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THE
FORC'D MARRIAGE:
OR, THE
Jealous Bridegroom.
A
TRAGI-COMEDY,
As it is Acted by His
Majesties Servants
AT THE
QUEENS Theatre.

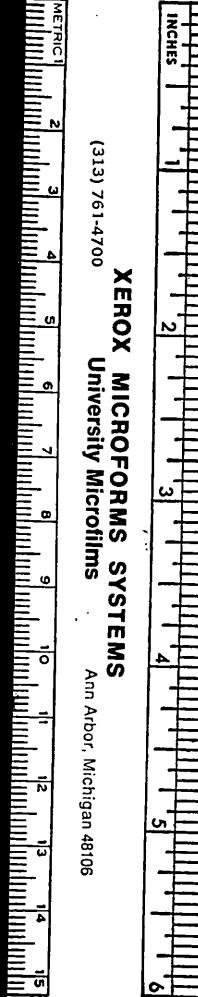
Written by A. BEHN.

Va Mon enfant ! prend ta fortune....

L O N D O N:

Printed for James Knapton, at the Crown in St. Paul's
Church-yard. 1660.

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PROLOGUE

Allants, our Poets have of late so us'd ye,
In Play and Prologue too so much abus'd ye,
That should we beg your aids, I justly fear,
Yare so Incens'd you'd hardly lend it here.

But when against a common Foe we arm,
Each will assist to guard his own concern.
Women, those charming Victors, in whose eyes
Lye all their Arts, and their Artilleries,
Not being contented with the Wounds they made,
Would by new Stratagems our Lives invade.
Beauty alone goes now at too cheap rates,
And therefore they like Wise and Politick States,
Court a new power that may the old supply,
To keep as well as gain the Victory.

They le joyn the Force of Wit to Beauty now,
And so maintain the right they have in you;
If the vain Sex this privilege should boast,
Past cure of a declining fate we're lost.
You le never know the biss of change, this Art
Retrieves (when Beauty fades) the wandring heart,
And though the Airy Spirits move no more,
Wit still invites as Beauty did before.

To day one of their party ventures out,
Not with design to Conquer, but to Scout,
Discourage but this first attempt, and then
They le hardly dare to sally out again.

The Poetess too, they say, has spes abroad,
Which have dispos'd themselves in every road,
I th' upper Box, Pit, Galleries, every face
You find disguis'd in a Black Velvet Cafè.

*My life on't is her Spy on purpose sent,
To hold you in a wanton Complement ;
That so you may not Censure what she's writ,
Which done, they'l face you down 'twas full of wit.
Thus, whilst some common prize you hope to win,
You let the Tyrant Victor enter in.
I beg to day you'd lay that humour by,
Till your rencounter at the Nursery ;
Where they like Centinels, from Duty free,
May meet and wanton with the Enemy.*

Enter an Actress.

*How hast thou labored to subvert in vain,
What one poor smile of ours calls home again ?
Can any see that Glorious sight, and say [Woman pointing
A Woman shall not Victor prove to day : to the Ladies.
Who is't that to their Beauty would submit,
And yet refuse the Fetters of their Wit ?
He tells you tales of Stratagems and Spys ;
Can they need Art that have such pow'rful Eyes ?
Believe me, Gallants, he's abus'd you all ;
There's not a Vizard in our whole Cabal :
Those are but Pickeroons that scour for prey,
And catch up all they meet with in their way ;
Who can no Captives take, for all they do
Is Pillage ye, then gladly let you go ;
Ours scorn the petty spoils, and do prefer
The Glory, not the Interest of the War :
But yet our Forces shall obliging prove,
Imposing nought but constancy in love ;
That's all our Aim, and when we have it too,
We'll Sacrifice it all to pleasure you.*

EPI-

EPILOGUE, by a Woman.

*We charg'd you boldly in our first Advance,
And gave the Onset A-la-mode-de-France,
As each had been a Joan of Orleance.*

*Like them our Heat as soon abated too ;
Alas, we could not vanquish with a show,
Much more than that goes to the conquering you.*

*The trial though, will recompence the pain,
It having wisely taught us how to reign ;
'Tis Beauty only can our Power maintain.*

*But yet as tributary Kings we own
It is by you that we possess that Throne,
Where had we Victors been, wad reign'd alone.*

*And we have promis'd what we could not do,
A fault, methinks, might be forgiven too,
Since 'tis but what we learnt of some of you.*

*But we are upon equal treatment yet,
For neither Conquer, since we both submit ;
You, to our Beauty bow ; We to your Wit.*

Dramatis

Dramatis Personæ.

Mr. Westwood. King.
Mr. Smith. Philander his Son betrothed to Erminia.
Mr. Betterton. Alcippus Favourite, in love with Erminia.
Mr. Norris. Orgulious, late General, Father to Erminia.
Mr. Young. Alcander, friend to the Prince, in love with Aminta.
Mr. Cademan. Pisaro, friend to the young General Alcippus.
Mr. Angel. Falatius, a Fantastick Courtier.
La Bree, his man.
Mr. Crosby. Cleontius, Servant to the Prince, and Brother to Isilla.

Mrs. Jennings. Gallatea, Daughter to the King.
Mrs. Betterton. Erminia, Daughter to Orgulious, espous'd to the Prince.
Mrs. Wright. Aminta, Sister to Pisaro, in love with Alcander.
Mrs. Lee. Olinda, Sister to Alcander, Maid of Honour to the Princess.
Mrs. Clough. Isilla, Sister to Cleontius, Woman to Erminia.
Lysette, Woman to Aminta.
Pages and Attendants.

Scene within the Court of FRANCE.

THE

[1]

THE

FORCD MARRIAGE,
OR THE
Jealous Bridegroom.

ACT I. SCENE I.

Enter King, Philander, Orgulious, Alcippus, Alcander, Pisaro, Cleontius, Fallatius; And Officers.

Kin. **H**O W shall I now divide my Gratitude ;
Between a Son, and one that has obliged me,
Beyond the common duty of a subject ?
Pbi. Believe me, Sir, he merits all your Bounty
I only took example by his Actions ;
And all the part o'th' victory which I gain'd,
Was but deriv'd from him :

Kin. Brave youth, whose Infant-years did bring us Conquests.
And as thou grew'st to man, thou grew'st in glory,
And hast arriv'd to such a pitch of it ;
As all the slothful youth that shall succeed thee,
Shall meet reproaches of thy early Actions ;
When men shall say, thus did the brave *Alcippus* ;
And that great Name shall every soul inspire,
With Emulation, to arrive at something,
That's worthy of Example.

Alcip. I must confess I had the honour, Sir,
To lead on twenty thousand fighting men,
Whom Fortune gave the glory of the day to.
I only bad them fight, and they obey'd me ;
But 'twas my Prince that taught them how to do so ;

Kin. I do believe *Philander* wants no courage ;
But what he did was to preserve his own.
But thine the pure effects of highest valour ;
For which, if ought below my Crown can recompence,
Name it, and take it, as the price of it.

Alcip. The Duty which we pay your Majesty
Ought to be such, as what we pay the Gods ;
Which always bears its recompence about it.

Kin. Yet suffer me to make thee some return,
Though not forthec, yet to incourage Virtue.
I know thy soul is generous enough,
To think a glorious act rewards it self.
But those who understand not so much Virtue,
Will call it my neglect and want of gratitude;
In this thy modesty will wrong thy King.
King. By this pause you seem to doubt
My Power or Will, in both you are too blame.

Alcip. Your pardon Sir, I never had a thought
That could be guilty of so great sin,
That I was Capable to do you service,
Was the most grateful-bounty Heaven allowed me,
And no juster way could own that blessing,
Than to employ the guilt for your repole.

Sirkin. I shall grow angry, and believe your pride
Would put the guilt off on your modesty,
Which would refuse what that believes below it.

Phil. Your Majesty thinks too severely of him;
Permit me, Sir, to recharche his valour,
I saw the wonders on't, and thence may guess
In some degree, what may be worthy of it.

Kin. I like it well, and till thou hast perform'd it,
I will divest my self of all my power.
And give it thee, till thou hast made him great.

Phi. I humbly thank you Sir —
And here I do create him General, —
You seem to wonder, as if I dispossess't
The brave Orgulius, but be pleas'd to know,
Such Reverence and Respect I owe that Lord,
As had himself not made it his Petition,
I sooner should have parted with my Right,
Than have discharg'd my debt, by yngniring him.

Kin. Orgulius, are you willing to resign it.

Org. With your permission, Sir, most willingly;
His vigorous youth is fitter for than age,
Which now has rendred me uncapable to yngnire him,
Of what that can with more success perform'd him, —
My heart and wishes are the same they were, —
But time has quite depriv'd me of that power,
That should assist a happy Conqueror in ev'ry thing he did.

Kin. Yet time has added little to your years, to a bothe a man of few and
Since I restord you to your great Comand, you wold nige to it, —
And then you thought it not unfit for yngniring est as I did this, —

Org.

Org. Sir, was it fit I should refuse your Grace? —
That was your act of mercy; and I took it
To clear my innocency, and reform the errors
Which those receiv'd who did believe me guilty,
Or that my Crimes were greater than that mercy;
I took it, Sir, in scorn of those that hated me;
And now resign it to the man you love.

King. We need not this proof, to confirm thy Loyalty,
Nor am I yet so barren of rewards,
But I can find a way, without depriving
Thy Noble Head of its Victorious Wreathes,
To crown another's Temples.

Org. I humbly beg your Majesty's consent to't;
If you believe *Alcippus* worthy of it;
The generous Youth I have bred up to Battels;
Taught him to overcome, and use that Conquest;
As modestly as his submissive Captive,
His Melancholly, (but his easie fetters;) —
To meet Deaths horrors with undaunted looks.
How to despise the hardships of a Siege;
To suffer cold and hunger, want of sleep;
Nor knew he other rest than on his Horse-back;
Where he would sit and take a hearty Nap;
And then too dreamt of fighting;
I could continue on a day in telling
The wonders of this Warrior.

King. I credit all, and do submit to you.
But yet *Alcippus* seems displeas'd with it.

Alcip. Ah Sir! too late I find my confidence
Has overcome m' unhappy bashfulness;
I had an humble suit to approach you with;
But this unlook'd for Honour,
Has so confounded all my lesser Aims;
As were they not essential to my Being,
I durst not name them after what y' have done.

King. It is not well to think my kindness limited;
This, from the Prince you hold, the next from me;
Be what it will, I here declare it thine.

— Upon my life, designs upon a Lady;
I guess it from thy blushing.

— Name her, and here thy King engages for her:

Phi. O Gods! — What have I done? — *Erminia*, Sir, a young maid, — *Org.* aside

Alcip. Erminia, Sir, a young maid, — *Org.* aside

Phi. I'm ruin'd. — *Org.* aside

King. *Alcippus*, with her Fathers leave, she's thine. — *Org.* aside

Org. Sir, Tis my Aim and Honour. — *Phi.* aside

B

Pfi. *Alcippus*, is't a time to think of Weddings,
When the disorder'd Troops require your presence?
You must to the Camp to morrow.

Alcip. You need not urge that Duty to me, Sir.

King. A day or two will finisht that Affair,
And then we'll consummatte the happy day,
When all the Court shall celebrate your joy.

Pfi. *Falatio*, you are a swift Horseman.
I believe you have a Misfri'st at Court,
You made such haste this Morning.

Fal. By *Jove*, *Pisaro*, I was enough weary of the
Campaigne; and till I had lost sight of it,
I clapt on all my spurs.—
But what ails *Alcander*?

Pfi. What, displeas'd?

Alcand. It may be so, what then?

Pfi. Then thou mayst be pleas'd again.

Alcan. Why the devil should I rejoyce?
Because I see onother rais'd above me;
Let him be great, and damn'd with all his greatness.

Pfi. Thou meanst *Alcippus*, whom I think meritis it.

Alcan. What is't that thou eali'st merit?
He fought, 'tis true, and so did you, and I,
And gain'd as much as he o'th' victory.
But he in the Triumphal Chariot rod,
Whilst we ador'd him like a Demi-God.
He with the Prince an equal welcome found,
Was with like Garlands, tho' les's merit, crown'd.

Fa. He's in the right for that, by *Jove*.

Pfi. Nay, now you wrong him.

Alcan. What's he; I should not speak my sence of him?

Pfi. He is our General.

Alcan. What then?

What is't that he can do, which I'lle decline?
Has he more youth, more strength, or arms than I?
Can he preserve himself i'th' heat of Battel?
Or can he singly fight a whole Brigade?
Can he receive a thousand wounds and live?

Fal. Can you or he do so?

Alcan. I do not say I can, but tell me then,
Where be the Vertues of this mighty man,
That he should brave it over all the rest?

Pfi. Faith he has many Vertues, and much courage;
And meritis it as well as you or I,
Orguliose was grown old.

Alcan. What then?

[they all go out
but Alcan. Pfi.
and Fal.]

Pfi. Whh, then, he was unsit for't,
But that he had a Daughter who was young.

Alcan. Yes, he might have lain by like
Rusty Armour else,
Had she not brought him into play again;
The Devil take her for't.

Fal. By *Jove*, he's dissatisfied with every thing.

Alcan. She has undone my Prince,
And he has most unluckily disarm'd himself,
And put the Sword into his Rivals hand,
Who will return it to his grateful bosom.

Pfi. Why you believe *Alcippus* honest—

Alcan. Yes, in your sence *Pisaro*,
But do not like the last demand he made,
'Twas but an ill return upon his Prince
To beg his Mistress, rather challeng'd her.

Pfi. His Ignorance that she was so, may excuse him.

Alcan. The Devil twill, dost think he knew it not?

Pfi. Orguliose still design'd him for *Erminia*,
And if the Prince be disoblig'd from this,
He only ought to take it ill from him.

Alcan. Too much *Pisaro* you excuse his Pride,
But 'tis the office of a friend to do so.

Pfi. 'Tis true, I am not ignorant of this,
That he despises other recompence
For all his services, but fair *Erminia*,
I know 'tis long since he resign'd his heart,
Without so much as telling her the conquer'd;
And yet she knew he lov'd; whilst she, ingrate,
Repay'd his passion only with her scorn.

Alcan. In loving him she'd more ingrateful prove
To her first Vows, to Reason and to Love.

Pfi. For that *Alcander* you know more than I.

Fal. Why sure *Aminta* will instruct her better,
She's as inconstant as the Seas and Winds,
Which ne're are calm but to betray Adventurers.

Alcan. How came you by that knowledge Sir?

Fal. What a pox makes him ask me that question now? [aside]

Pfi. Prithee *Alcander* now we talk of her,
How go the Amours twixt you and my wild sister;
Can you speak yet, or do you tell your tale,
With eyes and sighs, as you were wont to do?

Alcan. Faith much at that old rate, *Pisaro*,
I yet have no incouragement from her
To make my Court in any other language.

Pfi. You'l bring her to't, she must be overcome,

And you're the fittest for her fickle humour.

Alcan. Pox on't, this change will spoil our making Love,
We must be sad and follow the Court Mode ;
My life on't you'll see desperate doings here ;
The Eagle will not part so with his prey ;
Erminia was not gain'd so easily
To be resign'd so tamely : but come my Lord,
This will not satisfie our appetites,
Let's in to Dinner, and when warm with Wine
We shall be fitter for a new design.

Fal. Now am I in a very fine condition,
A comfortable one as I take it ?
I have ventur'd my life to some purpose now ;
What confounded luck was this, that he of all men
Living, should happen to be my Rival.
Well, I'll go visit *Aminta*, and see how

She receives me.—
Why where a duce-hast thou dispos'd of
Thy self all this day, I will be bound to be
Hang'd if thou hast not a hankering after
Some young wench ; thou couldst never loyter
Thus else ; but I'll forgive thee now, and prithee go to
My Lady *Aminta*'s Lodgings : Kiss her hand
From me : and tell her I am just returned from
The *Campagne* : mark that word, *Sirrah*.

Labre. I shall Sir ; 'tis truth.

Fal. Well, that's all one ; but if she should
Demand any thing concerning me ; (for
Love's inquisitive) dost hear : as to my valour, or so,
Thou understand'st me ; tell her
I acted as became a man that pretend to the glory of
Serving her.

Lab. I warrant you, Sir, for a speech.

Fa. Nay, thou mayst speak as well too much
As too little, have a care of that, dost hear ?
And if she ask what wounds I have : dost mind me
Tell her I have many, very many.

La. But whereabouts, Sir ?

Fa. Let me see — let me see : I know not where
To place them — I think in my face.

La. By no means, Sir, you had much better
Have them in your *Pofterians* : for then the Ladies
Can never disprove you : they'll not look there.

Fa. The sooner, you fool, for the rarity on't.

La. Sir, the Novelty is not so great, I assure you.

Fa. Go to, y'are wicked : but I will have them in my face.

La. With all my heart, Sir, but how ?

Fa.

Fa. I'll wear a patch or two there, and I'll
Warrant you for pretending as much as any man,
And who, you fool, shall know the fallacy ?

La. That, Sir, will all that know you, both in the
Court and Camp.

Fa. Mark me, *Labre*, once for all, if thou takest
Delight continually thus to put me in mind of
My want of Courage, I shall undoubtedly be much injured. *Exeunt*
Fall foul on thee, and give the most fatal proofs
Of more than thou expectest.

La. Nay, Sir, I have done, and do believe 'tis only
I dare say you are a man of prowes.

Fa. Leave thy simple facies, and go about thy business.

La. I am gone, but hark my Lord, if I durst say
If I should say your face were wounded,
The Ladies would fear you had lost your Beauty.

Fa. O never trouble your head for that, *Aminta*.
Is a Wit, and your Wits care not how ill-favoured
Their men be, the more ugly the better.

La. An't be so, you'll fit them to a hair.

Fa. Thou art a Coxcomb, to think a man of my
Quality needs the advantage of handsomeness :
A trifle, as insignificant as Wit or Valour : poor
Nothings, which Men of fortune ought to despise.

La. Why do you then keep such a sin to gain
The reputation of this thing you so despise ?

Fa. To please the peevish humour of a Woman,
Who in that point only is a fool.

La. You had a Mistress once, if you have not
Forgotten her, who would have taken you with
All these faults.

Fa. There was so ; but she was poor, that's the
Devil, I could have lay'd her else.

— But go thy ways ; what dost thou muse on ?

La. Faith Sir, I am only fearful you will never

Pass with those patches you speak of.

Fa. Thou never to be reclaimed. *Act* shall I never
Bring thee to apprehend as thou ought'st, I tell thee
I will pass and repass, where and how I please ;
Know'st thou not the difference yet, between a *Chirurgion* and the
Man of Money and Titles, and a man of *only Parts* ?
As they call them ; poor Devils, of no merit nor
Garb : Well, 'tis a fine and frugal thing, for *Ladre* to view
This honour, it covers a multitude of faults.

Even ridicule in one of us is *A-la-mode*.

Exeunt
But I detain thee ; go haft to *Aminta*.

Act

ACT I SCEN. II

Enter Gallant, Aminta, and Olinda.

Gall. Will *Erminia* come? *My words* will be new *news* to her.
Oli. Madam, I thought she'd been already here.
Gall. But prethee how does she support this news?
Oli. Madam, as those who're concluded to Heaven,
Would bear the pangs of death.

Am. Time will convince her of that foolish error,
Of thinking a brisk young Husband a torment.

Gall. What young Husband? *The world* is full of them.

Am. The General, Madam.

Gall. Why, dost thou think she will consent to it?

Am. Madam, I cannot tell, the World's inconstant.

Gall. I *Aminta*, in every thing but Love.

And sure they cannot be in that:
What sayst thou, *Olinda*?

Oli. Madam, my judgment's naught.

Love I have treated as a stranger guest,
Receiv'd him well, not lodg'd him in my brest.
I ne're durst give the Unknown Tyrant room,
Lest he should make his resting place his home.

Gall. Then thou art happy; but if *Erminia* fail
I shall not live to reproach her.

Am. Nay, Madam, do not think of dying yet;
There is a way, if we could think of it.

Gall. *Aminta*, when wilt thou this humour lose?

Am. Faith never, if I might my humour chuse.

Gall. Methinks thou shouldst blush to bid me Live.

Am. Madam, 'tis the best Counsel I can give.

Gall. Thy Counsel! Prethee what dost counsel now?

Am. What I would take my self I counsel you.

Gall. You must my wounds and my misfortunes bear.

Before you can become my Counsellor,
You cannot guess the torments I endure:

You know not the Disease you'll mis's the Cure.

Am. Physicians, Madam, can the Patient heal?
Although the Malady they ne're did feel?

But your Disease is Epidemical,
Nor can I that evade that conquers all.

I lov'd, and never did like pleasure know,
Which passion did with timid less vigorous grow.

Gall. Why hast thou lost it?

Am. It, and half a score.

Gall. Losing the first, late thou couldst love no more.

Am. With more facility, than when the Dart

Arm'd

Arm'd with resistless fire first seized my heart; 'twas then that I did fly.
'Twas long then, e're the Boy could entrance get, his arm'd with such a blow,
And make his little Victory conspire; But now he's got the knack, on't, 'tis with ease, he's armed by
He domineers and enters when he please.

Gall. My heart, *Aminta*, is not like to thine;

Am. Faith Madam try; you'll find it just like mine; and then

The first I lov'd was *Philocles*, and then
Made Protestations ne're to love agen,

Yet after left him for a faithless crime;

But then I languish'd even to death for him;

— But Love who suffer'd me to take no rest,
New fire-balls threw, the old scarce dispossess;

And by the greater flame the lesser light,
Like Candles in the Sun, extinguish'd quite,

And left no power *Alcander* to resist,

Who took, and keeps possession of my brest.

Gall. Art thou a Lover then, and lookest so gay,
But thou hast ne're a Father t' obey.

Am. Why, if I had I would obey him too.

Gall. And live.

Am. And live.

Gall. 'Tis more than I can do.

[Enter *Erminia* Weeping:
Gall. meets her,
embraces her and
Weeps.

Er. I'll not reproach my fortune, since in you
Grief does the noblest of your Sex subdue;

When your great Soul a sorrow can admit:

I ought to suffer from the fence of it;

Your cause of grief too much like mine appears,

Not to oblige my eyes to double tears;

And had my heart no sentiments at home,

My part in yours had doubtless fill'd the room.

But mine will no addition more receive,

Fate has bestow'd the worst she had to give;

Your mighty soul can all its rage oppose,

Whilst mine must perish by more terrible blows.

Gall. Indeed, I dare not say my cause of grief

Does yours exceed, since both are past relief;

But if our Fates unequal do appear,

Erminia, 'tis my heart that odds must bear.

Er. Madam, 'tis just I should to you resign,

But here you challenge what is only mine:

My Fate so cruel is, it will not give
Leave to *Philander* (if I die) to live:

Might-

Might I but suffer all, 'twere some content, and canst thou tell me now? But who can live and see his languishment? off or off, nothing now! You Madam, do alone your sorrows bear; you have no other care, which would be less did but *Alcippus* share; As Lovers we agree, I'll not deny. But thou art lov'd again, so am not I.

Er. Madam, though grief the better is sustain'd, That's for a los' that never yet was gain'd; You only lose a man that does not know How great the Honour is which you bestow; Who dares not hope you love, or if he did, Your greatness would his just return forbid; His humbler thoughts durst ne're to you aspire, At most he would presume but to admire; Or if it chanc'd he durst more daring prove, You still must languish and conceal your love.

Gall. This which you argue, lessens not my pain, My griefs the same, were I lov'd again. The King my Father would his promise keep, And thou must him injoy for whom I weep.

Er. Ah would I could that fatal gift deny, Without him you; and with him, I must die; My self your Royal Brother does adore, And I, all Passion, but from him abhor; But if I must thus suit *Alcippus* wed, I vow he ne're shall come into my Bed.

Gall. That's bravely sworn, and now I love thee more Than e're I was oblig'd to do before;

— But yet *Erminia* guard thee from his Eyes; Where so much Love, and so much Beauty lies; Those charms may conquer thee, which made me bow, And make thee love as well as break this Vow.

Er. Madam, it is unkind, though but to fear, Ought but *Philander* can inhabit here: [lays her hand on

Gall. All that *Alcippus* did not you approve; We then might hope these mischiefs to remove; The King my Father might be won by Prayer, And my too powerful Brothers sad despair, To break his word, which kept us undo: And he will lose his dear *Philander* too, Who dies and can no remedies receive: But vows it is for you alone he'll live.

Er. Ah Madam, do not tell me how he dies, I've seen too much already in his Eyes; They did the sorrows of his Soul betray, Which need not be Contest another way:

'Twas there I found what my misfortune was, Too sadly written in his lovely face. But see, my father comes: Madam, withdraw a while, And once again I'll try my interest with him. [Exeunt.

A C T . I . S C E N . III.

Enter *Orgulious, Erminia weeping, and Isilla.*

Er. Sir, does your fatal resolution hold?

Org. Away, away, you are a foolish Girl, And look with too much pride upon your Beauty; Which like a gawdy flower that springs too soon, Withers ere fully blown.

Your very tears already have betray'd Its weak inconstant nature;

Alcippus, should he look upon the now, Would swear thou wert not that fine thing he lov'd.

Er. Why should that blessing turn to my despair, Curse on his faith that told him I was fair.

Org. Tis strange to me you should despise this fortune, I always thought you well-inclin'd to love him, I would not else have thus dispos'd of you.

Er. I humbly thank you, Sir, thought be too late, And wish you yet would try to change my fate; What to *Alcippus* you did love believe, Was such a friendship as might well deceive; 'Twas what kind Sisters do to Brothers pay; *Alcippus* I can love no other way.

— Sir, lay the interest of a Father by, And give me leave this Lover to deny.

Org. *Erminia*, thou art young and canst not see The advantage of the fortune offer'd thee;

Er. Alas, Sir, there is something yet behind. [sighs.]

Org. What is't *Erminia*, freely speak thy mind.

Er. Ah Sir, I dare not, you inrag'd will grow.

Org. *Erminia*, you have seldom found me so; If no mean passion have thy soul possest, Be what it will I can forgive the rest.

Er. No Sir, it is no crime, or if it be, Let Prince *Philander* make the peace for me; He 'twas that taught the sin, (if love be such.)

Or. *Erminia*, peace, he taught you then too much,

Er. Nay Sir, you promis'd me you would not blame My early love, if 'twere a noble flame.

Or. Then this a more unhappy could not be; Destroy it, or expect to hear of me. [offers to go out.]

Er. Alas, I know 'twould anger you when known. [she stay's him.]

Org. *Erminia*, you are wondrous daring grown;

VWhere

Where got you courage to admit his love,
Before the King or I did it approve ?

Er. I borrow'd Courage from my Innocence,
And my own Vertue, Sir, was my defence.

Pbillander never spoke but from a Soul,
That all dishonest passions can controul ;
With flames as chaste as Vestals that did burn,
From whence I borrow'd mine, to make return.

Org. Your love from folly, not from vertue, grew ;

You never could believe he'd marry you.

Er. Upon my life no other thing he spoke,
But those from dictates of his Honour took.

Org. Though by his fondness led he were content
To marry thee, the King would ne're consent.

Cease then this fruitless passion, and incline
Your will and reason to agree with mine.

Alcippus I dispos'd you to before,
And now I am inclin'd to it much more.
Some days I had design'd t' ve given thee
To have prepar'd for this solemnity ;
But now my second thoughts believe it fit,
You should this night to my desires submit.

Er. This night, Ah Sir, what is't you mean to do ?

Org. Preserve my credit, and thy Honour too.

Er. By such resolves you me to ruine bring.

Org. That's better than to disoblige my King.

Er. But if the King his liking do afford,
Would you not with *Alcippus* break your word ?
Or would you not to serve your Princes life,
Permit your Daughter to become his Wife ?

Org. His VVife *Erminia*, if I did believe
Thou couldst to such a thought a credit give ;
I would the interest of a Father quit,
And you, *Erminia*, have no need of it :
VVithout his aid you can a Husband chuse.
Gaining the Prince you may a Father lose.

Er. Ah Sir, these words are Poniards to my heart ;
And half my love to duty does convert ;
Alas Sir, I can be content to die,
But cannot suffer this severity : *[kneels.]*
That care you had, dear Sir, continue still,
I cannot live and disobey your will. *[rises.]*

Org. This duty has regain'd me, and you'll find
A just return ; I shall be always kind ;
Go — reassume your Beauty ; dry your eyes ;
Remember 'tis a Father does advise. *[goes out.]*

Er. Ungrateful duty, whose uncivil pride,
By Reason is not to be satisfy'd ;

VVho

Who even Loves Almighty Power o'rethrows,
Or doft on it too rigorous Laws impose ;
VVho bindest up our Vertue too too stright,
And on our honour lays too great a weight.
Coward, whom nothing but thy power makes strong :
VVhom Age and Malice bred t'affright the young ;
Here thou doft Tyrannize to that degree,
That nothing but my death will set me free.

Exit Erm.

S C E N: IV.

Enter Phillander and Alcander.

Pbi. Urge it no more, your Reasons do displease me ;
I offer'd her a Crown, with her *Phillander* :

And she was once pleas'd to accept of it.
She lov'd me too, yes, and repaid my flame,
As kindly as I sacrificed to her :

The first salute we gave were harmless love,
Our Souls then met, and so grew up together,
Like sympathizing Twins.

And must she now be ravish'd from my Arms ?
VVill you *Erminia* suffer such a Rape.

VVhat tho the King have said it shall be so,
'Tis not his pleasure can become thy Law,
No, nor it shall not.

And though he were my God as well as King,
I would instruct thee how to disobey him ;
Thou shalt, *Erminia*, bravely say, I will not ;
He cannot force thee to't against thy will :

— Oh Gods, shall duty to a King and Father,
Make thee commit a Murther on thy self ?

Thy sacred self, and me that do adore thee ;
No, my *Erminia*, quit this vain devoure,
And follow Love that may preserve us all :

— Presumptuous Villain, bold ingratitude —
Hadst thou no other way to pay my favours ?
By Heaven 'twas bravely bold, was it not *Alcander* ?

Alcan. It was somewhat strange Sir ;
But yet perhaps he knew not that you lov'd her.

Pbi. Not know it ; yes as well as thou and I ;
The VVorld was full on't, and could he be ignorant ;
VVhy was her father call'd from banishment,
And plac'd about the King, but for her sake :
VWhat made him General, but my passion for her,
VWhat gave him twenty thousand Crowns a year,
But that which made me Captive to *Erminia*.
Almighty Love, of which thou sayst he is ignorant ;
How has he order'd his audacious flame,

C 2

That

That I could ne're perceive it all this while.

Alcan. Then 'twas a flame conceal'd from you alone,
To the whole Court besides 'twas visible.
He knew you would not suffer it to burn out ;
And therefore waited till his services
Might give encouragement to's close design ;
If that could do't he nobly has endeavour'd it,
But yet I think you need not yield her, Sir.

Pbi. *Alcippeus*, I confess, is brave enough,
And by such ways I'll make him quit his claim ;
— He shall to morrow to the Camp again,
— And then I'll own my passion to the king ;
— He loves me well, and I may hope his pity,
Till then be calm my heart, for if that fail,
This is the argument that will prevail.

[points to his Sword.]
[Exeunt.]

ACT II.

The REPRESENTATION of the WEDDING.

The Curtain must be let down ; and soft Musick must play : the Curtain being drawn up, discovers a Scene of a Temple : The King sitting on a Throne, bowing down to joyn the Hands of Alcippeus and Erminia, who kneel on the steps of the Throne ; the Officers of the Court and the Clergy standing in order by, with Orgulius. This within the Scene.

Without on the Stage, Philander with his Sword half-drawn, held by Gallatea, who looks ever on Alcippeus : Erminia still fixing her eyes on Philander ; Pisaro passionately gazing on Gallatea : Amynth on Fallatio, and be on her ; Alcander, Itilia, Cleontius, in other several postures, with the rest ; all remaining without motion, whilst the Musick softly plays ; this continues a while till the Curtain falls ; and then the Musick plays about till the Act begins.

ACT I. SCENE I.

Enter Philander and Gallatea inrag'd.

*T*is done 'tis done, the fatal Knot is ti'd,
Erminia to *Alcippeus* is a Bride ;
Methinks I see the motions of her eyes,
And how her Virgin breasts do fall and rise :
Her bashful blush, her timorous desire,
Adding new flame to his too vigorous fire ;
Whilst he the charming beauty must embrace,
And shall I live to suffer this disgrace ?
Shall I stand tamely by, and he receive
That Heaven of bliss, defenceless she can give ;
No Sister, no, renounce that Brothers name,
Suffers his patience to surmount his fame ;

I'll

I'll reach the *Victor's* heart, and make him fee,
That Prize he has obtain'd belongs to me.

Gel. Ah dear ! *Philander* do not threaten so,
Whilst him you wound, you kill a Sister too.

Pbi. Though all the Gods were rallied on his side,
They should too feeble prove to guard his pride.
Justice and Honour on my Sword shall sit,
And my revenge shall guide the lucky hit.

Gal. Consider but the danger and the crime,
And Sir remember that his life is mine.

Pbi. Peace Sister, do not urge it as a sin,
Of which the Gods themselves have guilty been :

The Gods my Sister do approve revenge,
By Thunder, which th' almighty Ports unbind,

Such is their lightning when poor mortals fear,

And Princes are the Gods inhabit here ;
Revenge has charms that do as powerful prove
As those of Beauty, and as sweet as love,
The force of vengeance will not be withstood.

Till it has bath'd and cool'd it self in blood.

Erminia, sweet *Erminia* ; thou art lost,

And he yet lives that does the conquest boast.

Gal. Brother, that Captive you can ne're retrieve
More by the Victors death than if he live,
For she in Honour cannot him prefer,
Who shall become her Husband Murtherer ;
By safer ways you may that blessing gain,
When venturing thus through blood, and death prove vain.

Pbi. With hopes already that are vain as air,
You've kept me from revenge, but not despair.
I had my self acquitted as became
Erminia's wrong'd adorer, and my flame,
My Rival I had kill'd, and set her free,
Had not my Justice been disarm'd by thee.

— But for thy faithleis hope I'd murther'd him,
Even when the holy Priest was marrying them,
And offer'd up the reeking sacrifice
To th' Gods he kneel'd to, when he took my prize ;
By all their Purity I would have don't,
But now I think I merit the affront :
He that his vengeance idly does defer,
His Safety more than his Success must fear :
I like that Coward did prolong my fate,
But brave revenge can never come too late.

Gal. Brother, if you can fo inhumane prove
To me your Sister, Reason, and to Love :
I'll let you see that I have fentiments too,
Can love and be reveng'd as well you,

That

[16]
That hour that shall a death to him impart,
Shall send th is Dagger to *Ethismia's* heart.

Pbi. — Ah Coward, how their words have made thee pale,
And fear above thy courage does prevail;
Ye Gods, why did you such a way invent?

Gall. None else was left thy madness to prevent.
Pbi. Ah cruel Sister, I am tame because
And will reverse my happy Rival's doom?
Yes, he shall live, to triumph o'er my Tomb; and tributo'. No
— But yet what thou hast said I needst must blame,
For if my resolutions prove the fante,
I now should kill thee; and my life renew.
But were it brave or just to murther you?
At worst I should an unkind Sister kill,
'Thou wouldst the sacred blood of friendship spill:
I kill a man that has undone my Faine,
Ravish my Mistres, and contemn'd my Name
And Sister, one who does not thee prefer:
But thou no reason haft to injure her.
Such charmes of Innocence her eyes do dress,
As would confound the cruell' st Murtherer's
And thou art soft, and canst no horror see,
Such Actions, Sister, you must leave to me!

Gall. The highest love no reason will admit,
And passion is above my friendship yet.

Pbi. Then since I cannot hope to alter thee,
Let me but beg that thou wouldest let me free,
Free this poor foul that such a coil does keep,
'Twill neither let me wake in peace, nor sleep.
Comfort I find a stranger to my heart,
Nor canst thou ought of that but thus impart,
Thou shouldest with joy a death to him procure,
Who by it leaves *Alcippus* life secure.

Gall. Dear brother, you out-run your patience still,
We'll neither die our selves, nor others kill;
Something I'll do that shall thy joys restore,
And bring those back that health thou hadst before;

— We're now expected at the banquet, where
I'd have thy eyes more Love than Anger wear;
This night be cheerful, and on me depend,
On me, that am thy Sister and thy friend;
A little raise *Alcippus* jéalouſie,
And let the rest be carried on by me;
Nor would it be amiss should you provide
A Serenade to entertain the guests of thy new friends.
'Twil give him fears that may perhaps disprove
The fond opinion of his happy love.

Pbi. 'Though Hope be faithles, yet I cannot chuse,
Coming from thee, but credit the advice.
Gal. Philander, do not you Hopes power distrust,
'Tis time enough to die, when that's unjust. [Exeunt.]

A C T . II . S C E N . II .

Enter Aminta as passing over the Stage, is stayed by Olinda:

Oli. Why so hasty, *Aminta*.
Am. The time requires it, *Olinda*.
Oli. But I've an humble suit to you.
Am. You shall command me any thing.
Oli. Pray Heaven you keep your word.
Am. That sad tone of thine *Olinda* has almost
Made me repent of my promise, but come, what is't?

Oli. My Brother, Madam.

Am. Now ey'e upon thee, is that all thy business? [Offens: to go off.]

Oli. Stay Madam, she dies for you.

Am. He cannot do for any woman living
But well — it seems he speaks of love to you;

To me he does appear a very Statue,

Oli. He naught but sighs and calls upon your name,
And vows you are the cruellest Maid that breathes.

Am. Thou canst not be in earnest sure.

Oli. He swear I am, and so is he.

Am. Nay then thou haft a hard task on't, to make

Vows to all the Women he makes love to;

Indeed I pity thee; ha, ha, ha.

Oli. You should not laugh at those you have undone.

Aminta Sings.

Hang love, for I will never pine,
For any Man alive;
Nor shall this jolly heart of mine
The thoughts of it receive; — I flye, I flye, I flye, I flye,
I will not purchase slavery
At such a dangerous rate;

But glory, merriment, and mirth you can not find me to tell,
And laugh at love, and faire up ton ob me good I ambsM.

Oli. You'll kill him by this emeley.

Am. VVhat is thou callit so, and to have you to no more in sight?

For I have hitherto given no denials, — I am son eus as he is, and he is

Nor has he given me cause;

I have seen him wildly gaze upon me often, — I did not then know him;

And sometimes blush and smil, but seldom that;

And now and then found fault with my replies,

And wonder'd where the devil lay that wot me not; — I ambsM.

VVwhich he believ'd no Judge, as it could findas me to be guilty.

Oli. Faith Madam, that's his way of making love.

Am.

Am. It will not take with me, I love a man
Can kneel, and swear, and cry, and look submis'd,
As if he meant indeed to die my slave.
Thy Brother looks—but too much like a Conqueror.

[sighs.]

Oli. How *Aminta*, can you sigh in earnest?

Am. Yes *Olinda*, and you shall know its meaning,
I love *Aleander*—and am not ashame'd o'th secret,
But prithee do not tell him what I say.
—Oh he's a man made up of those perfections,
Which I have often lik'd in several men;
And wish'd united to compleat some one,
Whom I might have the glory to o'recome. [sighs.]
—His Mien and Person; but above all his Humour,
That surly Pride, though even to me addrest,
Do's strangely well become him.

Oli. May I believe this? [sighs.]

Am. Not if you mean to speak on't without a malice,
But I shall soon enough betray my self, how you ne're told me no such thing.

Enter *Falatus* with a patch to two on the Face.

Falatus. Welcom from the Wars, where you struggle about me,
I'm glad to see y've escap'd the dangers of them.

Fa. Not so well escap'd neither, Madam, but I am come to you
Have left still a few testimonies of the battles I did for your honour,
Severity to me.

Gli. That's not so well, believe me, I bid you not tell us. [points to his face.]

Fa. Nor so ill, since they be such as rehderous men will tell us ev'ry
Less acceptable to your fair eyes, Madam, and as I am told, I have
But had you seen me when I gain'd them, *Ladies*, [sighs.]

In that Heroick posture.

Am. What posture?

Fa. In that of fighting, Madam.

You would have call'd to mind that ancient story, of the stout
Of the stout Giants that wag'd War with Heaven,
Just so I fought, and for as glorious prize,
Your excellent Ladiship.

Am. For me, was it for me you ran this hazard?

Fa. Madam, I hope you do not question that, to doubt me,
Was it not all the faults you found, within me, mid the world? No
The reputation of my want of Courage,

A thousand Furies are not like a Battel-hob on having offend'd me.

And but for you,

By Jove I would not fight it, [sighs.]

For all the glory on't, and here I lay'd down my life.

Madam your heart is strange, the fownd'w just before me, like water.

That can resist th'efforts I have made against it, [sighs.]

And bring to boot such marks of valour too, [sighs.]

Enter to them *Alcippus* who seeing them would enter late, *but Olinda*

[sighs him.]

Oli.

Ol. Brother, come back,

Fa. Advance, advance, what Man, afraid of me?

Alc. How, can she hold discourse with that Fantastick [aside.]

Fa. Come forward and be complaisant [pulls him again.]

Al. That's most proper for your wit *Falatus*.

Er. Why so angry?

Alc. Away, thou art deceiv'd.

Am. You've lost your sleep, which puts you out of humour.

Alc. He's damn'd will lose a moment on't for you.

Am. Who is't that has displeas'd you?

Alc. You have, and took my whole repose away,

And more than that, which you ne're can restore;
I can do nothing as I did before.

When I would sleep, I cannot do't for you,

My Eyes and Fancy do that form pursue,

And when I sleep, you Revel in my dreams,

And all my life is nothing but extremes.

When I would tell my love, I seem most rude,

For that informs me how I am subdu'd.

Gods you're unjust to tyrannize o're me,

When thousands fitter for't than I go free.

Fal. Why what the Devil has possest *Aleander*.

Ol. How like you this *Aminta*?

Am. Better and better, he's a wondrous man.

Fa. 'Tis the most unjanty humour that ever I saw;

I, I, he is my Rival,

No marvell an' he lookt so big upon me,

He is damnable valiant, and as Jealous as

He is Valiant, how shall I behave my

Self to him, and these too idle humours of his

I cannot yet determine; the comfort is, he

Knows I am a Coward what ever face I set upon it.

Well, I must either resolve never to provoke

His jealousie, or be able to re'counter his

Other fury, his valour; that were a good

Resolve if I be not past all hope.

[goes out.]

[*Am.* and *Ol.* goes out]

[Exeunt]

A C T. II. S C E N E. III.

Enter *Alcippus* and *Erminia*, as in a Bed-Chamber.

Alcip. But still methinks *Erminia* you are sad

A heavyness appears in those fair eyes,

As if your Soul were agitating something

Contrary to the pleasure of this night.

Er. You ought in Justice Sir t'excuse me here,

Prisoners when first committed are less gay,

Then

Than when they're us'd to Fetter every day,
But yet in time they will more easie grow.

Alcip. You strangely bless me in but saying so.

Er. Alcippe, I've an humble suit to you.

Alcip. All that I have is so entirely thine,
And such a Captive thou hast made my will
Thou need't not be at the expence of wishing
For what thou canst desire that I may grant;

Why are thy eyes declin'd?

Er. To satisfie a little modest scruple
I beg you would permit me, Sir —

Alcip. To lye alone to night, is it not so *Erminia*?

Er. It is —

Alcip. That's too severe, yet I will grant it thee;
But why *Erminia* must I grant it thee?

Er. The Prince's sir questions my power and says,
I cannot gain so much up in your goodness.

Alcip. I could have wifht some other had oblig'd thee to't:

Er. You would not blame her if you knew her reason:

Alcip. Indeed I do not much, for I can guesse

She takes the party of her Prince and Brother;

And this is only to delay those joys,

Which the perhaps believes belong to him.

— But that *Erminia*, you can best resolute;

And 'tis not kindly done to hide a truth,

The Prince to clearly own'd.

Er. What did he own?

Alcip. He said, *Erminia*, that you were his Wife;

If so, no wonder you refuse my bed:

The Presence of the King hindred my knowledge;

Of what I willingly would leareh from you;

— Come ne're deny a truth that plain appears,

I see hypocrisy through all your tears.

Er. You need not ask me to repeat again,

A knowledge which, you say, appears so plain:

The Prince his word methinks should credit get;

Which I'll confirm whene're you call for it:

My heart before you ask't it, was his prize,

And cannot twice become a sacrifice.

Alcip. *Erminia*, is this brave or just in you,

To pay his score of love with what's my due:

What's your design to treat me in this sort,

Are sacred Vows of Marriage made y'our sport?

Regard me well, *Erminia*, what am I?

Er. One Sir, with whom I am bound to live and die,

And one to whom by rigorous command,

I gave (without my heart) my unwilling hand.

Alcip. But why, *Erminia*, did you give it to?

[She Weeps.

Er. T' obey a King and cruel father too,
A friendship, Sir, I can on you bestow,
But that will hardly into passion grow;
And twill an Act below your vertue prove,
To force a heart you know can never love.

Alcip. Am I the mask to hide your blushes in,
I, the contented fool to veil your sin;
Have you already learnt that trick at Court,
Both how to practice and secure your port;
Brave Mistrel's of your Art, is this the way,

My service and my passion to repay?
Will nothing but a Prince your pleasure fit,
And could you think that I would wink at it?
Recal that folly, or by all that's good,
I'll free the soul that wantons in thy blood.

Er. I see your love your Reason has betray'd,
But I'll forgive the faults which love has made;
'Tis true, I love, and do confess it too:
Which if a crime, I might have hid from you;
But such a passion 'tis as does despise,
Whatever rage you threaten from your eyes.
— Yes—you may disapprove this flame in me,
But cannot hinder what the Gods decree;
— Search here this truth; Alas, I cannot fear
Your steel shall find a welcom entrance here.

Alcip. Where dost thou think thy ingrateful soul will go, gazes on her.
Loaded with wrongs to me, should l'stke now.

Er. To some blest place, where Lovers doreside,
Free from the noise of jealousie and pride;
Where we shall know no oother power but love,
And where even thou wilt soft and gentle prove;
So gentle, that if I should meet thee there,
Thou wouldst allow, what thou deny't me here.

Alcip. Thou — hast disarm'd my rage, and in its room,
A world of shame and softer passions come,
Such as the first efforts of love inspir'd,
When by thy charming eyes my foul was fir'd.

Er. I must confess your fears are seeming just,
But here to free you from the least mistrust,
I swear, whilst I'm your Wife, I'll not allow
Birth to a thought that tends to injur' you.

Alcip. Not to believe thee, were a sin above
The injuries I have done thee by my love.

— Ah, my *Erminia*, might I hope at least
To share the pity of that lovely breast,
By slow degrees, I might approach that Throne,
Where now the blest *Philander* reigns alone.

Perhaps in time my passion might redeem,
That now too faithful heart y'have given to him ;
Do but forbear to hear his Amorous tales,
Nor from his moving eyes learn what he ails :
A fire that's kindled cannot long survive,
If one add naught to keep the flame alive.

Er. I will not promise ; what I mean to do
My Virtue only shall oblige me to.

Alcip. But Madam, what d'you mean by this reserve ?
To what intent does all this coldness serve ;
Is there no pity to my sufferings due ?
And will you still my languishments renew ?
Come, come, recal what you have rashly said :
And own to morrow that thou art no maid :
Thy blushes do betray thy willingness,
And in thy lovely eyes I read success.

Er. A double tie obliges me to be.
Strict to my Vows, my Love and Amity ;
For my own sake the first I'll ne're decline,
And I would gladly keep the last for thine.

Alcip. Madam, you strangely do improve my pain,
To give me hopes you must recal again.

Er. Alcippus, you this language will forbear,
When you shall know how powerful you are ;
For whilst you here endeavour to subdue,
The best of Women languishes for you.

Alcip. Erminia, do not mock my misery,
For, though you cannot love, yet pity me ;
That you allow my poison no return,
Is weight enough, you need not add your scorn,
In this your cruelty is too severe.

Er. Alcippus, you mistake me every where.

Alcip. To whom, *Erminia*, do I owe this fate ?

Er. To morrow all her story I'll relate,
Till than the promise I the Prince's made,
I beg you would permit might be obey'd.

Alcip. You, Madam, with so many charms assaile,
You need not question but you shall prevail ;
Thy powers not lessen'd in thy being mine,
But much augmented in my being thine,
The glory of my chains may raise me more,
Eut I am still that slave I was before.

[Exeunt severally]

A C T II. S C E N E IV.

Enter Philander and Alcander. [The Prince half undrest]

Pbi. What's a Clock, *Alcander*.

Alc. 'Tis midnight, Sir, will you not go to bed.

Pbi.

Pbi. To bed, friend ; What to do ?

Alc. To sleep, Sir, as you were wont to do.

Pbi. Sleep, and *Erminia* have abandon'd me ;
I'll never sleep again.—

Alc. This is an humour, Sir, you must forsake,

Pbi. Never, never, oh *Alcander*.

Dost know where my *Erminia* lies to Night ?

Alc. I guess, Sir.

Pbi. Where ? Nay prithee speak,
Indeed I shall not be offended at it.

Alc. I know not why you should Sir ;
She's where she ought, a bed with young *Alcippus*.

Pbi. Thou speak'it thy real thoughts.

Alc. Why should your Highness doubt it ?

Pbi. By Heaven there is no faith in Woman-kind,
Alcander, dost thou know an honest woman ?

Alc. Many Sir.

Pbi. I do not think ; it is impossible ;
Erminia, if it could have been, were she,
But she has broke her Vows which I held sacred,
And plays the wanton in another's Arms.

Alc. Sir, do you think it just to wrong her so.

Pbi. Oh would thou couldst perswade me that I did so.
Thou know'ft the Oaths and Vows she made to me,
Never to marry any other than my self,
And you *Alcander* wrought me to believe them.

But now her Vows to marry none but me,
Are given to *Alcippus*, and in his bosom breath'd,
With balmy whispers whilst the ravish't youth,
For every syllable returns ro a kiss,

And in the height of all his extasie,

Philander's dispossess'd and quite forgotten.

Ah charming maid is this your love to me,
Yet now thou art no maid, nor lov'st not me.
And I the fool to let thee know my weakness.

Alc. Why do you thus proceed to vex your self,
To question what you list, and answer what you please ?
Sir, this is not the way to be at ease.

Pbi. Ah dear *Alcander*, what wouldst have me do ?

Alc. Do that which may preserve you ;
Do that which every man in love would do ;
Make it your busines to possess the object.

Pbi. What meanest thou, is she not married ? —

Alcan. What then, she's all about her, that she had,
Of Youth and Beauty she is Mistress still,
And may dispose it how, and where she will.

Pbi. Pray Heaven I do not think too well of thee,

Wha

What means all this discourse, art thou honest?

Alcan. As most men of my Age.

Phi. And wouldst thou counsel me to such a sin?

For —— I do understand —— thee;

Alcan. I know not what you term so.

Phi. I never thought thou'dst been so great a Villain
To urge me to a crime would damn us all,
Why dost thou smile, hast thou done well in this?

Alcan. I thought so, or I'de kept it to my self.
Sir, e're you grow in rage at what I've said,
Do you think I love you, or believe my life
Were to be valued more than your repose?
You seem to think it is not.

Phi. Possibly I may.

Alc. The sin of what I have propos'd to you
You only seem to hate; Sir is it so?
—If such religious thoughts about you dwell,
Why is it that you thus perplex your self?
Self-murture sure, is much the greater sin.
Erminia too, you say has broke her vows;
She that will swear and lye, will do the rest.
And of these evils, this I think the least;
And as for me I never thought it sin.

Phi. And canst thou have so poor a thought of her?

Alcan. I hope you'll find her Sir as willing to't
As I am to suppose it, nay believet;
She'll look upon't as want of love and courage
Should you not now attempt it;
You know Sir there's no other remedy,
Take no denial but the Game purfue,
For what she will refuse, she wishes you.

Phi. With such pretensions — she may angry grow.

Alc. I never heard of any that were so,
For though the will to do't, and power they want,
They love to hear of what they cannot grant.

Phi. No more,
Is this your duty to your Prince *Alcander*?
You were not wont to counsel thus amis,
'Tis either disrespect or some design:
I could be wondrous angry with thee now,
But that my grief has such possession here,
'Twill make no room for rage.

Alcan. I cannot Sir repent of what I've said,
Since all the errors which I have committed,
Are what my passion to your interest led me to,
But yet I beg your Highnes would recal
That fence which would perfwade you 'tis unjust.

Phi. Name it no more, and I'll forgive it thee.

Alc. I can obey you Sir.

Phi. What shall we do to night, I cannot sleep?

Alc. I'm good at watching, and doing any thing.

Phi. We'll Serenade the Ladies and the Bride.

— The first we may disturb, but she I fear
Keeps watch with me to night, though not like me.

Enter a Page of the Princes.

Phil. How now Boy,
Is the Musick ready which I spoke for?

Pag. They wait your Highnesses command.

Phi. Bid them prepare, I'm coming.
Soft touches may allay the discords here,
And sweeten, though not lessen my despair.

[*Exeunt Page.*]

S C E N. V.

[*The Court Gallery.*]

Enter Pifaro alone.

Pifa. Ha! who's that, a Lover on my Life,
This amorous malady reigns every where;
Nor can my Sister be an ignorant
Of what I saw this night in *Gallatea*:

I'll question her — Sister, *Aminta*, Sister,

[*Calls as at her Lodgings.*]

[*Enter a Maid.*]

Lyc. VWho calls my Lady?

Pif. Where's my Sister?

Lyc. I cry your Lordships mercy,
My La'y lyes not in her Lodgings to night,
The Prince's sent for her,
Her Highnes is not well.

Pif. I do believe it; good night *Lycet*.

[*She goes in.*]

[*Enter a Page.*]

— VWho's there,

Pag. Your Lordhips Page.

Pif. VVhere haft thou been? I wanted thee but now.

Pag. I fell asleep i'th Lobby Sir, and had not wakened
Yet, but for the Musick which plays at the Lodgings
Of my Lady *Erminia*,

Pif. Curse on them; will they not allow him nights
To himself; 'tis hard.

This night I'm wi'er grown by observation,
My love and friend ship 'aught me jealousie,
VVwhich like a cunning spy brought in intelligence;
From every eye les wary than its own;
That told me that the charming *Gallatea*,
In whom all power remains,
Is yet too feeble t' encounter love;
I find she has receiv'd the wanton God,
Maugre my fond opinion of her soul,

And

And 'tis my friend too that's become my rival.
 I saw her lovely eyes still turn on him,
 As Flowers to th'Sun : and when he turn'd away
 Like those, she bow'd her charming head again.
 — On th'other side the Prince with dying looks
 Each motion watch'd of fair *Erminias* eyes,
 Which she return'd as greedily again,
 And if one glance t' *Alcippus* she directed,
 He'd stare as if he meant to cut his throat for't.
 Well friend thou hast a sure defence of me
 My Love is yet below my amity.

[Exeunt]

A C T II. S C E N E. VI.

Draws off, discovers Philander and Alcander with Musick at the Chamber door of Erminia, to them Pisaro who listens whilst the Song is sung.

The Song for the Page to sing at *Erminias* Chamber Door.

Amintas that true hearted Swain
 Upon a Rivers bank was laid,
 Where to the pittyng streams be did complain
 On Sylvia that falso charming maid,
 But she was still regardless of his pain :
 Oh ! fabless Silvia ! would be ery
 And what he said the Echo's would reply.
 Be kind, or else I dye, E. I dye.
 Be kind or else I dye, E. I dye.

A shower of tears his eyes let fall,
 Which in the River made impress,
 Then sigh, and Sylvia false again would call,
 A cruell faithles Shepherdes,
 Is love with you become a criminal.
 Ab lay aside this needless scorn,
 Allow your poor adorer some return,
 Consider how I burn, E. I burn.
 Consider, &c.

Those smiles and kisses which you give,
 Remember Silvia, are my due ;
 And all the joys my Rival does receive
 He ravishes from me not you.
 Ah Silvia, can I live and this believe ?
 Incensiblēs are touch'd to see
 My languishments, and seem to pity me.
 Which I demand of thee, E. of thee,
 Which I demand, &c.

Pif.

Pif. What's all this ?

Pbi. Who's there ?

Pif. A man a friend to the General.

Pbi. Then thou'rt an enemy to all good men.

Does the ungrateful Wretch hide his own head,
 And send his Spies abroad ?

Pif. He is too great to fear, and needs them not ;
 And him thou termest so, scorns the office too.

Pbi. What makest thou here then when the whole World's asleep ?
 Be gone, there lies thy way
 Where ere thy busines be.

Pif. It lies as free for thee, and here's my busines.

Pbi. Thou liest, Rude man.

Pif. Why, what art thou darest tell me so i'th' dark ?
 Day had betrayed thy blushes for this boldnes.

Pbi. Tell me who 'tis that dares capitulate ?

Pif. One that dares make it good.

Pbi. Draw then, and keep thy word.

Alcan. Stand by, and let me do that duty, Sir.

[He steps between them, they fight, Pisaro falls.

— Here's thy reward who e're thou art.

Pbi. Haft thou no hurt ?

Alcan. I think not much, yet somewhere 'tis I bleed.

Pif. What a dull beast am I

[Exeunt Prince and Alcan.]

Pag. My Lord, ist you are fallen ?

Help, Murther, Murther.

Pif. Hold, Bawling Dog.

Enter Alcippus in his Night-gown, with a Sword in his hand, a Page with Lights.

Alcip. 'Twas here abouts — who's this, Pisaro wounded ! [He looks up.] How camest thou thus ? Come up into my arms.

Pif. 'Twas Jalousie, Alcippus, that wild Monster,
 Who never leaves us till he has thus betray'd us.

— Pox on't, I am ashamed to look upon thee.

I have disturb'd you to no purpose, Sir.

I am not wounded, go to bed agen.

Alc. I'll see thee to thy Lodgings first, Pisaro.

Pif. 'Twill be unkind both to your self and me:

[Exeunt.]

A C T II. S C E N E VII.

Enter Philander and Alcander with a Light.

Alcan. He's gone who e're he be.

Pfi. It could not be Alcippus.

Alcan. I rather fear Pisaro,

— But we soon enough shall know : Who's this ?

Enter Erminia in her Night-gown, and Isilla with Lights.

Er. Methought I heard Alcippus and the Prince

E

Before

Before the cry of Murder.

I die if those two Rivals have encounter'd.

Pbi. Ah Madam, cease that fear ; they both are safe
From all, but from the wounds which you have given them

Er. Oh Gods, what make you here, and where's *Alcippus* ?

Pbi. Where I had been had Heaven been bountiful.

Er. Alas Sir, what do you mean ? what have you done ?

And where have you bestow'd him ?

Pbi. Why all this high concern, *Erminia* ?

Has he so reconcil'd you to him since I saw you last ?

This is not kind to me.

Er. Oh tell not me of kindness, where's *Alcippus* ?

Alcan. Madam, of whom do you demand *Alcippus* ?

Neither of us have seen him.

Pbi. Go, You are a Woman, a vain peevish creature.

Er. Sir, 'tis but just you should excuse my fear,

Alcippus is my Husband, and his safety

Ought to become my care.

Pbi. How *Erminia*.

Can you so soon yield up my right to him,

And not blush, whilst you own your Perjury ?

Er. Now Sir, you are much too blame,

I could have born the rest, but this concerns me,

I fear I have but too well kept my Vows with you,

Since you are grown but to suspect I have not.

Pbi. Pardon me, Dear, the errors of my passion ;

It was a sin so natural,

That even thy unkindly taking it,

Approach'd too near it, not to gain my Pardon ;

But tell me why you ask me for *Alcippus* ?

Er. Sir, e're I could dispose my eyes to sleep,

I heard the Musick at my Chamber-door,

And such a Song as could be none but yours ;

But that was finisht in a noise less pleasant,

In that of Swords and quarrel ;

And amongst which,

I thought I heard yours and *Alcippus* voice.

(For I have kept my word, and lay not with him.)

This brought me hither, but if I mistook,

Once more I beg your pardon.

Pbi. Thou hast restord me to a world of joys,

By what thou now hast said.

Enter *Alcippus*, *bis Sword in his Hand*, a Page with light, he stands awhile.

Alcip. *Erminia* ! and the Prince ! embracing too !

I dream, and know she could not be thus base,

Thus false and loose —

But hear, I am inform'd it is no Vision ;

— This

— This was design'd before, I find it now ; [Lays his hand on his heart.

Er. *Alcippus*, oh my fears.

[Goes to them, takes her by the hand.

Alcip. Yes Madam —

Too soon arriv'd for his and your repose.

Pbi. *Alcippus*, touch her not.

Alcip. Not touch her, by Heaven I will,

And who shall hinder me ?

Who is't dares say I shall not touch my wife ?

Pbi. Villian thou ly'st.

Alcip. That y'are my Prince shall not defend you here,
Draw Sir, for I have laid respect aside.

Strikes, they fight a little, *Alcippus* is wounded, *Alcander* supports him.

Er. Oh Gods what mean you, hold *Phitander*, hold.

Pbi. Life of my soul, retire,

I cannot hear that voice and disobey,

And you must needs esteem him at low rates,

Who sells thee and his Honour for a tear.

Er. Upon my knees I beg to be obey'd,

— But if I must not, here discharge your anger.

Pbi. You are too great a Tyrant where you may.

[Exeunt *Erminia* and *Alcippus*.]

Pbi. Stay ! shall I let her go ? shall her Commands,

Though they have power to take my life away,

Have force to suffer me to injure her ?

Shall she be made a prey, and I permit it ?

Who only have the interest to forbid it ?

— No, let me be accurst then.

Alc. What mean you, Sir ?

Pbi. Force the bold Ravisher to resign my right.

Alcander. Is not she my Wife, and I his Prince ?

Alc. 'Tis true, Sir,

And you've both power and justice on your side ;

And there are times to exercise 'em both.

Pbi. Fitter than this, *Alcander* ?

Alc. This night *Erminia*'s promise may repose you.

To morrow is your own —

Till then I beg y'de think your interest safe,

Pbi. *Alcander*, thou haft peace about thee, and canst judge

Better than I, 'twixt what is just and fit,

I hitherto believ'd my flame was guided

By perfect Reason, so we often find

Vessels conduct by a peaceful wind,

And meet no opposition in their way ,

Cut a safe passage through the flattering Sea ;

But when a storm the bounding vessel throws,

It does each wave with equal rage oppose ;

[offers to follow.]

[puts up his sword.]

For

For when the Seas are mad, could that be calm
Like me, it wou'd be ruin'd in the storm.

[Exeunt.]

ACT III. SCENE I.

Enter Alcippus and Pisaro.

Pis. "Tis much, my Lord, you'll not be satisfi'd.

Alcip. Friendship's too near a kin to love Pisaro,
To leave me any peace, whilst in your eyes
I read Reserves, which tis not kind to bide ;
— Come prithee tell me what the quarrel was,

And who 'twas with, thou shalt my dear Pisaro.

Pis. Nay, now you urge me to impossibilities,
Good faith, I cannot tell, but gues's the Prince.

Alcip. 'Tis true, Pisaro, 'twas indeed the Prince.
But what was th' occasion ?

Pis. He call'd me Spy, and I return'd th' affront,
But took no notice that he was my Prince ;

It was a folly I repented of ;
But 'twas in a damn'd melancholly Mood.

Alcip. Was it a going in or coming out.

Pis. From whence ?

Alcip. Erminia's Chamber, prithee let me know,
For I have fears that take away my sleep,

Fears that will make me mad, stark mad, Pisaro.

Pis. You do not well to fear without a cause.

Alcip. O friend, I saw what thou canst ne're conceive ;
Last night I saw it when I came from thee :

And if thou go'ft about t'impose upon me,
I'll cast thee from my soul ; Come out with it,

I see thy breast heave with a generous ardour,
As if it scorn'd to harbor a reserve,

Which stood not with its Amity to me.
Could I but know my fate, I could despise it :

But when 'tis clad in Robes of innocence,
The devil cannot 'scape it :

Something was done last night that gnaws my heart-strings ;
And many things the Prince's too let fall,

Which, Gods ! I know not how to put together,
And prithee be not thou a Ridler too :

But if thou knew'st of ought that may concern me,
Make me as wise as thou art.

Pis. Sir, you are of so strange a jealous Humour,
And I, so strangely jealous of your Honour,

That 'twixt us both we may make work enough,
But on my Soul I know no wrong you have.

Alcip.

Alcip. I must believe thee, yet methinks thy face
Has put on an unwonted gravity.

Pis. That, Alcippus, you'll not wonder at,
When you shall know you are my Rival.

Alcip. Nay, why shouldst thou delay me thus with stories ?
This shall not put me off.

Pis. Sir, I'm in earnest, you have gain'd that heart,
For which I've receiv'd so many wounds,
Venturing for Trophies where none durst appear,
To gain at my Return one single smile :

Or that she would submit to hear my story :
And when sh' has said, 'twas bravely done, Pisaro,
I thought the glory recompenc'd the toil,
And sacrific'd my Lawrels at her feet :

Like those who pay their first-fruits to the Gods,
To beg a blessing on the following crop.

And never made her other signs of love,
Nor knew I that I had that easie flame,
Till by her eye's I found that she was mortal,
And could love too, and that my friend is you.

Alcip. Thou hast amaz'd me, prithee speak more clearly,

Pis. My Lord, the Princess has a passion for you,
Have I not reason now to be your enemy ?

Alcip. Not till I make returns :
But now I'm past redemption miserable.
Twas she Erminia told me dy'd for me ;
And I believ'd it but aslight of hers,
To put me from my Courtship.

Pis. No 'twas a fatal truth,
Alcippus, hadst thou seen her, whilst the Priest

Was giving thee to fair Erminia
What languishment appear'd upon her eyes ?

Which never were remov'd from thy lov'd face,)
Through which her melting Soul in drops distill'd,

As if she meant to wash away thy sin,
In giving up that right belong'd to her,

Thou hadst without my aid found out this truth,
A sweet compoiture dwelt upon her looks

Like Infants who are smiling whil'st they dye,
Nor knew she that she wept, so unconcern'd

And freely did her soul a passage find,
Whilst I transported had almost forgot

The Reverence due t'her sacred self and place,
And every moment ready was to kneel

And with my lips gather the precious drops
And rob the Holy Temple of a Relique,

Fit only there to inhabit.

Alcip. I never thought thou'dst had this softnes's theec,

How cam'st thou friend to hide all this from me ?

Pif. My Lord, I knew not that I was a lover ;
I felt no flame, but a Religious ardour,
That did inspire my Soul with adoration,
And so remote I was from ought but such,
I knew not hope, nor what it was to wish
For other blessings than to gaze upon her,
Like Heaven I thought she was to be possesst
Where carnal thoughts can no admittance find,
And had I not perceived her love to you,
I had not known the nature of my flame,
But then I found it out by jealousie,
And what I took for a Seraphick motion
I now decline as criminal and earthly.

Alcip. When she can love to a discovery,
It shows her passion eminent and high

— But I am married — to a maid that hates me ;
What help for that Pifaro ?

And thou hast something too to say of her,

What was't; for now thou hast undone me quite.

Pif. I have nought to say to her dishonour, Sir,
But something may be done may give you cause
To stand upon your Guard ;

And if your Rage do not the Mastery get,
I cannot doubt but you'll be happy yet.

Alcip. Without Erminia that can hardly be,
And yet I find a certain shame within
'That will not suffer me to see the Princess,
I have a kind of War within my soul,
My love against my Glory and my Honour,
And I could wish, — Alas I know not what,
Prithee instruct me.

Pif. Sir take a resolution to be calm
And not like men in love abandon reason :
— You may observe the actions of these lovers,
But be not passionate whate'er you find.
That head-strong Devil will undo us all.
If you'll be happy quit its company.

Alcip. I fain would take thy counsel

Pif. — Come clear up my Lord, and do not hang the head

Like Flowers in storms ; the Sun will shine again.

Set Gallatea's charms before your eyes,

Think of the glory to divide a Kingdom.

And do not waste your Noble youth and time,

Upon a peevish heart you cannot gain.

This day you must to th' Camp, and in your absence

Ile take upon me what I scorn'd last night,

paus es.

The office or a spy —

Believe me, Sir ; for by the Gods I swear,
I never wisht the glory of a Conquest

With half that zeal as to compose these differences.

Alcip. I do believe thee, and will tell thee something
That past between the Prince and I last night,
And then thou wilt conclude me truly miserable.

Exeunt

A C T II. S C E N E IV.

Enter Falatius, Labree, as passing by meet Cleontis.

Cle. Your Servant, my Lord.
— so coldly, stay — your reason, Sir.

[Fal. puts off his Hat a
little, and passes on.

Fal. How mean you, Sir ?
Cle. Do you not know me ?

Fal. Yes I have seen you, and think you are Cleontis,
A Servant of the Princes; wert i'th' Campania too,
If I mistake not.

Cle. Can you recall me by no better instances ?
Fal. What need of any, pray ?

Cle. I am a Gentleman.

Fal. Ha Labree, what means he now ?

By Jove I do not question it, Cleontis :
What need this odd Punctilio ?

I call thee to no account.

Cle. That's more than I can say to you, Sir.

Fal. I'll excuse you for that.

Cle. You shall not need, Sir : stay, I have a Sister.

Fal. Oh the Devil, now he begins.

Cle. A handsome Sister too, or you deceiv'd her.

Labree. Bear up, Sir, be not huft.

Fal. It may be so, but is she kind, Cleontis ?

Cle. What mean you by that word ?

Lab. Again Sir, here's too to one.

Fa. Will she do reason, or so, you understand me.

Cle. I understand that thou'rt an impudent fellow,

Whom I must cudgel into better manners.

Fa. Pox on't who bears up now Labree ?

Cle. Beat till thou dost confess thou art an ass.

And on thy knees confess it to Jilia,

Who after that shall scorn thee.

Lab. Rally with him Sir, 'tis your only way, and put it
Off with a jest, for he's in fury, but dares not
Strike i'th' Court.

Fa. But must you needs do this, needs fight Cleontis ?

Cle. Yes, by all means, I find my self inclin'd to't.

Fa. You shall have your desire, Sir, farewell.

Cle. When, and where ?

[aside:
Fa. bears up.

[aside:

[24]
Fa. Faith very suddenly, for I think it will not be
Hard to find men of your trade
Men that will fight as long as you can do,
And Men that love it much better than I,
Men that are poor, and damn'd, fine desperate Rogues,
Rascals that for a Pattacoa a Man
Will fight their Fathers,
And kis their Moth'rs into peace again.
Such Sir, I think will fit you?

Cle. Abusive Coward hast thou no fence of honour.
Fal. Sence of honour, ha, ha, ha, poor Cleontius.

Enter Aminta and Olinda.

Am. How now servt, why so jovial?
Fa. I was laughing Madam — at —
Cle. At what, thou thing of nothing —
Am. Cozen Cleontius you are angry.
Cle. Madam, it is unjustly then, for fools
Should rather move the spleen to mirth than anger.
Am. Youve too much wit to take ought ill from him,
Let's know your quarrel.

Fa. By Jove Labree I am undone again.
Cle. Madam, it was about —
Fa. Hold dear Cleontius, hold, and I'll do any thing.

[aside.

Cle. Just nothing —
Fa. He was a little too familiar with me —

Cle. Madam, my Sister Ifilia —

Fa. A curse he will out with it —

Cle. Confess she is your Mistress.

[aside.

Fa. I call my Mistress Madam.

Am. My Cozen Ifilia your Mistress,
Upon my word you are a happy Man.

Fa. By Jove if she be your Cozen, Madam,
I love her much the better for't.

Am. I am beholding to you,
But then it seems I've lost a lover of you.

Cle. Confess she has or I'll so handle you.

Fa. That's too much Cleontius — but I will,
By Jove, Madam, I must not have a Mistress that
Has more wit than my self, they ever require
More than a Mans able to give them.

Oli. Is this your way of Courtship to Ifilia?

Fa. By Jove, Ladies, you get no more of that from me,
'Tis that has spoyled you all; I find Alcander can
Do more with a dumb show, than I with all my
Applications and address.

Oli. Why, my Brother can speak.

[aside pulls him
by the Arm.

Exit Labree.

Exit Cle.

[35]
Fa. Yes, if any body durst hear him, by Jove if you
Be not kind to him, he'll Hector you all; I'll get
The way on't too, 'tis the most prosperous one; I see no
Other reason you have to love Alcander
Better than I.

Am. Why should you think I do?

Fa. Devil I see't well enough by your continual
Quarrels with him.

Am. Is that so certain a proof?

Fa. Ever whilst you live, you treat me too
Well ever to hope.

Enter Alcander, kneels, offers his Sword to Aminta.

— What new Masquerade's this? by Jove, Alcander
Has more tricks than a dancing Bear.

Am. What mean you by this present?

Alc. Kill me.

Am. What have you done to merit it?

Alcan. Do not ask, but do't.

Am. I'll have a reasoun first.

Alcan. I think I've kill'd Pifaro.

Am. My Brother dead!

Fa. Madam look up, 'tis I that call.

Am. I care not who thou beest, but if a Man
Revenge me on Alcander.

Fa. By Jove she has mistook her man,
This 'tis to be a lover now,

A Man's never out of one broyle or other.
But I have more wit than Aminta this bout.

Alcan. Come back and do your duty ere you go.

Fa. I owe you much Alcander.

Alcan. Aminta said you should revenge her on me —

Fa. Her word's not Law I hope.

Alcan. And I'll obey —

Fa. That may do much indeed.

Alcan. This if thou wert a man she bad thee do,
Why dost thou shake?

Fa. No, no, Sir, I am not the man she meant.

Alcan. No matter thou wilt serve as well,
A Lover! and canst disobey this Mistress?

Fa. I do disown her since she is so wicked
To be me kill my friend,
Why thou'rt my friend Alcander.

Alcan. I'll forgive thee that.

Fa. So will not His Majesty: I may be hang'd for't.

Alcan. Thou shouldest be damn'd ere disobey thy Mistress.

Fa. These be degrees of Love I am not yet arriv'd

[She falls into the
arms of Olinda.

[She goes out with Olin.

[Offers to go.
[Pulls him.

[Fal. answers with great
signs of fear.

At, when I am, I shall be as ready to be damn'd:
In honour as any lover of you all.

Alcan. Owns Sin; d' ye rally with me?

Fa Your pardon, sweet *Alcander*, I protest I am
Not in so gay an humour.

Alcan. For well I had forgot my self.

Fa Stark mad, by *Jove*—yet it may be not, for
Alcander has many unaccountable Humours;
Well, if this be agreeable to *Aminta*, she's e're as
Mad as he, and 'twere great pity to part them.

[Exit.

Enter Pisaro, Aminta and Olinda.

Am. Well, have you kill'd him?

Fa. Some wiser than some, Madam:

—My Lord — what alive? —

Pis. Worth two dead men, you see.

Fa. That's more than I could have said
Within this half hour.

Alcander's a very *Orlando*, by *Jove*, and gone to
Seek out one that's madder yet than himself, that will
Kill him.

Am. Oh, dear *Falatius*, run and fetch him back.

Fa. Madam, I have so lately 'scap'd a scouring,
That I wish you would take it for a mark
Of my passion to disobey you, for he is in a damn'd
Humour.

Am. He's out of it by this, I warrant you;
But do not tell him that *Pisaro* lives.

Fa. That's as I shall find occasion.

Pis. *Alcander* is a worthy youth and brave,
I with you would esteem him so;
Tis true, there's now some difference between us,
Our interest are dispos'd to several ways,
But time and management will joyn us all:
Ple leave you, but prithee make it thy business,
To get my Pardon for my last nights rudeness.

Am. I shall not fail.

Enter *Alcander* melancholy.

Ei. Here, Madam, here he is.

Am. Tell me, *Alcander*, why you treat me thus?
You say you love me, if I could believe you.

Alcan. Believe a man; a way, you have no wit,
Ple say as much to every pretty woman.

Am. But I have given you no cause to wrong me.

Alcan. That was my fate, not fault, I knew him not:
But yet to make up my offence to you,
offer you my life: for I'm undone,

[Exit.

R.

If any faults of mine should make you sad.

Am. Here, take your Sword again, my Brother's well.

[She gives him his Sword again.

Fa. Yes, by *Jove*, as I am: you had been finely
Serv'd if I had kill'd you now.

Am. What sorry for the news, ha, ha, ha.

Alcan. No, sorry: y'are a woman, a meer woman.

Am. Why did you ever take me for a man? ha, ha.

Alcan. Thy fool, I thought was all so; but I see
You have your weaknes, can dissemble too;

— I would have tworn that sorrow in your face,
Had been a real one:

Nay, you can die in jest: you can, false Woman:
I hate thy Sex for this.

Fa. By *Jove*, there is no truth in them, that's flat.

[She looks sad.

Alcan. Why that repentant look, what new design?

— Come, now a tear or two to secon that,
And I am soft again, a very Afis.

— But yet that look would call a Saint from th' altar,
And make him quite forget his Ceremony,
Or take thee for his Deity:

— But yet thou hast a very Hell within,
Which those bewitching eyes draw souls into.

Fa. Here's he that fits you, Ladies.

Am. Nay, now y'are too unjust, and I will leave you.

[Holds her.

Alcan. Ah, do not go, I know not by what Magick,
But as you move, my foul yields that way too.

Fa. The truth on't is, she has a strong Magnetick
Power, that I find.

Alcan. But I would have none find it but my self,
No soul but mine shall sympathize with hers.

Fa. Nay, that you cannot help.

Alcan. Yes but I can, and take it from thee if I thought it did so.

Ol. No quarrels here I pray.

Fa. Madam, I owe a Reverence to the place.

Alcan. I'll scarce allow thee that;
Madam, I'll leave you to your Lover.

Am. I hate thee but for saying so.

Alcan. Quit him then.

Am. So I can and thee too.

Alcan. The Devil take me if you 'scapé me so.

[Offers to go out.

Fa. And I'll not be out-done in importunity.

[Gees after her.

[Goes after.

A C T . III. S C E N E . III.

Enter Gallatea and Erminia.

Er. And 'tis an act below my Quality,

Which, Madam, will not suffer me to flie!

Gall. Erminia, ere you boast of what you are:

F 2

Since

Since you're so high I'll tell you what you are :
 Your Father was our General 'tis true,
 That Title justly to his sword was due ;
 'Twas nobly gain'd, and worth his blood and toils,
 Had he been satisfi'd with noble spoils ;
 But with that single Honour not content,
 He needs must undermine the Government ;
 And 'cause he had gain'd the Army to his side,
 Believ'd his Treason must be justifi'd.
 For this (and justly) he was banished,
 Where whil'st a low and unknown life he led,
 Far from the hope and glory of a Throne,
 In a poor humble Cottage you were born,
 Your early Beauty did it self display,
 Nor could no more conceal it self than day :
 Your eyes did first *Philanders* soul inspire,
 And Fortune too conform'd her to his fire.
 That made your Father greater than before,
 And what he justly lost that did restore.
 'Twas that which first thy beauty did disclose,
 Which else had wither'd like an unseen Rose ;
 'Twas that which brought thee to the Court, and there
 Dispos'd thee next my self, i'th' highest sphere :
 Alas obscurely else should it liv'd and di'd,
 Not knowing thy own charms, nor yet this Pride.

Er. Madam in this your bounty is severe,
 Be pleas'd to spare that repetition here.
 I hope no Action of my life should be
 So rude to charge your generosity :
 But Madam do you think it just to pay
 Your great obligements by so false a way ?
Alcippus passion merits some return,
 And should that prove but an ingrateful scorn ;
 Alas I am his wife, to disobey
 My fame, as well as duty, I betray.

Gall. Perfidious Maid, I might have thought thou'dst prove
 False to thy Prince, and Rival in my Love.
 I thought too justly he that conquer'd me
 Had a sufficient power to captive thee ;
 Thou'lt now reveng'd thy Fathers shame and thine
 In taking thus *Philanders* life and mine.

Er. Ah madam that you would believe my tears,
 Or from my vows but satisfie your fears.
 By all the Gods *Alcippus* I do hate,
 And would do any thing to change my fate ;
 Ought that were just and noble I dare do.

Gall. Enough *Erminia*, I must credit you,

Er. weeps.

And

And will no other proof of it require,
 But that you'll now submit to my desire ;
 Indeed *Erminia*, you must grant my suit,
 Where Love and Honour calls, make no dispute.
 Pity a youth that never lov'd before,
 Remember 'tis a Prince that does adore ;
 Who offers up a heart that never found
 It could receive, till from your eyes a wound.

Er. To your command should I submit to yield,
 Where could I from *Alcippus* be conceal'd ?

What could defend me from his jealous rage,
Ga. Trust me, *Erminia*, I'll for that engage.

Er. And then my honour by that flight's o'rethrown :

Ga. That being *Philanders*, he'll preserve his own ;
 And that *Erminia*, sure will ne're distrust.

Er. Ah Madam, give me leave to fear the worst.

Enter Aminta.

Am. Madam, *Alcippus* waits for your Commands,
 He's going to the Camp.

Gall. Admit him.

Enter Alcippus and Pisaro.

Gall. *Alcippus*, 'tis too soon to leave *Erminia*.

Alcip. I wish she thought so, Madam,
 Or could believe with what regret I do so ;
 She then would think my faults were much too small,
 For such a Pennance as my Soul must suffer.

Am. No matter, Sir, you have the year before you.

Alcip. Yes Madam, so has every Galley-slave,
 That knows his toyl, but not his recompence ;
 To morrow I expect no more content,
 Than this uneasie day afforded me ;
 And all before me is but one grand piece
 Of endless grief and madness :

— You, Madam, taught *Erminia* to be cruel :
 A Vice without your aid she could have learnt ;
 And now to exercise that new-taught Art,
 She tries the whole experience on my heart.

Gall. If she do so, she learnt it not of me,
 I love, and therefore know no cruelty :
 Such out-rage cannot well with love reside,
 Which only is the mean effect of Pride :

— I merit better thoughts from you, *Alcippus*.

Alcip. Pardon me, Madam, if my passion stray,
 Beyond the limis of my high respect ;

— 'Tis a rude gust, and merits your reproaches :
 But yet the sawcy flame can ne're contoul
 That adoration which I owe my Prince :

He kneels.

That

That, with Religion, took possession here,
And in my prayers I mix you with the Deities.

Gall. I'd rather you should treat me as a Mortal,
Rise and begin to do so. [Rises and bows.]

Alcip. Now, Madam, what must I expect from you?

Er. Alcippus, all that's to your Virtue due.

Alcip. In that but common justice you allow.

Er. That justice, Sir, is all I can bestow.

Alcip. In Justice then you ought to me resign,

That which the Holy Priest entitl'd mine;

Yet that, without your heart, I do despise,

For uncompell'd I'd have that sacrifice:

Come ease me of that pain that presses here,

Give me but hope, that may secure my fear;

I'm not ashame to own my Soul possest

With Jealousie, that takes away my rest.

Tell me you'll love, or that my suit is vain,

Do any thing to ease me of my pain.

Gods Madam, why dye keep me in suspence,

This cannot be the effects of innocence;

By Heaven I'lle know the cause where e're it lies,

Nor shall you fool me with your feign'd disguise.

Pf. You do forget your promise, and this presence. [aside to Alcip.]

Alcip. 'Twas kindly urg'd, prithee be near me still,
And tell me of the faults that look unmanly.

Gall. Dear, if thou lov'st me, flatter him a little.

Er. 'Tis hard to do, yet I will try it, Madam.

Gall. I'lle leave you that you may the better do so.

I hope Alcippus, you'll revisit us;

With Lovers speed:

And whatsoever treatment now you find,

At your return you'll find us much more kind. [He bows; she goes out.]

Alcip. Can you forgive the rashness of a man,

That knows no other Laws but those of passion?

Er. You are unkind to think I do not Sir.

Yes, and am grown so softned by my pity,

That I'm afraid I shall neglect my Vows,

And to return your passion, grow ingrate.

Alcip. A few more syllables expres'd like these,

Will raise my Soul up to the worst extremity,

And give me with your scorn an equal torment.

Er. See what a power your language has upon me. [Weeps.]

Alcip. Ah, do not weep, a tear or two's enough,

For the Completion of your Cruelty,

That when it fail'd to exercise your will,

Sent those more powerful weapons from your eyes,

And what by your severity you mix of,

These

These (but a more obliging way) perform,
Gently, Erminia, pour the balm in,

That I may live, and taste the sweets of Love.

Ah should you still continue as you are,

Thus wondrous good, thus excellently fair.

I should retain my growing name in War,

And all the Glories I have ventur'd for,

And fight for Crowns to recompence thy Bounty.

This can your smiles, but when those beams are clouded,

Alas, I freeze to very Cowardice,

And have not Courage left to kill my self.

Er. A fate more glorious do's that life attend,

And does preserve you for a Nobler end.

Alcip. Erminia, do not sooth my easie heart,
For thou my fate, and thou my Fortune art;

Whatever other blessings Heaven design,

Without my dear Erminia, I'lle decline.

Yet, Madam, let me hope before I go,

In pity that you ought to let me do.

'Tis all you shall allow m' impatient heart.

Er. That's what against my will I must impart,

But wish it please the Gods, when next we meet,

We might as friends, and not as Lovers greet.

[Exeunt.]

ACT IV. SCENE I.

Enter Galatea and Aminta met by Philander and Alcander.

Pbi. So hasty Sister!

Gall. Brother, I am glad to meet you.

Aminta has some welcome news for you.

Amin. My Lord!

Erminia yet is hardly brought to yield,

She wants but some encouragement from you,

That may afflit her weakness to subdue,

And 'twas but faintly she deny'd to see you.

Pbi. However, I will venture,

She can but chide, and that will soon be past.

A Lovers anger is not long to last.

Amin. If illis, I have won to give you entrance.

Pbi. Love furnish me with powerful arguments:

Direct my tongue that my disorder'd sence

May speak my passion more than Eloquence.

Gall. But is Alcippus gone?

Alcan. Madam, an hour since.

Pbi. 'Tis well; and Sister,

Whilst I perswade Erminia to this flight;

[Exeunt.]

[Make]

Make it your business to persuade the King,
Hang on his neck, and kiss his willing cheek:
Tell him how much you love him, and then smile,
And mingle words with kisses; 'twill o'recome him:
Thou hast a thousand pretty flatteries.
Which have appeas'd his highest fits of passion:
A Song from thee has won him to that rest,
Which neither toil nor silence could dispose him to.
Thou know'st thy power, and now or never use it.
Gall. 'Twas thither I was going.
Phi. Mayst thou be prosperous.

[*Exeunt Phi. and Ga.*]

Aminta and Alcander stay.

Am. What now *Alcander*?

Alcan. As 'twas *Aminta*.

Am. How's that?

Alcan. Such a distracted lover as you left me.

Am. Such as I found you too, I fear, *Alcander*.

Alcan. Ah Madam do not wrong me so,

Till now I never knew the joys and sorrows

That do attend a soul in love like mine,

My passion only fits the object now,

I hate to tell you so, 'tis a poor low means

To gain a Mistrius by, of so much wit,

Aminta you're above that common rate

Of being won.

Mean beauties should be flatter'd into praise,

Whilst you need only lights from every lover

To tell you who you conquer, and not how,

Nor to instruct you what attracts you have.

Am. This will not serve to convince me,

But you have lov'd before,

Alcan. And will you never quit that error Madam?

Am. 'Tis what I've reason to believe, *Alcander*

And you can give me none for loving me,

I'm much unlike *Lucinda* whom you fight for

I'm not so coy, nor so reserv'd as she;

Nor so designing as *Florana* your next Saint,

Who starv'd you up with hope, 'till you grew weary,

And then *Ardelia*, did restore that los,

The little soft *Ardelia*, kind and fair too.

Alcan. You think you're wondrous witty now, *Aminta*

But hang me if you be.

Am. Indeed, *Alcander*, no 'tis simple truth,

Then for your bouncing Mistress, long *Brunetta*,

O that Majestick garb, 'tis strangely taking

That scornful look, and eyes that strike all dead that stand

Beneath them,

Alcander, I have none of all these charms,

But

But well, you say you love me; could you be
Content to dismiss these petty sharers in your heart,
And give it all to me: on these conditions
I may do much.

Alcan. Aminta, more perhaps than I may like,

Am. Do not fear that *Alcander*.

Alc. Your jealousie encourages that fear.

Am. If I be so, I'me the fitter for your humour.

Alcan. That's another reason for my fears; that ill

Luck owes us a spight, and will be sure to pay us with

Loving one another, a thought I dread,

Farewel *Aminta*; when I can get loose from

Ardelia, I may chance wait on you, till then

Your own Pride be your companion.

Am. Nay, you shall not go *Alcander*.

Holds him.

Alcan. Fy on't, those looks have lost their wonted force.

I knew you'd call'd me back to smile upon me,

And then you have me sure; no, no, *Aminta*,

I'll no more of that,

Goes off.

Am. I have too much betray'd my passion for him,

— I must recall it, If I can I must,

— I will — for should I yield my power's overthrown,

And what's a Woman when that glory's gone.

Exeunt.

ACT IV. SCENE II.

Enter Alcippus and Pisaro.

Pif. You seem'd then to be please'd with what he said.

Alcip. And then methought I was so,

But yet even then I fear'd she did dissemble,

— Gods, what's a Man possest with jealousie?

Pif. A strange wild' thing, a lover without reason,

I once have prov'd the torture on't;

But as unlike to thine as good from evil,

Like fire in Limbecks, thine was soft and gentle,

Infusing kindly heat till it distill'd

The spirits of the soul out at my eyes;

And so it ended.

But thine's a raging fire which never ceaseth,

Till it has quite destroy'd the goodly Edifice

Where it first took beginning;

Faith strive Sir to suppress it,

Alcip. No, he let run to its extent,

And see what then 'twill do.

Perhaps 'twill make me mad, or end my life,

Either of which will ease me.

Pif. Neither of these *Alcippus*,

It will unman you, make you too despis'd ;
And those that now admire, will pity you.

Alcip. What wouldest thou have me do ?
Am I not ty'd a slave to follow love,
Whilst at my back freedom and honour waits,
And I have lost the power to welcome them ?
Like those who meet a Devil in the night,
And all affrighted gaze upon the fury,
But dare not turn their backs to what they fear,
Though safety lyeth behind them.

Alas ! I would as willingly as those
Fly from this Devil Love.

Pif. You may like those affrighted, by degrees
Allay your sense of terror in the object,
And then its power will lessen with your fear,
And 'twill be easie to forgo the fantasme.

Alcip. No, then like the darnd Ghost it follows me.

Pif. Let reason then approach it, and examine it.

Alcip. Love is a surly and a lawless Devil,
And will not answer reason.
I must encounter it some other way,
For I will lay the Fiend.

Pif. What wouldest you have ? *Alcipus* ?

Alcip. I'd have fair play. *Pifaro*,
— I find the cheat, and will not to the Camp,
— Thou shalt supply my place, and I'll return :
The Night grows on, and something will be done
That I must be acquainted with.

Pif. Pardon me Sir, if I refuse you here ;
I find you're growing up to jealousies,
Which I'll not trust alone with you.

Alcip. Thou know'st perhaps of something worthy it.

Pif. I must confess your passions give me cause,
If I had any secrets to conceal them,
But 'tis no time nor place to make disputes in :
Will you to horse ?

Alcip. Will you not think fit I should return then ?
I can be calm.

Pif. What is't you mean by this return. *Alcipus* ?

Alcip. To see *Erminia*, is not that enough
To one in love, as I am ?

Pif. But Sir, suppose you find *Philander* there ?

Alcip. Then I suppose I shall not much approve on't.

Pif. You would be at your last nights rage again.

Alcipus this will ruine you for ever,

Nor is it all the power you think you have

Can save you, if he once be disengag'd.

Believe me 'twas the Princess's passion for you
Made up that breach last night.

Alcip. All this I know as well as you *Pifaro*,
But will not be abus'd ; alas I'm lost,
Could I recall these two last days are past,
Ah I should be my self again, *Pifaro*.
I would refuse these fetters which I wear,
And be a slave to nothing but to glory.

Pif. That were a resolution worthy of you,
— But come 'tis late, what you resolve conclude.

Alcip. I am resolv'd I will not to the Camp,
A secret inclination does perswade me
To visit my *Erminia* to night.

Pif. Comes it from Love, or Jealousie ?

Alcip. The first good, faith *Pifaro* ; thou'rt so fearful —
You shall to'th Camp before
And I'll be with you early in the morning.

Pif. Give me your hand, and promise to be calm.

Alc. By all our friendships, as the Western Winds, [gives his hand.]
Nothing that's done shall e're inflame me more,
Honour's the Mistress I'll henceforth adore.

Pif. I will not trust you though. [goes out another way.]

A C T IV. S C E N E. III.

The Court Gallery.

Enter *Philander* and *Alcander* in their Cloaks muff'd as in the dark.

Alcan. Isilia ?

[Calls at the lodgings of *Erminia*.]

Ifil. Who's there ?

Alcan. A friend.

Ifil. My Lord *Alcander* ?

Alcan. The same.

Ifil. Where's the Prince ?

Pbi. Here *Isilia*.

Ifil. Give me your hand my Lord, and follow me.

Pbi. To such a Heaven as thou conductest me to,
Though thou shouldst traverse Hell I'de follow thee.

Alcan. You'll come back in charity *Isilia* ?

Ifil. Yes, If I dare trust you alone with me.

[They go all in.]

A C T IV. S C E N E. IV.

Draws off, discovers *Erminia*, in an undress, sitting to her *Philander*, who falls at her feet on his knees.

Er. My Lord the Prince, what makes your Highnesshere ?

Pbi. *Erminia*, why do you ask that needless question ?

Twas Love, Love that's unsatisfied, which brought me hither. [kneels.]

Er. Rise Sir, this posture would become me better,

Pbi. Permit me dear *Erminia* — to remain thus.

Tis only by these signs I can express

What

[46]
What my confusion will not let me utter,
I know—not what strange power thou bear'st about thee,
But at thy sight or touch my sense forsakes me,
And that, withal I had designd to say,
Turns to a strange disorder'd rapture in me.

— Oh *Erminia* —

Er. How do you Sir ?

Pbi. I am not well ;

Too suddenly I pass from one extrem

To this of joy, more insupportable,

But I shall reassume my health anon,

And tell thee all my story,

Er. Dear Sir, retire into this inner room,

And there repose a while.

Alas, I see disorder in your face,

Pbi. This confidence of me, is generous in thee.

[They go into the Scene which draws over.

A C T . IV . S C E N E . V . [The Court Gallery.

Enter Alcippus.

Alcip. The night is calm and silent as my thoughts,
Where nothing now but loves soft whispers dwell ;
Who in as gentle terms upbraids my rage,
Which strove to dispossess the Monarch thence ;
It tells me how dishonest all my fears are,
And how ungrateful all my jealousies,
And prettily persuade those Infidels
To be less rude and mutinous hereafter.
Ah that I could remain in this same state
And be contented with this Monarchy ;
I would, if my wild multitude of passions
Could be appeas'd with it, but they're for liberty,
And nothing but a common-wealth within
Will satisfie their appetites of freedom.

— Pride, Honour, Glory, and Ambition strive
How to expell this Tyrant from my soul,
But all too weak though reason should assist them.

[He knocks.

Alcan. Who's there ?

Alcip. A friend.

If. Oh Heavens it is my Lord *Alcippus* voice.

Alcan. Peace *Ifillia*.

Alcip. I hear a man within — open the door.
Now, Love defend thy interest, or my jealousy
Will grow the mightier Devil of the two else.

— Who's this ? one muffled in a Cloak :
What art thou, who at this dead time of night
Hast took possession here ?

[Alcand.
comes out.

— Speak

[47]
— Speak or I'll kill thee.

Alcan. This were an opportunity indeed.
To do my Prince a service, but I dare not.

Alcip. What darest not do ?

Alcan. Not kill thee.

Alc. Is that thy business then? have at the slave ;
I'll spoyl your keeping doors.

[Run at him.

They fight, and grappling Alcander gets the Sword of Alcippus.
Alcip. He's got my Sword, however I'll lose no time :
It may be 'tis his office to detain me.

Alcan. I'm wounded, yet I will not leave him so ;
There may be mischief in him, though unarmed.

[Goes in.

A C T . IV . S C E N E . VI . [A Bed Chamber

Discovers Erminia, Philander sitting on the bed, to them Ifillia, a Sword and
Hat on the Table.

If. Ah Madam, *Alcippus*.

Er. *Alcippus* where ?

If. I left him in a quarrel with *Alcander*,
And hear him coming up.

Er. For Heavens sake, Sir, submit to be conceal'd.

Pbi. Not for the World, *Erminia*.

My innocence shall be my guard and thine.

Er. Upon my knees I beg you're be conceal'd.

He comes, *Philander*, for my safety go.

Pbi. I never did obey with more regret.

*He hides himself behind the bed, and in haste leaves his Sword and Hat
on the Table, Alcippus comes in.*

Alcip. How now *Erminia* ?

How come it you are up so late ?

Er. I found my self not much inclin'd to sleep ;

I hope 'tis no offence.

Why do you look so wildly round about you ?

Alcip. Methinks *Erminia* you are much confus'd.

Er. Alas you cannot blame me ;

Ifillia tells me you were much irrag'd

Against a Lover she was entertaining.

Al. A Lover — was that a time for Courtship ?

Such actions, Madam, will reflect on you.

Ifillia goes to take the Hat and Sword and slide into her lap, which he
sees, calls to her.

— What have you there *Ifillia* ?

Come back and let me see what 'tis.

— ha — a Sword and Hat — *Erminia*, who be these ?

Er. Why do you ask —

Alcip. To be inform'd, is that so great a wonder ?

Er. They be my Fathers Sir —

Alcip.

Alcip. Was that well said *Erminia*—speak again.
Er. What is't you would know?

Alcip. The truth *Erminia*, 'twould become you best.
 Do you think I take these things to be your fathers?
 No treacherous Woman, I have seen this sword
 Worn by a Man more vigorous than thy Father,
 It had not else been here.

—Where have you hid this mighty Man of valour?
 Have you exhausted so his stock of courage?

He has not any left t'appear withal.

Pbi. Yes, base *Alcippus*, I have still that courage,
 Th' effects of which thou hast beheld with wonder,
 And now being fortified by innocence,
 Thou'lt find sufficient to chastise thy boldness,
 Restore my Sword and prove the truth of this.

Alcip. I've hardly so much calmness left to answer thee,
 And tell thee Prince thou art deceiv'd in me.

—I know 'tis just I should restore thy Sword,
 But thou hast show'd the basest of thy play,
 And I'le return thuncivil treachery,
 You merit death for this base injury.
 But you're my Prince, and that I own you so,
 Is all remains in me of fence or justice;
 The rest is rage, which if thou gett'st not hence
 Will eat up that small morsel too of reason,
 And leave me nothing to preserve thy life with.

Pbi. Gods, am I tame, and hear the Traytor brave me,

I have resentment left though nothing else.

Alcip. Stand off, by all that's good I'le kill thee else.

Er. Ah, hold Sir, hold, the Prince has no defence,

And you are more than armed,

What honour is't to let him Murther you?

—Nor would your famè be lessen'd by retreat.

Pbi. Alas I dare not leave thee here with him.

Er. Trust me Sir, I can make him calm again.

Alcip. She counsels well, and I advise you take it.

Pbi. I will, but not for fear of thee or death,

But from th' assurance that her power's sufficient

To allay this unbecoming fury in thee,

And bring thee to repentance.

He gives him his Sword; *Philander goes out*, *Alcippus locks the door after him*.

Er. Alcippus, what do you mean?

Alcip. To know where 'twas you learn'd this impudence?

Which you're too cunning in,

Not to have been a italic practitioner.

Ex. Alas what will you do?

Alcip. Preserve thy soul if thou haft any sense
 Of future joys, after this vile damn'd action.

Er. Ah, what have I done?

Alcip. That which if I should let thee live, *Erminia*,
 Would never suffer thee to look abroad again.

—Thou'lt made thy self and me.

—Oh, I dare not name the Monsters—

But I'll destroy them whilst the Gods look down,
 And smile upon my justice.

He strangles her with a Garter, which he snatches from his Leg.
Er. Hold, hold, and hear my vows of innocence.

Alcip. Let me be damn'd as thou art if I do;

—So now my heart, I have redeem'd thee nobly,
 Sit down and paufe a while—

—But why so still and tame, is one poor Murther
 Enough to satisfie thy storm of passion,
 If it were just, it ought not here to end,

—If not— I've done too much—

after a little pause, and opens the door, enter Page.

Page. My Lord *Pifaro*—

Alcip. *Pifaro*— Oh that name has wakned me

A name till now had never terror in't,

—I will not speak with him.

Page. My Lord he's here—

Pif. Not speak with me, nay, then I fear the worst.

Alcip. Not for the World *Pifaro*—

Hides his Face with his Hand, see Erminia.

Pif. Thy guilt is here too plain,
 I need not read it in thy blushing face,

She's dead, and pale, Ah, sweet *Erminia*.

Alcip. if she be dead the fitter she's for me,

She'll now be coy no more, nor cry I cannot love,

And frown and blush, when I but kis's her hand :

Now I shall read no terror in her eyes,

And what is better yet, shall ne're be jealous.

Pif. Why didst thou make such haste to be undone?

Had I detain'd thee but an hour longer,

Thoudit been the only happy of thy Sex.

—I knew thou didst dissemble when we parted,

And therefore durst not trust thee with thy passions,

I only stay'd to gather from my Sister,

What news I might concerning your affairs,

Which I with joy came to impart to you,

But most unfortunately came too late.

Why didst thou yield obedience to that Devil

Which urg'd thee to destroy this innocent?

Alcip.

Alcip. Pifaro, do not err,
I found the Prince and she alone together,
He all disorder'd like a ravisher,
Loose and unbutton'd for the amorous play ;
O that she had another life to lose.

Pif. You wrong her most inhumanly, you do ;
Her blood yet sensible of the injury
Flows to her face to upbraid thy cruelty.
— Where dost thou mean bad man to hide thy head ?
Vengeance and Justice will pursue thee close,
And hardly leave thee time for penitence.
— What will the Princes say to this return
You've made to all the offers she had sent
This night by Prince Philander ?

Alcip. Oh when you name the Prince and Philander,
Such different passions do at once possest me,
As sinks my over-laden soul to Hell.
— Alas why do I live ? 'tis losing time,
For what is death, a pain that's sooner ended
Than what I felt from every frown of hers.
— It was but now, that lovely thing had life,
Could speak and weep, and had a thousand charms
That had oblig'd Murderer, and madnes 'tself
To've been her tame adorers.
Yet now should even her best belov'd the Prince,
With all his Youth, his beauties and desires,
Fall at her feet, and tell his tale of love,
She hardly would return his amorous smiles,
Or pay his meeting kiffes back-again ;
Is not that fine Pifaro ?

Pif. Sir, 'tis no time to talk in, come with me,
For here's no safety for a Murtherer.

Alcip. I will not go, alas I seek no safety.

Pif. I will not now dispute that vain reply,
But force you to security.

Pifaro draws him out, the Scene closes.

A C T IV. S C E N E VII.

Enter Philander, Alcander, Gallatea, Aminta and Falatius.

Fa. Ah fly, Sir, fly, from what I have to tell you.

Alcan. What's the news ?

Fa. Ah Sir, the dismall't heavy news that ere
Was told or heard.

Gall. No matter, out with it.

Fa. Erminia, Madam.

Pbi. Erminia, What of her ?

Fal. Is dead, Sir.

Alcan. What hast thou lost thy wits ?
Fa. I had them not about me, at the fight
I else had been undone : Alas Erminia's dead
Murther'd and dead.

Alcan. It cannot be, thou ly'ft.

Fa. By Jove, I do not Sir, I saw her dead,
Alas, I ran as I was wont to do,
Without demanding licence to her Chamber,
But found her not as I was wont to do,
In a gay humour ; but stonē dead, and cold.

Pbi. Alcander, am I awake — or being so,
Dost not perceive this senseless flesh of mine
Harden into a cold benummed Statue.

— Methinks — it does — support me — or I fall
And so — shall break to pieces —

Gall. Ah lovely Maid, was this thy destiny ?
Did Heaven create thy beauties to this end ?

— I must distrust their bounties, who neglected
The best and fairest of their handy-work ;
This will encourage sin, when innocence
Must perish thus, and meet with no defence.

Enter the King and Orgilius.

Org. If murther'd innocence do cry for justice,
Can you, great Sir, make a defence against it ?

King. I think I cannot.

Org. Sir, as you are pious, as you are my King,
The Lover and Protector of your people,
Revenge Erminia's Murther on *Alcippeus*.

Gall. If e're my Mother, Sir, were dear to you,
As from your tears I guest whene're you nam'd her :
If the remembrance of those charms remain,
Whose weak resemblance you have found in me,
For which you oft have said you lov'd me dearly ;
Dispence your mercies, and preserve this Copy,
Which else must perish with th' Original.

King. Why all this Conjuration, *Gallatea*.

Gall. To move you, Sir, to spare *Alcippeus* life.

King. You are unjust, if you demand a life,
Must fall a Sacrifice to Erminia's Ghost,

That is a debt I have ingag'd to pay.

Gall. Sir, if that promise be already past,
And that your word be irrevocable,
I vow I will not live a moment after him.

King. How *Gallatea* ! I'de rather hop'd you'd joyn'd
Your Prayers with his.

Gall. Ah Sir, the late Petition which I made you
Might have inform'd you why these knees are bow'd,
'Twas but this night I did confess I lov'd him,

[The Women weep.]

[Falls into his Arms.]

[He leads him out.]

And you would have allow'd that passion in me,
 Had he not been Erminia's,
 And can you question now what this address meant.
 Or. Remember Sir, Erminia was my Daughter.
 Gall. And Sir, remember that I am your Daughter.
 Or. And shall the Traytor live that murther'd her?
 Gall. And will you by his death Sir, murther me?
 In dear Erminia's death too much is done,
 If you revenge that death, 'tis two for one.
 Or. Ah Sir, to let him live's unjust in you.
 Gall. And killing me, you more injustice do.
 Or. Alcippus, Madam, merits not your love,
 That could so cruel to Erminia prove.
 Gall. If Lovers could be rul'd by Reasons Laws,
 For this complaint on him, we'd had no cause.
 'Twas Love that made him this rash act commit,
 Had she been kind 't had taught him to submit.
 — But might it not your present griefs augment,
 I'd say that you deserve this punishment,
 By forcing her to marry with the General;
 By which you have destroy'd Philander too,
 And now you would Alcippus life undo.
 Or. That was a fault of duty to your Majesty.
 Kin. Though that were honest, twas not wisely done,
 For had I known the passion of my Son,
 And how essential 'twas to his content,
 I willingly had granted my consent;
 Her worth and beauty had sufficient been,
 To've rais'd her to the Title of a Queen.
 Did not my Glorious Father, Great Gonzal,
 Marry the Daughter of his Admiral?
 And I might to my Son have been as kind,
 As then my Father did my Grandfie find.
 Org. You once believ'd that I had guilty been,
 And had the punishment, but not the sin;
 I suffer'd when 'twas thought I did aspire,
 And should by this have rais'd my crimes yet higher.
 Kin. How did Philander take Erminia's death?
 Gall. My own surprize and grief was so extream,
 I know not what effects it had in him;
 But this account of him I'me forc'd to give,
 Since she is dead, I know he cannot live.
 Kin. I'le know Philanders Fate e're I proceed,
 And if he dye, Alcippus too shall bleed.

[Exeunt.]

ACT

A C T IV. S C E N. VIII.

The Gallery.

Enter Falatius and Labree.

Fa. Wert thou never valiant Labree?

La. Yes Sir, before I serv'd you, and since too, I
 Am provok'd to give you proofs on't sometimes,
 For when I am angry I am a very Hector.Fa. I the Devil when a body's angry, but that's
 Not the valour in mode; men fight now adays
 Without that, and even embrace whilst they draw
 Their Swords on one another.

La. I Sir, those are men that despise their lives.

Fa. Why that's it Labree that I would learn to do,
 And, which I fear, nothing but poverty will make me do;
Foe defend me from that experiment.Enter Erminia *wield with a thin Tiffany.*Labree. What's the matter, Sir,
 Does the fit take you now?

Fa. Save us, save us from the Fiend.

La. A Ghost, a Ghost, O, O, O!

[They fall shaking on the ground.]

Er. This was a happy mistake,

Now I may pass with safety.

Fa. Look up, Labree, if thou hast any of that
 Courage thou speakest of but now.

[She goes out.]

La. I dare not, Sir, experience yours I pray.

Fa. Alas, alas, I fear we are both rank Cowards.

La. Rife Sir, 'tis gone.

Fa. This was worse than the fright Alcander put
 Me into by much.

[They rise and go out.]

A C T IV. S C E N E IX.

Enter Philander and Cleontius.

Phi. I know he's fled to the Camp,
 For there he only can secure himself.Cle. I do not think it, Sir,
 He's too brave too justifie an action
 Which was the out-rage only of his passion,
 That soon will toyle it self into a Calm,
 And then will grow considerate again,
 And hate the rashness it provok'd him too.Phi. That shall not serve his turn—go
 Tell him I'll get his Pardon of the King,
 And set him free from other fears of justice,
 But those which I intend to execute.
 If he be brave he'll not refuse this offer.

H 2

If

If not, I'll do as he has done by me,
And meet his hated Soul by treachery.
— And then I've nothing more to do but dye:
— Ah how agreeable are the thoughts of death,
How kindly do they entertain my Soul,
And tells it pretty tales of satisfaction in the other world,
That I shall dwell for ever with *Erminia*. — but stay,
That sacred Spirit yet is unrevg'd,
— I'll send that Traytors Soul to eternal night,
Then mine shall take its so desired flight,

[Cle. goes out.]

[going out.]

Enter *Erminia*, calls him.
Er. Return *Philander*, whether wouldest thou fly?

[Turns, sees her, and is frightened.]

Phi. What voice is that*Er.* Tis I my Prince, tis I.*Phi.* Thou—Gods—what art thou—in that lovely shape?*Er.* A Soul that from *Elixium* made escape [as she comes towards him]
To visit thee, why dost thou steal away, he goes back in great amaze.
I'll not approach thee nearer than I may.*Phi.* Why do I shake—it is *Erminias* form—
And can that beauty ought that's ill adorn?— In every part *Erminia* does appear,
And—sure no Devil—can inhabit there. [He comes on and kneels, one*Alcan.* My Lord the Prince. knocks, she steals back in at a door.*Phi.* Ha—— Oh Gods, I charge thee not to vanish yet,
I charge thee by those powers thou dost obey,
Not to deprive me of thy blessed sight.*Er.* I will re-visit thee.

[Enter Alcan.]

Phi. I'me not content with that.— Stay, stay, my dear *Erminia*.*Alcan.* What mean you Sir? [He rises, and looks still affrighted.]*Phi.* *Alcander*, look, look, how she glides away,

Dost thou not see't?

Alcan. Nothing Sir, not I.*Phi.* No, now she's gone again.*Alcan.* You are disorder'd, pray sit down a while.*Phi.* No, not at all *Alcander*, I'me my self,

I was not in a dream, nor in a passion.

When she appear'd, her face a little pale,

But else my own *Erminia*, she her self,

I mean a thing as like, nay, it spoke too,

And I undaunted answer'd it again,

But when you knockt it vanish't.

Alcan. 'Twas this *Aminta* would perwade me to,

And faith I laught at her,

And wish I might have leave to do so now.

*Phi.**Phi.* You do displease me with your unbelief.*Alcan.* Why Sir, do you think there can indeed be Ghosts?*Phi.* Pray do not urge my sensē to lose its nature,*Er.* It is *Alcander*, I may trust him too. [She peeps in on them and comes*Phi.* Look where she comes again, credit thy eyes,

out.

Which did perwade thee that they saw her dead.

Alcan. By Heaven and so they did—

[both seem frightened.]

— Gods—this—is wondrous—strange; yet I can

Bear it, if it were the Devil himself in that fair shape.

Phi. And yet thou shakest—*Alcan.* I do, but know not why.

— Inform us lovely spirit what thou art,

A God—or Devil, if either thou art welcome.

Er. You cannot think *Alcander*, there be Ghosts, [She gives her bands

No, give me your hand and prove mine flesh and blood, to him and Phi.

— Sir, you were wont to credit what I said, which they refuse to touch.

And I would still merit that kind opinion.

Phi. *Erminia*, soul of sweetness, is it you?

— How do you ravish with excess of joys?

Er. Softly, dear Sir, do not express that joy,

Lest you destroy it by your doing so.

I fly for sanctuary to your arms.

As yet none knows I live but poor *Isilia*,

Who bathing of my cold face with her tears,

Perceiv'd some signs of life, and us'd what means

Her love and duty did instruct her in,

And I in half an hour was so reviv'd,

As I had sense of all was past and done,

And to prevent a death I yet might fear,

If mad *Alcippe* had return'd again.

— Alone I came to you, where I could find

Alone my safety too.

Phi. From Gods and men *Erminia* thou art safe,My best and blest *Erminia*.*Er.* Sir, in my coming hither I met *Aminta*,

Whom I may fear has alarm'd all the Court;

She took me for a Ghost, and ran away,

E're I could undeceive her.

— *Falatius* too, affrighted even to death!*Alcan.* Faith, that was lucky Madam.

— Hark some body knocks, you'd best retire a little. [Leads her into the door.]

Enter *Gallatea* and *Aminta* lighted.*Gal.* Ah Brother, there's such news abroad.*Phi.* What dear Sitter, for I am here confind,

And cannot go to meet it?

Gall. *Erminias* Ghost is seen, and I'me so frighted.*Phi.*

Pbi. You would not fear it though it should appear.

Gall. Oh do not say so ;
For though the world had nought I held more dear,
I would not see her Ghost for all that world.

Alcan. But Madam, 'tis so like *Erminia*.

Am. Why have you seen it too ?

Alcan. Yes *Aminta* .

Am. Then there be Ghosts *Aleander* ?

Pbi. *Aminta* we'll convince him. [*Pbi.* leads out *Er.* who comes smiling to the Princefs.]

But how dear creature wert thou thus preserv'd ?

Pbi. Another time for that, but now let's think
How to preserve her still,

Since all believe her dead, but who are present,
And that they may remain in that blest error
I will consult with you ; but you my dearest
Shall as the spirit of *Erminia* act,
And reap the glory of so good a part,
It will advance the new design I have,
And Sister to your care
I must commit the treasure of my life.

Gall. It was not kind, she came not first to me.

Er. Madam, I fear'd the safety of my Prince,
And every moment that I found I liv'd,
Were more tormenting, than were those of death,
Till I had undeceiv'd his apprehensions.

Pbi. 'Twas like thy self, generous and kind, my dear,
Thou mightst have come too late else.

Er. But Sir, pray where's my Murtherer ? for yet
A better name I cannot well afford him.

Gall. All that we know of him,

Pifaro now inform'd him,
Who came just as he thought he had murther'd thee,
And begg'd he would provide for his own safety.
But he who gave him sober promises,
No sooner found himself out of his arms,
But frantick and i'th' dark he got away.
But out o'th' Court he knows he cannot pass,
At this dead time of night ;
But he believes he is i'th' Groves or Gardens,
And thither he is gone to find him out.

Alcan. This is no place to make a longer stay in,
The King has many spies about the Prince,
Twere good you would retire to your apartment.

Gall. We'll take your Counsel, Sir.

—Good night, Brother.

Pbi. *Erminia*, may thy dreams be calm and sweet

[*Aminta* embraces her]

As

As thou hast made my Soul,
May nothing of the cruelty that's past
Approach thee in a rude uneasie thought ;
Remember it not so much as in thy prayers,
Let me alone to thank the Gods for thee,
To whom that blessing only was ordain'd ;
And when I lose my gratitude to Heaven,
May they deprive me of the joys they've given.

[*Exeunt.*]

ACT V. SCENE I.

Enter Gallatea, *Erminia*, *Pifaro*, *Aminta*.

Gall. AND hast thou found him ? Ease my misery.

Pif. I have, and done as you commanded me.

I found him sitting by a Fountain-side,

Whose tears had power to swell the little tide,

Which from the Marble Statues breasts still flows :

As silent and as numberless were those.

I laid me down behind a Thicket near,

Where undiscover'd I could see and hear :

The Moon the day supply'd, and all below

Instructed, even as much as day could do.

I saw his postures, heard him rave and cry,

'Twas I that kill'd *Erminia*, yes 'twas I ;

Then from his almost frantick head he'd tear

Whole handfuls of his well-becoming hair

Thus would he till his rage was almost spent,

And then in softer terms he would lament ;

Then speak as if *Erminia* still did live,

And that belief made him forget to grieve.

—The Marble Statue *Venus*, he mistook

For fair *Erminia*, and such things he spoke ;

Such unheard passionate things as e're would move,

The Marble Statue's self to fall in love ;

He'd kiss its breast, and say the kind was grown,

And never mind, alas, 'twas leaflets stone ;

He took its hand, and to his mouth had laid it,

But that it came not, and its stay betray'd it ;

Then would he blush, and all affain'd become,

His head declining, for a while be dumb ;

His Arms upon his Breast across would lay,

Then sensibly and calmly walk away,

And in his walk a thousand thoughts he said,

Which I forgot, yet something with me staid ;

He did consult the nature of the crime,

and still concluded that 'twas just in him;

He

He run o're all his life, and found no act
That was un-generous in him, but this fact.
From which the Justice took off the disgrace,
And might even for an act of virtue pass;
He did consult his glory and his pride,
And whilst he did so, laid his grief aside.

— Then was as calm as e'er he seem'd to be.

Gall. And all this while did he ne're mention me?

Pif. Yes, Madam, and a thousand things he said,
By which much thame and passion he betray'd,
And then 'twas, Madam, I stept in and gave
Counsels, I thought him fittest to receive;
I sooth'd him up, and told him that the crime
I had committed, had the case been mine.
I all things said that might his griefs beguile,
And brought him to the sweetness of a smile.

— To all I said he lent a willing ear,

And my reproaches too at last did hear.

With this insensibly I drew him on,
And with my flatteries so upon him won,
Such gentleness infus'd into his breast,
As has dispos'd his wearied soul to rest,
Sleeping upon a Couch I've left him now,
And came to render this account to you.

Gall. Pifaro. 'Twas the office of a friend,
And thou'rt perform'd it to a generous end:
Go on and prosper in this new design,
And when thou'rt done, the glory shall be thine.

[bows.]

[Exeunt.]

A C T V. SCENE. II.

Draws off, discovers Alcippus rising from the Couch.

Alcip. I cannot sleep, my soul is so unfurnished
Of all that sweetness which allow'd it rest:
— 'Tis flown, 'tis flown, for ever from my breast.
And in its room eternal discords dwell,
Such as out-do the black intrigues of Hell
— Oh my fortune! — [Weeps, pulling out his handkerchief; drops a Picture with the Glass on the Reverse.]

— What's here — Alas, that which I dare not look on,
And yet, why should I shun that image here,
Which I continually about me bear,
But why, dear Picture, art thou still so gay,
Since she is gone, from whom these charms were borrow'd,
Those eyes that gave this speaking life to thine,
Those lovely eyes are clos'd in endless darkness,

There

There's not a star in all the face of Heaven,
But now out-shines those Suns.

Suns at Noon day dispense not kindlier influences:
And thou blest mirrour, that hast oft beheld
That face, which nature never made a fairer,
Thou that so oft her beauties back reflected,
And made her know what wondrous power there lay
In every feature of that lovely face.

But she will smile no more! no more! no more!

— Why, who shall hinder her? Death, cruel Death.

— 'Twas I that murther'd her —

Thou lyest — thou durst as well be damn'd to touch her,
She was all sacred, and that impious hand
That had prophanely touch'd her,
Had wither'd from the body.

— I lov'd her — I ador'd her, and could I,
Could I approach her with unhallowed thoughts?

— No, no, I durst not.

But as devoutest Pilgrims do the shrine,

— If I had don't,
The Gods, who take the part of Innocence,
Had been reveng'd —

— Why did not Thunder strike me in the action?
Why, if the Gods be just, and I had don't,

Did they not suffer earth to swallow me,

Quick — quick into her bosom —

— But yet I say again it was not I,

— Let me behold this face,
That durst appear in such a Villany.

[He looks in the Glass.]

Enter Pifaro and Erminia drest like an Angel with Wings.

Pif. Look, where he is.

Erm. Alas, I tremble at the sight of him.

Pif. Fear nothing, Madam, I'll be near you still.

Er. Pray stay a little longer.

Alcip. — My face has horror in't, pale and disfigur'd,
And lean as Envy's self —

My eyes all bloody, — and my hanging lids

Like Midnight's mischief, hide the guilty Balls,

— And all about me calls me Murtherer :

— Oh horrid Murtherer!

That very souud tears out my hated soul,

— And to compleat my ruine,

I'll still behold this face where Murther dwells.

He looks in the Glass, Erminia steals behind him, and looks into it over his shoulder; he is frightened.

Ha — What does this Glass present me?

I

What

What art thou? — speak — What art thou? [Terms by degrees towards us.]
 — Sure I am fixt, what shall the Devil fright me?
 — Me, shall he fright — Who stood the Execution of a Murther?
 — But 'tis that shape, and not thy Nature frights me?
 — That calls — the blood out of my panting heart;
 — That Traytor heart that did conspire thy death.

Er. Sit down and hear me — [In a tone like a Spirit, and points to the Scene.] To disobey, thy punishment shall be: a Char, soſo Musick begins to play; To live in endless torments, but ne're die, which continues all this Scene.

Alcip. Thou threatnest high, bold Rebel.

He sits within Er. Alcippus, tell me what you see;

Bows. What is't that I appear to be?

Alcip. My bleſt Erminia Deify'd.

Er. Alcippus, you inform me true,

I am thus Deify'd by you;

To you I owe this bleſt abode,

For I am happy as a God;

I only come to tell thee ſa,

And by that tale to end thy woe;

Know, Mighty Sir, your Joy's begun,

From what laſt Night to me was done;

In vain you rave, in vain you weep,

For what the Gods must ever keep.

In vain you mourn, in vain deplore,

A loſt which tears can ne're reſore.

The Gods their Mercies will diſpence,

In a more Gloriouſ Recompence;

A World of bleſſings they've in ſtore,

A World of Honour, Victories more;

Thou ſhalt the Kingdom's Darling be,

And Kings ſhall Homage pay to thee;

Thy Sword no bounds to Conquer ſet,

And thy ſucces that Sword ſhall whet;

Prince's thy Chariot-wheels ſhall grace,

Whilſt thou in triumph bringſt home Peaces.

This will the Gods, thy King yet more

Will give thee what thofe Gods ador;

And what they did create for thee;

Alcippus look, for that is ſhe.

Enter the Princeſs, and goes over the Stage as a Spirit, bows a little to Alcip., and goes off.

Alcip. The Princeſs! [He offerſto rise.]

Er. Be ſtill; 'tis ſhe you muſt poſſeſſ,
 'Tis ſhe muſt make your happiness;
 'Tis ſhe muſt lead you on to find
 Thoſe bleſſings Heaven has design'd.

Tis

'Tis ſhe'll conduct you where you'll prove
 The perfect joys of grateful love.

Enter Aminta like Glory, Alcander representing Honour. They paſſ over,
 and bow, and go out.

Glory and Honour wait on her.

Enter two more representing Mars and Pallas, bow and go out.
 With Pallas and the God of War,
 Fortune and Love which ne're agree.

Enter Olinda like Fortune, a Page like Cupid, bow and goes out.
 Do now united bow to thee.

— Be wife, and of their Bounties share,

For if Erminia ſtill was here,

Still ſubjeſt to the toyls of life,

She never could have been thy Wife.

Who by the Laws of Men and Heaven

Was to another's bosome given,

— And what iuſtiſe thou baſt done

Was only to thy Prince alone;

But he has Mercy, can Redeem

Those ills which thou baſt done to him.

— But ſee, they all return again.

All the Disguis'd enter again and Dance, with Love in the midſt,
 to whom as they dance, they in order make an offer of what they carry,
 which muſt be ſomething to repreſent them by; which Love refuſes
 with Nods, ſtill pointing to Alcippus, the Dance done, they lay them
 at his feet, or ſeem to do ſo, and go out.

What thinkſt thou of thy destiny,

Iſt not agreeable to thee?

Tell me Alcippus iſt not brave?

Is it not better than a Grave?

Caſt off yours tears, abandon grief,

And give what you have ſeen belief.

Dref all your locks, and be as gay

As Virgins in the month of May;

Deck up that face where sorrow grows,

And let your ſmiles adorn your brows;

Recall your wonted ſweetneſs home,

And let your eyes all Love become,

For what the Gods have will'd and ſaid:

Thou baſt no power to evade;

What they decree, none can withstand,

You muſt obey what they command.

[She goes out, he remains immov'eble
 for a while.

Enter Pifaro.

Pif. How is it man — what ſpeechleſs?

Alcip. No —

Pif. I left thee on the Bed, how cameſt thou here?

Alcip.

Alcip. I know not.

Pif. Have you slept?

Alcip. Yes, ever since you left me.

And twas a kindness in thee now to wake me,
For sleep had almost flattered me to peace,
Which is a vile injustice.

—Ah *Pisaro*, I had such a dream,
Such a fine flattering dream.

Pif. How was it pray?

Alcip. Nay, I will forget it,
I do not merit so much peace of mind,
As the relation of that dream will give me,
Oh 'twas so perfect too,
I hardly can perswade my self I slept,
Dost thou believe there may be apparitions?

Pif. Doubtless, my Lord, there be.

Alcip. I never could believe it till this hour,
By Heavens I think I saw them too, *Pisaro*.

Pif. 'Tis very possible you're not deceiv'd.

Alcip. *Erminia's* Spirit, in a glorious form.

Pif. I do believe you.

Alcip. Why, is't not strange?

Pif. It would have been, had I not heard already,
She has this Night appear'd to several persons,
In several shapes; the first was to the Prince,
And said so many pretty things for you.
As has perswaded him to pardon you.

Alcip. Oh Gods, what Fortune's mine?

I do believe the Prince is innocent
From all that thou hast said.

—But yet I wish he would dispose his bounties
On those that would return acknowledgments:
I hate he should oblige me.

Pif. You are too obstinate, and must submit.

Alcip. It cannot be, and yet methinks I give
A strange and sudden credit to this Spirit,
It beckned me into another room;
I'll follow it, and know it's business there.

Pif. Come Sir, I am a kind of Prophet.

And can interpret dreams too.
We'll walk a while, and you should tell me all,
And then I would advise you what to do.

A C T V. S C E N E III.

Enter Philander with the King.

Kin. Thou'rt entertain'd me with a pretty Story,
And call'd up so much Nature to thy Cause,

[Exeunt.]

That

That I am half subjected to its Laws:
I find thy lovely Mother plead within too,
And bids me put no force upon thy will;
Tells me thy flame should be as unconfin'd
As that we felt when our two Souls combin'd:
Alas, *Philander*, I am old and feeble,
And cannot long survive;

But thou hast many Ages yet to number,
Of youth and vigour; and should all be wasted
In the Embraces of an unlov'd Maid:
No, my *Philander*, if that after death,
Ought could remain to me of this worlds joys,
I should remember none with more delight,
Than those of having left thee truly happy.

Phi. This goodness, Sir, resembles that of Heaven,
Preserving what it made, and can be paid
Only with grateful praise as we do that.

Kin. Go, carry on your innocent design,
And when you've done, the last act shall be mine.

[Exeunt.]

A C T V. S C E N E IV.

*Enter Aminta followed by Alcander, Erminia and Gallatea, goes out, enter
Alcander and stays Aminta.*

Alcan. Stay, dear *Aminta*, do not fly so fast.

Am. Methinks *Alcander* you should shun that maid,
Of whose too much of kindness you're afraid.
Twas not long since you parted in such fewd,
And swore my treatment of you was too rude.
You vow'd you found no beauty in my eyes,
And can you now pursue what you despise?

Alcan. Nay, do not leave me yet, for still your scorn
Much better than your absence may be born.

[offers to go.]

Am. Well Sir, your busines, for mine requires hast.

Alcan. Say, fair *Aminta*, shall I never find
You'll cease this rigour, and be kind?
Will that dear breast no tenderness admit?
And shall the pain you give no pity get?
Will you be never touch'd with what I say?
And shall my Youth and Vows be thrown away?
You know my Passion and my Humour too,
And how I dye, though do not tell you so.

Am. What Arguments will you produce to prove
You love, for yet I'll not believe you love?

Alcan. Since, fair *Aminta*, I did thee adore,
Alas I am not what I was before.
My thoughts disorder'd from my heart do break,
And sighs destroy my language when I speak.

My liberty and my repose I gave, to such art of Infection did you and I
To be admitted but your slave, yet nidiw being valiant you will have
And can you question such a Victory? An noq; you will on me get still more?
Or must I suffer more to make it worse? You will have still more still more?
It needs not, since these languishments can be
Nought but the wounds which you alone can cure.

Am. Alcander, you so many Vows have paid, without great damage back
So many sighs and tears, to many a Maid, for me, you will have done it
That should I credit give to what you say, but prouly has done you
I merit being undone as well as they.

No, no, Alcander, I'll no more of that.

Alcan. Farewel Aminta, mayst thou want a Lover,
When I shall hate both thee and thy whole Sex;
I can endure your sober cruelty,
But do despise it clad in jollity. [Exit severally.]

A C T V S C E N E V.

Discovers a Room hung with Black, a Hearse standing in it with Tapers round
about it, Alcippus weeping at it, with Iffilia, and other Women with long
black Veils round about the Hearse.

Iff. I humbly beg, my Lord, you would forbear.

Alcip. Oh Iffilia,
Thou knowst not what vast treasure this incloses;
This sacred Pile, is there no sorrow due to it?
Alas, I bad her not farewell at parting,
Nor did receive so much as one poor kiss.
— Ah wretched, wretched man.

[Enter the Prince.]

Alcip. How, the Prince! 's diligent you in visiting your wife's bier,
How suddenly my grief submits to rage.

Phi. Alcippus, why dost thou gaze thus on me, my Highness should
What horror have I in my looks that frights thee?

Alcip. Why Sir, what makes you here?
I have no more Wives, no more Erminias,
Alas she is dead — Will you not give her leave to rest in peace?

Phi. Is this the gratitude you pay my favours,
That gave ye life, after your wrongs to me?
But 'twas my Sisters kindnes that prelvered thee,
And I preferred my vengeance to the Gods.

Alcip. Your Sister is a Saint whom I adore,
But I refuse a life that comes from you.

Iff. What mean you, Sir? I am here, just gone.

Alcip. To speak a truth as dying men should do.

Phi. Alcippus for my Sisters sake who loves you, I will let you go,
I can bear more than this — you know my power,

And

And I can make you fear?

Alcip. No, Prince, not whilst I am in love with dying.

Phi. Your love to that I see has made you impudent.

Iff. The storm comes on, your highness should avoid it.

Phi. Let him give place, I'll keep possession here.

Iff. It is the Prince's pleasure Sir, you quit the presence.

Alcip. No, this I call my home,

And since Erminia's here that does entitle it so,

I will not quit the presence.

Phi. Gave thee a title to't, Alcippus?

Alcan. Me, Philander; [They] come to each others breast, and

Phi. Thee? [They] come to each others breast, and so draw.

Alcip. Me, What dare you now?

Phi. I dare declare that I can heat no more;

Be witness Heaven how justly I'me compell'd.

Alcip. Now Sir, you are brave, and love Erminia too.

The Women run all away crying, they draw out some one way, and some another, leaving some their Veils behind them, some half off, half on.

Phi. We are here not safe, these Women will betray us.

Alcip. Sir, tis a work that will soon be dispatcht,

And this a place and time most proper fort. [Pal. peeps in and runs away.]

[Enter Pisaro, runs between.]

Pif. Hold Sir, are you grown desparate?
What means your Highnes?

Alcip. what is't you design in this? [To the Prince.]

Alcip. To fight Pisaro, and be kill'd.

Pif. By Heaven you shall not fight, unless with me,

And you have so angered me with this rash action,
I could almost provoke you to it.

[Enter Alcander.]

Alcan. Gods Sir, That you should
Thus expose your self,

The Worlds great Heir, against a desperate mad man.

Pif. Have you forgot your apparition Sir? [To the Prince.]

Alcip. Oh 'twas an idle lying one Pisaro, nothing wherein
And came but to intrap me.

[To them] Gallatea, Aminta, and Olinda.

Gall. Ah Brother, why so cruel to your Sister?

Phi. Here Gallatea, punish my misfortune,

For yet I want the will to injure thee,

Heaven knows what provocations I receiv'd.

E're I would draw a Sword on him you lov'd.

Gall. Unjust Alcippus, how dost thou reward me?

Alcip. Ah Madam, I have too much shame to live,

Had Heaven preserv'd my innocence intire,

That I with confidence might have ador'd you,

[Offers to go out]

Though

Though I had been successles,
Yet I had liv'd and hop'd, and aim'd to merit you ;
But since all hopes of that are taken from me,
My life is but too poor a sacrifice
To make atonement for my sins to you.

Gall. I will not answer thee to what thou hast said,
But only beg thou wilt preserve thy life,
Without which, mine will be of little use to me.

Alcip. Might I without a sin believe this blessing ?
Sure I should be immortal.

Falatio peeps in again.

Fal. I think I may venture, the fury is past, and the
Great shot spent, the mad Captain General's wounded,
So, I hope 'twill let out some of his hot blood.—

Enter the King, Cleontius, and Attendants.

Kin. My love *Alcippus* is despis'd I see,
And you in lieu of that return you owe me
Indeavour to destroy me.

—Is this an object for your rage to work on.
Behold him well, *Alcippus*, 'tis your Prince.

—Who dares gaze on him with irreverend eyes ?
The good he does you ought to adore him for,
But all his evils 'tis the Gods must punish,
Who made no Laws for Princes.

Alcip. Sir, I confess I'me culpable,
And were it not a sin equal to that
To doubt you could forgive me,
I durst not hope your mercy after it.

Kin. I think with all the tenderness I'me guilty of,
I hardly shall be brought to pardon thee.

Pbi. I humbly beg you will forgive him Sir,
I drew him to it against his will, I forc'd him,
And gave him language not to be indur'd
By any gallant man.

Kin. Whilst you intreat for him, who pleads for you,
For you are much the guiltier of the two,
And need't a greater interest to perswade me.

Alcip. It were not just to contradict my Prince.
A Prince to whom I have been so late a Traytor,
But Sir, 'tis I alone am Criminal,
And twas I,
Justly I thought provok'd him to this hazard.
Tis I was rude, impatient, insolent,
Did like a mad man animate his anger,
Not like a generous enemy.

Sir,

Sir, when you weigh my sorrows with this action,
You'll find no base design, no villany there;
But being weary of a life I hated,
I strove to put it off, and missing that way
I come to make an offer of it here.

Kin. If I should take it, 'twere no more than just,
Yet once again I will allow it thee,
'That thou mayest owe me for't a second time,
Manage it better than the last I gave —

[Exit King.]

Pbi. — *Alcippus*, may I credit what thou'st said,
Or do you feign repentance to deceive me ?

Alcip. I never could dissemble at my best,
And now methinks your highness shou'd believe me,
When my dispairs, and little love to life
Makes me despise all ways that may preserve it.

Pbi. If thou wouldst have me credit thee, *Alcippus*,
Thou shou'dst not disesteem a life, which ought
To be preserv'd to give a proof that what thou say'st is true,
And disposses me of those fears I have,
That 'tis my life makes thine displeasing to thee.

Alcip. 'Tis a high proof to give you of my duty,
Yet that's more ease to me, than your unbelief.

Pbi. Let me imbrace and thank thee for this goodness.

He offers to imbrace him, but he is shy, and keeps a little off.
Why dost receive me coldly, I'm in earnest,
As I love Honour, and esteem thee Generous,
I mean thee nothing but a perfect friendship,
By all my hopes I've no more quarrels to thee,
All ends in this imbrace, and to confirm it
I give thee here my Sister to thy Wife.

Alcip. Your Pardon Sir,
I must refuse your bounty till I know,
By what strange turn of fate I came thus blest,
To you my Prince, I've done unheard of injuries,
And though your mercy do afford me life,
With this rich present too :
Till I could know I might deserve them both,
That life will prove a Plague, and this great gift
Turn to the torment of it.

Pbi. *Alcippus*, 'tis not kind to doubt me still,
Is this a present for a man I hate ?

Alcip. I serve Sir, and your bounty does amaze me.

Can I receive a blessing of this magnitude
With hands, yet have not wash'd away the sin
Of your *Erminia*'s murther, think of that, Sir,
For though to me it did appear most just,
Yet you must hate the man that has undone you.

Gall. I know not what to say, it is a wonder to me.

Gall. I see Erminia still usurp your thoughts.

Alcip. I must confess my soul is scarce diverted
Of that fond passion which I had for her ;
But I protest before the Gods and you,
Did she still live, and I might still possess her,
I would refuse it, though I were ignorant
Of what the Gods, and your fair self design me.

Phi. To doubt thee were a sin below my nature,
And to declare my faith above my fear,
Behold what I present thee with : [Goes out, and enters again with Erminia.]

Alcip. Ha — Erminia.

— It is the same — appear'd to me last night,

— And my deluded fancy,
Would have persuad'd me 'twas but a dream.

Phi. Approach her, Sir, 'tis no fantasm.

Alcip. 'Tis the her self, Oh Gods, Erminia ! [She goes a little back as afraid ; he kneels.]

— Ah madam do not fear me in this posture,
Which I will never quit till you have pardon'd me ;
It was a fault the most executable,
That ever wretched Lover did commit ;
And that which hindred me from following thee,
Was that I could not well repent the Crime ;
But like a surly sinner fac'd it out,
And said, I thought 'twas just : yes, fair Erminia :

Hadst thou been mine, I would r'f' face of Heaven,
Proclaim it just and brave revenge :

But, Madam, you were Wife to my Prince,

And that was all my sin :

Alas, in vain I hop'd for some return,
And grew impatient of th' unkind delay,
And frantically I then out-run my happiness.

Er. Rise, I forgive thee, from my soul I do.
Mayst thou be happier,
In thy more glorious passion for the Princess,
And all the joys thou e're couldst hope from me,
Mayst thou find there repeated.

Enter King, Orgulous, and the rest.

Org. First, I'll keep word with thee, I am not trifling in this :
Receive the welcom present which I promis'd.

[Gives him Erminia, and the keys.]

Er. Can you forgive the griefs I've made you suffer ?

Org. I can forgive, though 'twas not kind to let me languish

To let me languish in a desperate error ;

Why was this Blessing hid from me alone ?

Er. Ah Sir, so well I know your Lord Alcippus, that item you

That had you known it e're the Prince had own'd me,

I fear

I fear you had restor'd me back again,

A sin too great to load your Soul withal.

Org. My King already has forgivn that error,
And now I come to make my peace with thee,
And that I may with greatest speed obtain it.

To you, Sir, I resign her, with as much joy
As when they undeceiv'd me. [To the Prince.]

Of my opinion of her being dead.

Phi. And I with greater joy receive your gift.

Kin. My Lord Alcippus, are you please'd with this ?

Alcip. Sir, I am so please'd, so truly please'd with it,
That Heaven without this blessing on my Prince
Had found but little trouble from my thanks,

From all they have shew'd on me ;

'Twas all I wisht next my Pretensions here.

Kin. Then to compleat thy happines,

Take Gallatea, since her passion merits thee,

As do thy Vertues her.

[Gives him Gall. they both bow.]

Kin. Conclude it granted then.

Er. Falatus, Sir, has long made love t' Ifilia,

And now he's gain'd her heart, he flights the Conquest,
Yet all the fault he finds is that she's poor.

Kin. Ifilia's Beauty can supply that want,

Falatus, what d' say to't ?

Fa. By Jove Sir, I'll agree to any thing ; for I believe
A handom young Wife at Court may bring a Man a
Greater Fortune than he can in conscience desire.

Er. Aminta, be persuad'd.

Am. He'd use me scurvily then.

Alcan. That's according as you behav'd your self, Aminta.

Am. I should domineer.

Alc. I then should make love elsewhere.

Am. Well, I find we shall not agree then.

Alc. Faith — now we have disputed a point I never
Thought on before, I would willingly
Pursue it for the Humour on't : not that I think
I shall much approve on't.

Pif. Give him your hand Aminta, and conclude,

Tis time this haughty humour were subdu'd.

By your submission, whatso'e he seem,

In time you'll make the greater slave of him.

Am. Well — not from the hope of that, but from my love
His change of Humour I'm content to prove.

— Here take me, Alcander ;

Whilst to Inconstancy I bid adieu,

In sed variety enough in you.

[He takes her and bows.]

Kim Come, my brave Youth, sing we our selves with joys
And when we're weary of the world, let us now heel to heel
Well search abroad for new scenes,
And get fresh appetites to new meats,
It will redouble your valt
~~and make th' uneasie humours light~~
When you remember even in time of battle
That after all your victories and triumphs,
You'll seek calm peace at home in quiet shades.
Thus may you number out your happy years,
Till Love and Glory no more meet your gaze
Of what they can bestow, or you can give.