thee.

A heart as soft, a heart as kind,  
A heart as sound and free,  
As in the whole world thou canst find,  
That heart I'll give to thee.

Bid that heart stay, and it will stay,  
To honour thy Decree:  
Or bid it languish quite away,  
And 't shall doe so for thee.

Bid me to weep, and I will weep,  
While I have eyes to see:  
And having none, yet I will keep  
A heart to weep for thee.

Bid me despair, and I'll despair,  
Under that cypress-tree...

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The entire text to this title with the complete  
IPA transcription is available for download.

*Thank you!*

