

H13 From Car a Carter surely tooke his name

Notes. The poem's puns on "Carr" and "car" or "cart" can be found in a number of other libels on Robert Carr composed in 1613-14 and 1615-16. The pun functions in all these poems to mock the favourite's supposed lowly social origins. Here, however, the pun is also used as a vehicle to imagine the much hoped-for execution of Robert Carr for Overbury's murder.

From Car a Carter surely tooke his name

Or from a Carter surely Car first came

Sith Car & Carter then soe well agree

Let none them part till they at Tyburne¹ bee

Where Car with Carter when you there doe find

Take ter from Carter, but leave Car behind.²

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Source. Rosenbach MS 1083/16, p. 13

Other known sources. Sanderson 60

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¹ *Tyburne*: London's main venue of public execution, to which the condemned would ride in a cart.

² *leave Car behind*: i.e. leave him hanging.
