

## AN ODE TO FRIENDSHIP

by Dr Samuel Johnson

*Friendship! Peculiar boon of heaven,  
The noble mind's delight and pride,  
To Men and Angels only given,  
To all the lower world deny'd.*

*While love, a stranger to the blest,  
Parent of thousand wild desires,  
The human and the savage breast  
Inflames alike with raging fires.*

*With bright, but oft destructive gleam,  
Alike o'er all his lightnings fly;  
Thy lambent glories only beam  
Around the fav'rites of the sky.*

*Directress of the brave and just,  
O guide me through life's darksome way,  
And let the tortures of mistrust  
On selfish bosoms only prey.*

*Thy gentle flows of guiltless joys  
On fools and villains ne'er descend;  
In vain for thee the monarch sighs  
And hugs a flatterer for a friend.*

*When Virtues kindred Virtues meet,  
And sister souls together join,  
Thy pleasures, permanent as great,  
Are all transporting, all divine.*

*Oh, must their ardours cease to glow  
When souls to blissful climes remove?  
What rais'd our Virtues here below,  
Shall aid our Happiness above.*

# Seminar on Doctor Samuel Johnson's "An Ode to Friendship"

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