

ODE VI

A PRAYER TO LOVE ¹

O EROS, conqueror of hearts, with whom
Disport the blue-eyed nymphs and Cypris
fair:

With eyes uplift to Ida's leafy gloom
I breathe to thee a prayer.

The maid for whom I glow thy power defies.
Her snow-cold bosom melt with thy fond
fire;

That she moved by my importunities
May grant my heart's desire.

¹ We are indebted to Dion Chrysostom for preserving this fragment of a supplication to the god of love.