

Samuel Boyse, "Wine the Cure of Love. A Ballad"

Description

[SAMUEL BOYSE]

Wine the Cure of Love. A Ballad

As lovesick *Apollo* by *Daphne* disdain'd,
In *Tempe* sat whining beneath an old oak;
Bacchus happen'd to hear as he sadly complain'd,
And shaking with laughter, thus jestingly spoke.

What wounded by *Cupid*? now shame on thy skill, Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â 5
To sit fretting thy Heart at the foot of a tree;
Can th' *invincible God*, who a *Python* did kill,
Now whimper and sob for the *sting* of a *Bee*?

I protest, cozen *Phoebus*, thy fortune is hard.
That nor music, nor verse can diminish thy Grief; Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â 10
Can no herb be discovered, no potion prepared,
To give the great *master of science* relief?

Come, take Heart, -and be counsell'd, -and lift up thy head!
I am the best Doctor when such fevers assail;
Quick, empty this goblet, no more need to be said: Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â 15
I never once knew my catholicon fail!

Phoebus topp'd off the Wine, 'twas old malmsey of *Crete*,
His Heart in an instant grew light as a feather!
Hang *Cupid* (says he) I believe he's a cheat,
So here let us drink his confusion together. Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â 20

A cheat! (*Bacchus* cried) he's a son of a whore!
He has often endeavour'd to shew me his tricks;
But I bid him *Defiance*, —a fig for his power,
I keep to the shield of my bottle, by *Styx*!

Were coz *Hermes* present you would laugh till you burst, Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â 25
To hear how he rook'd him at Play of his darts;
What a noise *Venus* made, and the *little elf* curs'd,
For the *pitiful pins* which he sticks in *men's hearts*.

Entre nous (reply'd *Phoebus*) the boy's spoilt with pride,
Sine *Jove* in all quarrels espouses his part: Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â 30

and elsewhereâ€•(QED); *Crete* The largest and most populous of the Greek islands. The Paximadia islands were the birthplace of Artemis and Apollo (â€œCreteâ€•Wikipedia).

23 *fig* â€œA contemptuous gesture which consisted in thrusting the thumb between two of the closed fingers or into the mouthâ€•(QED).

24 *Styx* The principal river of the lower world, had to be crossed in passing to the regions of the dead (Andrew S. Glick, *A Comprehensive Dictionary of Gods, Goddesses, Demigods, and Other Subjects in Greek and Roman Mythology*, 116).

25 *coz* â€œAn abbreviation of cousin (cozen)â€•(QED); *Hermes* An Olympian god of science and invention, eloquence, cunning, trickery, theft, luck and youth, herald and messenger of the gods (Andrew S. Glick, *A Comprehensive Dictionary of Gods, Goddesses, Demigods, and Other Subjects in Greek and Roman Mythology*, 58).

26 *rook*â€™d â€œTo cheat or swindleâ€•(QED).

27 *Venus* Roman equivalent of Aphrodite, a Greek goddess of love and beauty (Andrew S. Glick, *A Comprehensive Dictionary of Gods, Goddesses, Demigods, and Other Subjects in Greek and Roman Mythology*, 9).

29 *Entre nous* â€œBetween ourselves, in privateâ€•(QED).

30 *Jove* Roman equivalent of Zeus, a Greek god, the chief of the Olympian gods, god of the elements as rain, wind, thunder, and lightning (Andrew S. Glick, *A Comprehensive Dictionary of Gods, Goddesses, Demigods, and Other Subjects in Greek and Roman Mythology*, 131); *espouses* â€œTo associate or ally oneself withâ€•(QED).

33 *rail*â€™d â€œTo complain persistently or vehemently aboutâ€•(QED).

37 *Delphos* The site of a major temple to Phoebus Apollo; the sanctuary of the oracle of Delphi, the Pythia (â€œDelphiâ€•Wikipedia).

38 *grotto* â€œA cave or cavern, esp. one which is picturesque, or which forms an agreeable retreatâ€•(QED).

39 *specific* â€œOf remediesâ€¦specially or exclusively efficacious for, or acting upon, a particular ailment or part of the bodyâ€•(QED).

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