



✧ JANUARY ✧

1. Went to bed between 4 and 5 in the morning with my mind in good temper of satisfaction – and slept till about 8, that many people came to speak with me. And then, being to dine at my uncle Wights, I went to the Coffee-house (sending my wife by Will) and there stayed talking an hour with Coll. Middleton and others; and among other things, about a very rich widow, young and handsome, of one Sir Nich. Golds, a merchant lately fallen, and of great Courtiers that already look after her. Her husband not dead a week yet. She is reckoned worth 80000*l*. Thence to my Uncle Wights, where Dr. [Burnet] among others dined, and his wife a seeming proud conceited woman; I know not what to make of her. But the Doctors discourse did please me very well about the disease of the Stone; above all things extolling Turpentine, which he told me how it may be taken in pills with great ease. There was brought to table a hot pie made of swan I sent them yesterday, given me by Mr. Howe; but we did not eat any of it. But my wife and I rise from table pretending business, and went to the Dukes house, the first play I have been at these six months, according to my last vowe; and here saw the so much cried-up play of *Henry the 8th* – which, though I went with resolution to like it, is so simple a thing, made up of a great many patches, that, besides the shows and processions in it, there is nothing in the world good or well done. Thence, mightily dissatisfied, back at night to my uncle Wights and supped with them; but against my stomach out of the offence the sight of my aunts hands gives me; and ending supper with a mighty laugh (the greatest I have had these many months) at my uncles being out in his grace after meat, we rise and broke up and my wife and I home and to bed – being sleepy since last night.

2. I do find that I am not able to conquer myself as to going to plays till I do come to some new vow concerning it and that I am now come: that is to say, that I will not see above one in a month at