

## ELEANOR (MIDDLESEX, C. 1435)

*Siovahn Amanda Walker*

Oh, Eleanors, derling, swete ant fayr  
who thro love & care alle this long yar  
hast a parcell of myn smale herte mad  
ant tenderlay vowéd nefre to discar'd

Tak this laud tho its rime be povre  
als trew servant to yer trew lovre  
that oon who waits for thee at hom  
ant shal do so until hir days be don

Tak this ode to yer fayr & cumli(1) eye  
als but part of hwot(2) doth in me lye  
fer manye do in suns better wricht(3)  
tho noon be more facund(4) at nicht(5)

For in werkes of want & corporal hungor  
in ars of love noon shal labour longer  
whan to yer swete pars I put myn hand  
& wid joy assent to thyn ech demand

For tho to manye I yift(6) a somtym care  
to thee langs(7) al things that I hold dere  
myn hert, body ant swich expressiouns  
als palidly recall myn depest passiouns

*(1) comely (2) what (3) write/wright (4) eloquent (5) night (6) gift (7) belongs*

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