

"To the fair Clarinda,  
who made Love to me,  
imagin'd more than Woman"

By Aphra Behn

*Transcription, correction, editorial commentary, and markup  
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LYCIDUS:  
OR THE  
Lover in Fashion.  
Being an Account from  
*LYCIDUS* to *LYSANDER*,  
Of his Voyage from the  
ISLAND of LOVE.  
*From the French.*  
By the same AUTHOR  
*Of the Voyage to the Isle of LOVE.*  
Together with a  
MISCELLANY  
OF  
New Poems.  
*By Several HANDS.*

*LONDON:* Printed for *Joseph Knight*, and *Francis  
Saunders*, at the *Blew Anchor* in the Lower Walk of  
the *New-Exchange*, 1688.

*To the fair Clarinda, who made Love to me,  
imagin'd more than Woman. By. Mrs. B.*

1 Fair lovely Maid, or if that Title be  
2 Too weak, too Feminine for Nobler thee,  
3 Permit a Name that more Approaches Truth:  
4 And let me call thee, Lovely Charming Youth.

5 This last will justifie my soft complaint,  
6 While that may serve to lessen my constraint;  
7 And without Blushes I the Youth persue,  
8 When so much beauteous Woman is in view.  
9 Against thy Charms we struggle but in vain  
10 With thy deluding Form thou giv'st us pain,  
11 While the bright Nymph betrays us to the Swain.  
12 In pity to our Sex sure thou wer't sent,  
13 That we might Love, and yet be Innocent:  
14 For sure no Crime with thee we can commit;  
15 Or if we shou'd—thy Form excuses it.  
16 For who, that gathers fairest Flowers believes  
17 A Snake lies hid beneath the Fragrant Leaves.

18 Thou beauteous Wonder of a different kind,  
19 Soft *Cloris* with the dear *Alexis* join'd;  
20 When e'r the Manly part of thee, wou'd plead  
21 Thou tempts us with the Image of the Maid,  
22 While we the noblest Passions do extend  
23 The Love to *Hermes, Aphrodite* the Friend.

FINIS.