



With wrinkled boot, and turnâ€™d-up hair,  
Tho' to her own undoing! 30

And then to hear thee talk so fine,  
Of horses, wâ€™s, and where to dine,  
In neat set phrase so charmingâ€™  
Cindrilla swears her heart is won,  
That sheâ€™s resolvâ€™d to be undone, 35  
And give her mistress warning.

The misses may be pert and sneer,  
But servants, thoâ€™ in common geer,  
Stuff gowns, and coarser jacket,  
May yet conceal as fair a skin, 40  
Be as provocative to sin,  
And make not half the racket.

Besides, who knows, thy love may be  
Of noble blood, in low degree,  
Tho' now with scarce a rag on; 45  
Some fairy, envious of her worth,  
Doomâ€™d her to labour from her birth,  
Sprung from renownâ€™d Pendragon.

Come then to thy Cindrilla's arms,  
Bedizenâ€™d in her Sunday charms, 50  
No gaudy silks and sattins;  
But new-starchâ€™d cap, and tuckâ€™d-up gown,  
With red and white thatâ€™s all her own,  
Stuff petticoat, and pattins.

Pardon, if in these lyric lays 55  
I trumpet forth Cindrillaâ€™s praise,  
Her beauty thoâ€™ uncommon;  
With fourscore years upon my head,  
Thou hast but little cause to dread  
A poor infirm old woman. 60

#### NOTES:

**Title** Unable to identify addressee. This poem is preceded by a letter to Mr. Urban recommending publication, dated 1720 Bristol, Aug. 20 and signed Z.

**Epigraph** *Ne sit ancilla tibi amor pudori* "Do not let love for a maidservant be your shame;" Horace, *Book II. Ode IV* "To Xanthias Phocæus," in which Horace consoles his friend for falling in love with his servant girl.

**1 spider-brusher** A servant.

**3** *dejected* – Depressed in spirits, downcast, disheartened, low spirited (QED).

**4** *valour* – Bravery (QED).

**6** *Bobadil* A reference to a character in Ben Jonson's play, *Every Man in his Humour* (1598); – a blustering braggart who pretends prowess (QED).

**16** *Achilles* – Briseis [Author's note]. A figure in Homer's *Iliad*. She was captured by Achilles during the Trojan War and became his lover; *Ajax* – Tecmessa [Author's note]. Ajax killed Tecmessa's father during the Trojan War and took her captive. Their union produced a son, Eurysaces; *Czar* – Catherine, the wife of a Swedish serjeant [Author's note]. Czar Peter III (1728-1762) was emperor of Russia from January to July of 1762. He was overthrown by his wife, who became Catherine the Great (1729-1796), reigned from 1762-1796 (*Britannica*).

**20** *Cindrilla* Variant of Cinderella; the most popular version of the Cinderella story in the eighteenth century was the English translation of Charles Perrault's *Histoires ou contes du temps passe* (1697).

**37** *pert* – Impertinent, cheeky (QED).

**38** *geer* Clothing.

**48** *Pendragon* Probably a reference to Uther Pendragon, legendary King of the Britons and supposed father of King Arthur; here a reference to the theme of illegitimate conception.

**50** *Bedizen* – To dress out especially in vulgar or gaudy fashion (QED).

**SOURCE:** *The Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. 54, part II (September 1784), p. 694. [J. Paul Leonard Library]

*Edited by Jhadeeja Shahida Vaz*