

Anonymous, "Galatea to Triton. On Jealousie"

Description

ANONYMOUS

"Galatea to Triton. On Jealousie"
Written by a Lady.

Love is the Land of Hope and Fear,
Of Pleasure mix'd with Pain,
Where, o'er the Heart, soft Joy, and Care,
Alternate Empire gain.
Possess of all we can desire, 5
Fear mingles with our Joy,
The Source of all our tender Fire
Does still our Bliss destroy.
For Triton's Charms, that wound my Heart,
My jealous Mind alarm. 10
I fear, alas! th' unerring Dart,
Some other Breast shou'd warm.
I dread the Force of other Eyes
His am'rous Soul shou'd move;
My Happiness my Fear supplies, 15
Convinc'd that he can love.
My Hopes and his dear Tongue agree,
To flatter my Desire;
But then, alas! warm Jealousie
Makes all my Hopes expire. 20
Forgive me, Triton, if my Heart
These anxious Pangs possess;
Less shou'd I feel th' uneasie Smart,
Cou'd I but love you less.
Excess of Love augments my Pains, 25
Which when you're by decline:
To end them quite still here remain,
So long I'm sure you're mine.

NOTES:

Title *Galatea* A Nereid (sea nymph); daughter of the sea god Nereus in Greek mythology (*Britannica*); *Triton* "Greek god of the sea, son of Poseidon" (*OED*).

11 *Dart* Figurative for Cupid's arrow, the dart of love.

22 *Pangs* "A sudden sharp spasm of pain which grips the body or a part of it" (OED).

23 *Smart* "Sharp, often intense, physical pain" (OED).

SOURCE: *The Muses Mercury: or The Monthly Miscellany* (March) (London, 1707), pp. 65-66. [Google Books]

Edited by Mimi Hopper