Charlotte Lennox, â??To Moneses Singingâ?•

Description

[CHARLOTTE LENNOX]

â??To *MONESES* Singingâ?•

Be hushâ??d as Death, *Moneses* sings,
Moneses strikes the sounding Strings;
Let sacred Silence dwell around,
And nought disturb the Magick Sound;
Let not the softly whispâ??ring Breeze
Sob amidst the rustling Trees;
Murmur, ye plaintive Streams, no more,
But glide in Silence to the Shore:
Even *Philomel* thy Note suspend,
And to a sweeter Song attend;
Ah! soft, ah! dangâ??rous, powâ??rful Charm,
An Angelâ??s Voice, an Angelâ??s Form;
Attentive to the heavâ??nly Lay,
I hear and gaze my Soul away;
Now tender Wishes, melting Fires,
Infant Pains, and young Desires,
Steal into my softned Soul,
And bend it to the sweet Controul;
Yet, let me fly, eâ??er â??tis too late,
The sweet Disease, and shun my Fate.
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 thâ?? inchanting Sound,
Too deep already is the Wound;
Throâ?? all my Veins the Poison steals,
My Heart the dear Infection feels:
I faint, I die, by love opprest,
The Sigh scarce heaves my panting Breast;
Before my View dim Shadows rise,
And hides Thee from my ravishâ??d Eyes:
Thy Voice, like distant Sounds, I hear,
It dies in murmurs on my Ear:
In the too powâ??rful Transport tost,

Evâ??n Thought, and evâ??ry Sense is lost.

NOTES:

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

7 plaintive â??Mournful, sadâ?• (*OED*).

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

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

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

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