Elizabeth Ryves, â??Ode to Friendshipâ?•

Description

ELIZABETH RYVES

â??Ode to Friendshipâ?•

I.
Fond LOVE, with all his winning wiles
Of tender looks and flattering smiles;
Of accents that might Juno charm,
Or Dianâ??s colder ear alarm;
No more shall play the tyrantâ??s part,
No more shall lord it oâ??er my heart.

II.
To Friendship (sweet benignant Power!)
I consecrate my humble bower,
My lute, my muse, my willing mind,
And fix her in my heart enshrinâ??d :
She, Heaven-descended Queen! shall be
My tutelar Divinity.

III.
Soft Peace descends to guard her reign
From anxious fear and jealous pain:
She no delusive hope displays,
But calmly guides our tranquil days;
Refines our pleasure, soothes our care,
And gives the joys of Eden here.

NOTES:

3 *accents* â??Language or wordsâ?• (Johnson); *Juno* Ancient Roman deity, â??chief goddess and female counterpart of Jupiterâ?• (*Encyclopedia Britannica*).

4 *Dianâ??s* Ancient Roman deity, â??the moon-goddess, patroness of virginity and of huntingâ?• (*OED*).

8 *bower* â??A vague poetic word for an idealized abodeâ?• (*OED*).

12 *tutelar* â??Having the charge or guardianship of any person or thingâ?• (Johnson).

Source: *Poems on Several Occasions* (London, 1777), pp. 63-64. [Google Books]

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