

Charlotte Lennox, "To Moneses Singing"

Description

[CHARLOTTE LENNOX]

"To *MONESES* Singing"

Be hush'd as Death, <i>Moneses</i> sings, <i>Moneses</i> strikes the sounding Strings; Let sacred Silence dwell around, And nought disturb the Magick Sound; Let not the softly whisp'ring Breeze	5
Sob amidst the rustling Trees; Murmur, ye plaintive Streams, no more, But glide in Silence to the Shore: Even <i>Philomel</i> thy Note suspend, And to a sweeter Song attend;	10
Ah! soft, ah! dang'rous, pow'rful Charm, An Angel's Voice, an Angel's Form; Attentive to the heav'nly Lay, I hear and gaze my Soul away; Now tender Wishes, melting Fires,	15
Infant Pains, and young Desires, Steal into my soft'ned Soul, And bend it to the sweet Controul; Yet, let me fly, e'er 'tis too late, The sweet Disease, and shun my Fate.	20
But ah! that softly, dying Strain Arrests my Steps, I strive in vain. Again I to the Syren turn, Again with gentle Fires I burn; Cease lovely Youth th' enchanting Sound,	25
Too deep already is the Wound; Thro' all my Veins the Poison steals, My Heart the dear Infection feels: I faint, I die, by love oppress, The Sigh scarce heaves my panting Breast;	30
Before my View dim Shadows rise, And hides Thee from my ravish'd Eyes: Thy Voice, like distant Sounds, I hear, It dies in murmurs on my Ear: In the too pow'rful Transport tost,	35

Ev'ning Thought, and ev'ry Sense is lost.

NOTES:

Title *MONESES* A made up pastoral name for an unidentified addressee.

7 plaintive Mournful, sad (OED).

9 *Philomel* A poetic or literary name for the nightingale, known for its sweet song (OED).

23 *Syren* One who, or that which, sings sweetly, charms, allures, or deceives like the Sirens (OED).

SOURCE: *Poems on Several Occasions. Written by a Young Lady* (London, 1747), pp. 23-25. [Google Books]

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