The Willing Mistress

Aphra Behn
Behn, Aphra (1640-1689) - Restoration dramatist, novelist, and poet; she was the first English woman to earn her living as a writer. Behn served as a spy in Antwerp and was imprisoned for a time for debt. The Willing Mistriss (1673) - Originally part of the play “The Dutch Lover,” produced in 1673, it was published independently in “Poems Upon Several Occasions” in 1684. Opening lines:

Amyntas led me to a Grove, / Where all the Trees did shade us;
WILLING MISTRISS

Amyntas led me to a Grove,
Where all the Trees did shade us;
The Sun it self, though it had Strove,
It could not have betray’d us:

The place secur’d from humane Eyes,
No other fear allows,
But when the Winds that gently rise,
Doe Kiss the yielding Boughs. -

Down there we satt upon the Moss,
And did begin to play
A Thousand Amorous Tricks, to pass
The heat of all the day.

A many Kisses he did give:
And I return’d the same
Which made me willing to receive
That which I dare not name. -
His Charming Eyes no Aid requir’d
To tell their softning Tale;
On her that was already fir’d,
‘Twas Easy to prevaile.

He did but Kiss and Clasp me round,
Whilst those his thoughts Exprest:
And lay’d me gently on the Ground;
Ah who can guess the rest?

THE END
Amyntas led me to a Grove, Where all the Trees did shade us; The Sun itself, though it had Strove, It could not have betray’d us: The place secur’d from humane Eyes, No other fear allows, But when the Winds that gently rise, Doe Kiss the yielding Boughs. Down there we satt upon the Moss, And did begin to play A Thousand Amorous Tricks, to pass The heat of all the day. A many Kisses he did give: And I return’d the same Which made me willing to receive That which I dare not name. Read, review and discuss the The Willing Mistress poem by Aphra Behn on Poetry.com. “The Willing Mistress” Poetry.com. STANDS4 LLC, 2021. Web. 22 Jan. 2021. Powered by CITE.ME. We need you! Florentia is the illegitimate child of the richest family in the empire. She dreamed of a good, bright future, but suddenly a misfortune happened, her father died. I will definitely become the mistress of this life. Show more. MANGA DISCUSSION. Local Disqus. Leave a Reply Cancel reply. Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked *. Name *. 