

# Callino Casturame

edited by  
Maurizio Machella

Calen o Custure me was a popular 16th century love song.  
The song is something of a mystery: what does its repeated refrain mean,  
and what language is it? In Irish Gaelic ?

First appeared as a broadside ballad, entered in the Stationer's Register in London on 10th March 1582.

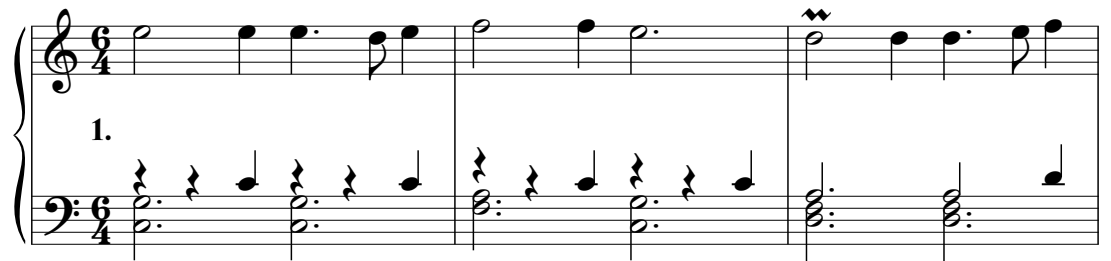
The broadside has not survived, but *A Sonet of a Louer in the praise of his lady.*

*To Calen o Custure me: sung at euerie lines end* appeared in *A Handefull of pleasant delites* by *Clement Robinson and divers others*, published 2 years later in 1584. This is the only version of the lyric to survive, so it is impossible to know if this replicates or differs from the words of the earlier broadside.

Extract source: <https://earlymusicmuse.com/calen-o-custure-me/>



## William Byrd (1543-1623)



source: Ms. *Fitzwilliam Virginal Book* (1620 c.)



13

Musical notation for measures 13-16. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including trills. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a bass line with chords and single notes.

17

3.

Musical notation for measures 17-19. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a melodic line with eighth notes and trills. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a bass line with chords and eighth notes. A measure rest is present in the upper staff at the beginning of measure 17.

20

Musical notation for measures 20-22. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a melodic line with eighth notes and trills. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a bass line with chords and eighth notes.

23

Musical notation for measures 23-24. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a melodic line with eighth notes and trills. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a bass line with chords and eighth notes.

25

4.

Musical notation for measures 25-28. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a melodic line with chords and eighth notes. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a bass line with eighth notes and chords. A measure rest is present in the upper staff at the beginning of measure 25.

29

Musical notation for measures 29-32. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a melodic line with eighth notes and trills. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a bass line with eighth notes and chords.

33

5.

36

7

39

41

6.

44

6.

47

6.