

And if before my Joyes were such, Â 85

In having heard, and seen too much,
My Grief must be as great and high,
When all abandonâ€™d I shall be,
Doomâ€™d to a silent Destinie.

No more the Charming strife to hear, Â 90

The Shepherds Vows, the Virgins fear:
No more a joyful looker on,
Whilst Loves soft Battelâ€™s lost and won.

With grief I bowâ€™d my murmuring Head,
And all my Christal Dew I shed. Â 95

Which did in *Cloris* Pity move,
(*Cloris* whose Soul is made of Love;)
She cut me down, and did translate,
My being to a happier state.

No Martyr for Religion diâ€™d Â 100

With half that Unconsidering Pride;
My top was on that Altar laid,
Where Love his softest Offerings paid:
And was as fragrant Incense burnâ€™d,

My body into Busks was turnâ€™d: Â 105
Where I still guard the Sacred Store,
And of Loves Temple keep the Door.

NOTES:

3 *Boughs* – An arm or large shoot of a tree, bigger than a branch, yet not always distinguished from it (Johnson).

6 *tast* Variant for –taste.

13 *verdant* Green.

17 *God of Day* Helios, Greek god of the sun.

44 *Coy* Modest.

56 *Raptures* – Ecstasy; transport; violence of any pleasing passion; enthusiasm; uncommon heat of imagination (Johnson).

62 *Phenix* Phoenix. An ancient mythological bird associated with the worship of the sun. –As its end approached, the phoenix fashioned a nest of aromatic boughs and spices, set it on fire, and was consumed in the flames (–*Britannica*).

105 *Busks* Popular in women’s fashion as an undergarment during the 16th to early 20th century. –A strip of wood, whalebone, steel, or other rigid material attached vertically to the front section of a corset so as to stiffen and support it. Hence occasionally: the corset itself (–*QED*).

SOURCE: *Poems Upon Several Occasions: with a Voyage to the Island of Love* (London, 1684), pp. 19-24.
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