

Friendship's Mystery

XVII. Friendship's Mystery, To my dearest Lucasia. Set by Mr. Henry Lawes.

1.

Come, my Lucasia, since we see
That Miracles Mens faith do move,
By wonders and by prodigy
To the dull angry world let's prove
There's a Religion in our Love.

2.

For though we were design'd t'agree,
That Fate no liberty destroyes,
But our Election is as free
As Angels, who with greedy choice
Are yet determin'd to their joyes.

3.

Our hearts are doubled by the loss,
Here Mixture is Addition grown;
We both diffuse, and both ingross:
And we whose Minds are so much one,
Never, yet ever, are alone.

4.

We count our own captivity
Than greatest thrones more innocent:
'Twere banishment to be set free,
Since we wear fetters whose intent
Not Bondage is, but Ornament.

5.

Divided joyes are odious found,
And griefs united easier grow:
We are our selves but by rebound,
And all our Titles shuffled so,

Both Princes and both Subjects too.

6.

Our Hearts are mutual Victims laid,
While they (such power in Friendship lies)
Are Altars, Priests, and Off'rings made:
And each Heart which thus kindly dies,
Grows deathless by the Sacrifice.

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Mutual Affection between *Orinda* and *Larinda*.

Come, my *Larinda*, first see for that miracles men hath do more by wonder
and by prodigies to the fierce rigour of the world her's grace, there's a Religion in our Love.

(a) For though we were despoil'd of grace,
That *Satan* like us defraids,
But our Election is free
As *Angels*, who with greedy choice
Are yet deserv'd our joy.

(b) Our hearts are double'd by their joys,
We're more in addition grown;
We both desire, and both improve,
And we whose minds are so much one,
Never, yet ever are divided.

(c) We court our own captivity,
Then *Thrones* more profane innocent,
To see our chains to be for free,
When we think we're in our interest
Not bondage to be content.

(d) Divided joys are tedious found,
And gladness is our pain;
We are our selves by reason;
And all our pleasures are our pain
Both Princes, and both Subjects bound.

(e) Our hearts are mutual victims laid,
Which they such power in friendship lies,
Are Altars, Priests, and Off'rings made,
And each heart which thus kindly dies,
Grows deathless by the sacrifice.