If I freely may discover (Setting 2, Version a)

BEN JONSON

If I freely may discover, What would please me in my love,
She should be allow'd her passion, So they were but us'd as
fashion: Sometimes forward, and then swaying, Every fit with change still

loving, I would have her fair and witty, Saving more of court than
city; A little proud, but full of pity; Light and humble

in her toy'ing, Oft building hopes, but soon destroy'ing. Long, but nor

sweet, in her enjoying; Neither too easy nor too

hard: But still extremes I would have barr'd.
If I freely may discover (Setting 2, Version a)

HENRY LAWES (1596-1662)

If I freely may discover What would please me in my
She should be al-low'd her pas-sions, So they were but us'd as
lov'er, I would have her fair and witty, Sav'ring
fash-ions: Some-times fro-ward, and then swown-ing. Ev'ry
more of court than ci-ty; A lit-tle proud, but full of pi-ty;
fit with change stillrown-ing. Pure-ly jeal-ous I would have her;
Light and hum-rous in her toy-ing, Oft build-ing hopes, but soon des-tying,
Then on-ly con-stant when I crave her; 'Tis a vir-tue should not save her;
Long, but sweet, in her en-joy-ing; Nei-ther too ea-sy
Thus, nor her deli-cates would cloy me; Nei-ther her pee-vish-
nor too hard: But still ex-tremes I would have barr'd.
ness an-noy me. [But still ex-tremes I would have barr'd.]
[BASS]

If I freely may discover (Setting 2, Version a)

BEN JONSON

HENRY LAWES (1596-1662)