

*An Address, to make known an Affection for his Mistress.*

*A.* Madam, among all the dayes of my life I must accompt this the happiest above all the rest, wherein I had the honour first to know you.

*B.* Sir, if I did know any thing in my self, worthy your merits, I should esteem my self obliged to employ it to your honor: But there being in me nothing but weakness, and imperfection, I do not imagine how the knowledge of me can any way contribute to your content, much less to your well being.

*A.* Madam, I see so many perfections, that I find my self oblig'd to honour them to the utmost of my power, and to offer you my most humble service.

*B.* Sir, this is your courtesie and favour, that seek to qualifie my defects, onely to shew the excellent endowments that nature hath bestow'd on you.

*A.* Pardon me, Madam, it is the inchanting force of your worth and vertues, which oblige me, not onely to honour and serve you, but also to seek an interest in your graces.

*B.* Sir, all that a Daughter of Honour owes to a Person of Merit, you have already at your devotion; I respect your qualities, admire your vertues, and wish you a happiness answerable to the nobleness of your designs.

*A.* Believe it, Madam, that my desires are good, and that my affection, if your wishes flow from a sincere intention to oblige me, is the most happy that ever was in the world.

*B.* Pardon me, Sir, I have not so piercing an apprehension to understand the meaning of your intentions; that which I say,

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is upon no other accompt, onely to give you the honor which is due to you.

It is true, Madam, I do you wrong, to go about, to make you believe, that which I have never made appatent by any certain proof; However, that shall not hinder me from telling you, that your perfections have so far incaptivated my senses and affection, that I have resolved neither to love nor serve any other, but your self. I therefore onely intreat you, to esteem my affection real, and to perfect your own wishes.

*B.* Certainly, Sir, I cannot believe that you would set your affection upon a person so inconsiderable. It suffices me to have the honour to know you, and I desire that your good fortune may guide you to some person more worthy your esteem.

*A.* Madam, I have not so far forgot my self, as to forget your merits and perfections. My resolution is unfeign'd, to serve you to the utmost of my power, and your refusal diminisheth nothing of my affection; onely take it for granted, that I desire to be your servant.

Sir, I am not Mistress of my self, and for that reason cannot accept of your offer; but if you shall find, that the affection, which you say you bear me, is well liked of by my Parents, I shall esteem my self, very much honoured in your love, and shall, as far as honour will permit me, do any thing to assure you of my good will.

Lady, you do infinitely oblige me, for which I return you many thanks; I shall seek all occasions to obtain the leave of your Parents, in the mean while honor me with your command, and suffer me to kiss hands.

Sir I am your very humble Servant.