

*SONNET. I.*

**H**appy ye leaues when as those lilly hands,  
which hold my life in their dead doing might  
shall handle you and hold in loues soft bands,  
lyke captiues trembling at the victors sight.  
And happy lines, on which with starry light,  
those lamping eyes will deigne sometimes to look  
and reade the sorrowes of my dying spright,  
written with teares in harts close bleeding book.  
And happy rymes bath'd in the sacred brooke,  
of *Helicon* whence she deriued is,  
when ye behold that Angels blessed looke,  
my soules long lacked foode, my heauens blis.  
Leaues, lines, and rymes, seeke her to please alone,  
whom if ye please, I care for other none.

*SONNET. II.*

**V**Nquiet thought, whom at the first I bred,  
Of th'inward bale of my loue pined hart:  
and sithens haue with sighes and sorrowes fed,  
till greater then my wombe thou woxen art.  
Breake forth at length out of the inner part,  
in which thou lurkest lyke to vipers brood:  
and seeke some succour both to ease my smart  
and also to sustayne thy selfe with food.  
But if in presence of that fayrest proud  
thou chance to come, fall lowly at her feet:  
and with meeke humblesse and afflicted mood,  
pardon for thee, and grace for me intreat.  
Which if she graunt, then liue and my loue cherish,

if not, die soone, and I with thee will perish.

*SONNET. III.*

**T**He souerayne beauty which I doo admyre,  
witness the world how worthy to be prayzed:  
the light wherof hath kindled heauenly fyre,  
in my fraile spirit by her from basenesse raysed.  
That being now with her huge brightnesse dazed,  
base thing I can no more endure to view:  
but looking still on her I stand amazed,  
at wondrous sight of so celestially hew.  
So when my tounge would speak her praises dew,  
it stopped is with thoughts astonishment:  
and when my pen would write her titles true,  
it raisht is with fancies wonderment:  
Yet in my hart I then both speake and write,  
the wonder that my wit cannot endite.

*SONNET. IIII.*

**N**ew yeare forth looking out of Ianus gate,  
Doth seeme to promise hope of new delight:  
and bidding th'old Adieu, his passed date  
bids all old thoughts to die in dumpish spright.  
And calling forth out of sad Winters night,  
fresh loue, that long hath slept in cheerlesse bower:  
wils him awake, and soone about him dight  
his wanton wings and darts of deadly power.  
For lusty spring now in his timely howre,  
is ready to come forth him to receiue:  
and warnes the Earth with diuers colord flowre,

to decke hirselfe, and her faire mantle weaue.  
Then you faire flowre, in whom fresh youth doth raine,  
prepare your selfe new loue to entertaine.

*SONNET. V.*

**R**Vdely thou wrongest my deare harts desire,  
In finding fault with her too portly pride:  
the thing which I doo most in her admire,  
is of the world vnworthy most enuide.  
For in those lofty lookes is close implide,  
scorn of base things, & sdeigne of foule dishonor:  
thretning rash eies which gaze on her so wide,  
that loosely they ne dare to looke vpon her.  
Such pride is praise, such portlinesse is honor,  
that boldned innocence beares in hir eies:  
and her faire countenance like a goodly banner,  
spreds in defiaunce of all enemies.  
Was neuer in this world ought worthy tride,  
without some spark of such self-pleasing pride.

*SONNET. VI.*

**B**E nought dismayd that her vnmoued mind,  
doth still persist in her rebellious pride:  
such loue not lyke to lusts of baser kynd,  
The harder wonne, the firmer will abide.  
The durefull Oake, whose sap is not yet dride,  
is long ere it conceiue the kindling fyre:  
but when it once doth burne, it doth diuide  
great heat, and makes his flames to heauen aspire.  
So hard it is to kindle new desire,  
in gentle brest that shall endure for euer:

deepe is the wound, that dints the parts entire  
with chast affects, that naught but death can seuer.  
Then thinke not long in taking litle paine,  
to knit the knot, that euer shall remaine.

*SONNET. VII.*

FAYre eyes, the myrrour of my mazed hart,  
what wondrous vertue is contaynd in you  
the which both lyfe and death forth from you dart  
into the obiect of your mighty view?  
For when ye mildly looke with louely hew,  
then is my soule with life and loue inspired:  
but when ye lowre, or looke on me askew  
then doe I die, as one with lightning fyred.  
But since that lyfe is more then death desyred,  
looke euer louely, as becomes you best,  
that your bright beams of my weak eies admyred,  
may kindle liuing fire within my brest.  
Such life should be the honor of your light,  
such death the sad ensample of your might.

*SONNET. VIII.*

MORE then most faire, full of the liuing fire,  
Kindled aboue vnto the maker neere:  
no eies buy ioyes, in which al powers conspire,  
that to the world naught esse be counted deare.  
Through your bright beams doth not ye blinded guest,  
shoot out his darts to base affections wound:  
but Angels come to lead fraile mindes to rest  
in chast desires on heauenly beauty bound.  
You frame my thoughts and fashion me within,

you stop my tounge, and teach my hart to speake,  
you calme the storme that passion did begin,  
strong through your cause, but by your vertue weak.  
Dark is the world, where your light shined neuer;  
well is he borne, that may behold you euer.

*SONNET. IX.*

Long-while I sought to what I might compare  
those powrefull eies, which lighten my dark spright,  
yet find I nought on earth to which I dare  
resemble th'ymage of their goodly light.  
Not to the Sun: for they doo shine by night;  
nor to the Moone: for they are changed neuer;  
nor to the Starres: for they haue purer sight;  
nor to the fire: for they consume not euer;  
Nor to the lightning: for they still perseuer;  
nor to the Diamond: for they are more tender;  
nor vnto Christall: for nought may them seuer;  
nor vnto glasse: such basenesse mought offend her;  
Then to the Maker selfe they likest be,  
whose light doth lighten all that here we see.

*SONNET. X.*

VNrighteous Lord of loue what law is this,  
That me thou makest thus tormented be:  
the whiles she lordeth in licentious blisse  
of her freewill, scorning both thee and me.  
See how the Tyrannesse doth ioy to see  
the huge massacres which her eyes do make:  
and humbled harts brings captiues vnto thee,  
that thou of them mayst mightie vengeance take.

But her proud hart doe thou a little shake,  
and that high look, with which she doth comptroll  
all this worlds pride bow to a baser make,  
and al her faults in thy black booke enroll.  
That I may laugh at her in equall sort,  
as she doth laugh at me & makes my pain her sport.

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