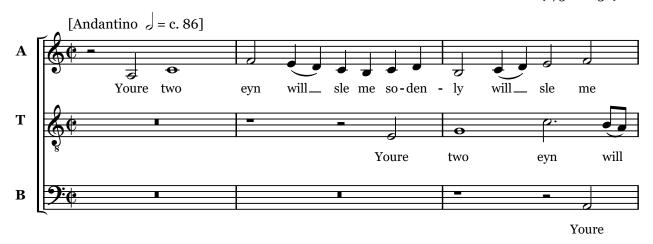
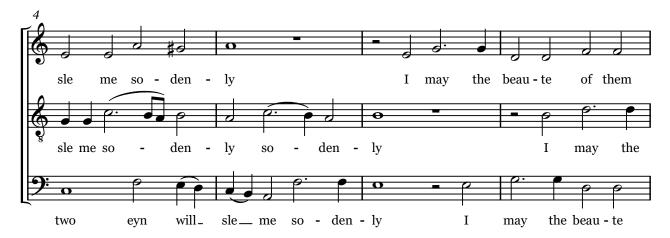
YOURE TWO EYN WILL SLE ME SODENLY

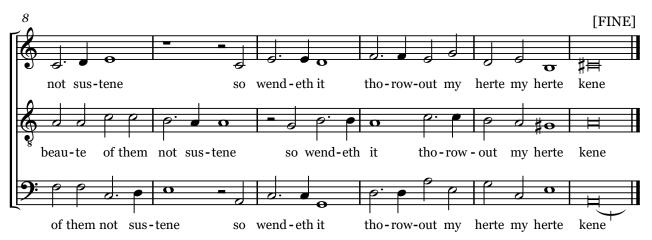
Roundelay

Words by G. Chaucer born 1328

John Stafford Smith (1750–1836)







From Warren's Collection Vol .15. The print has no punctuation, but does have slurs.

It is not recommended to attempt 14th C. pronunciation but rather to sing the modern versions of the words, most of which are still in use, albeit with different spelling and grammar.

A partially modernised version of the poem might run: Your two eyes will soon slay me:
I cannot bear their the beauty.
Thus it goes sharply all through my heart,
And only your words will quickly heal
My heart's wound, while it is fresh:
With sincerity I say to you, faithfully,
You are the queen of my life and of my death;
For when I die, the truth shall be seen.

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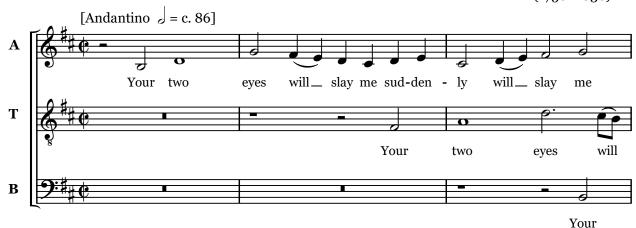
YOUR TWO EYES WILL SLAY ME SUDDENLY

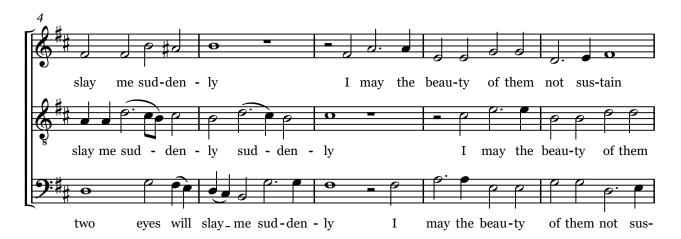
Roundelay

(modernised version, transposed up a tone)

Words by G. Chaucer born 1328

John Stafford Smith (1750–1836)







From Warren's Collection Vol .15.

The print has no punctuation, but does have slurs.

This version modernises the spelling but inevitably leaves some old usage in place. The original poem, followed closely by Smith, runs:

Youre two eyn will sle me sodenly I may the beaute of them not sustene, So wendeth it thorowout my herte kene. And but your words will helen hastely My hertis wound, while that it is grene, Upon my trouth I say yow feithfully, That ye ben of my liffe and deth the queen; For with my deth the trouth shal be sene.

