Mary Leapor, â??A Summerâ??s Wishâ?•

Description

MARY LEAPOR

â??A Summerâ??s Wishâ?•

My Guardian, bear me on thy downy Wing
To some cool Shade where infant Flowâ??rs spring;
Where on the Trees sweet Hony-suckles blow,
And ruddy Daisies paint the Ground below :
Where the shrill Linnet charms the solemn Shade,
And Zephyrs pant along the cooler Glade,
Or shake the Bull-rush by a River Side,
While the gay Sun-beams sparkle on the Tide:
O for some Grot whose rustick Sides declare,
Ease, and not Splendor, was the Builderâ??s Care;
Where Roses spread their unaffected Charms,
And the curlâ??d Vine extends their clasping Arms;
Where happy Silence lulls the quiet Soul,
And makes it calm as Summer Waters roll.
Here let me learn to check each growing Ill,
And bring to Reason disobedient Will;
To watch this incoherent Breast, and find
What favâ??rite Passions rule the giddy Mind.

Here no Reproaches grate the wounded Ear;
We see delighted, and transported hear,
While the glad Warblers wanton round the Trees,
And the still Waters catch the dying Breeze,
Grief waits without, and melancholy Gloom:
Come, cheerful Hope, and fill the vacant Room;
Come evâ??ry Thought, which Virtue gave to please;
Come smiling Health with thy Companion Ease:
Let these, and all that Virtueâ??s self attends,
Bless the still Hours of my gentle Friends:
Peace to my Foes, if any such there be,
And gracious Heavâ??n give Repose to me.

NOTES:

1 *downy â??*Covered in fine, soft hair or feathersâ?• (*OED*).

5 *Linnet* â??A common and well-known song-birdâ?• (*OED*).

6 *Zephyrs* Gentle breezes.

7 *Bull-rush* â??A tall reed-like water plant with strap-like leaves and a dark brown velvety cylindrical head of numerous tiny flowersâ?• (*OED*).

30 *Repose* â??Give rest toâ?• (*OED*).

Source: *Poems on Several Occasions* (London, 1748), p. 21. [*Google Books*]

Edited by Krishna Manne