



Magic Music

Containing sundrie Old Sonets
and delectable Histories, in
diuers kindes of Meeter,

Including Thirty Tunes Indited
from that Sweet Time When The first
Elizabeth the Queen
Over old England did raigne.

With new additions of certain
Arrangements
to verie late deuised Notes, not
commonly knowen, nor
vsed heretofore,

With Documentation
As full as could be found
Gathered, Edited and
Published by me for the
selextation of friends old and new.

(c) 2008 by
Courtney Allen Powers
All rights Reserved

Author's Preface:

The present volume is a compendium of thirty Elizabethan tunes with all the documentary evidence about them that I was able to obtain. I make no claim to have uncovered all sources of documentation for each tune, new sources become available as time goes on. At a minimum, each tune is documented in primary sources to be pre-1600, if only by mention in the Stationer's Register. Each set of words, where not otherwise stated, are also 16th century or earlier. (Some later items are included for contrast.)

For many, inclusion of dry historical citations simply detracts from enjoyment of an old tune. Publishers, who wish to satisfy their audience, often omit any mention of the origin of a tune for that reason. That is very frustrating to the researcher, who wants to know when and where a song really originated. This book is an attempt to correct that trend.

I've enjoyed many hours of music from these old sources. Read, sing, play, and know that Queen Elizabeth herself probably heard many of these same tunes.