

say that true love is not love which tends to change if the person finds an alteration in their partner or in some other aspect of their life (2-3). This generally says that a true love cannot be changed by any outside source or even any change within the relationship itself because it is such a strong force. Accompanying the rules what love should not do the sonnet says that love should not “bend with the remover to remove” (4). These lines **seem** to say that in a relationship if one person starts to lose love for the other person, they should not bend with that other person to be separate from one another. Instead, they should try to work on their relationship. Also, that if the relationship does end, one does not ever truly stop loving that person, and if they do, according to Shakespeare they are not considered to be experiencing true love.

Commented [CAF2]: Going off of the last comment, I never actually use the word “I” at all in this paper. I maneuver around it by using phrases such as “These lines seem” or “the reason Shakespeare says this is because...” I feel that the reason behind this is due to not being comfortable using “I” in my writing because formalist rules deem that as wrong.

In the next quatrain, the content of the sonnet changes upon Shakespeare’s **exclamation** of “O no!” This marks the beginning of him addressing what makes up someone being truly in love. It starts by saying that love is an ever fixed landmark that looks on “tempests” or storms but is never shaken (5-6). The fact that the word landmark is used creates the image that true love is a strong structure that is honored and will never be taken down. Also, the use of the word “tempests” in line six is meant to symbolize the struggles that two people will have to face throughout their relationship. So, true love being the sturdy landmark that it is, it will never falter to any fights or complications, but will continue to be strong regardless. The landmark that love is compared to is then learned to be “the star to every wandering bark, whose worth unknown, although his height be taken.” (7-8) meaning the North Star that every ship looks upon for guidance. The reason Shakespeare says that the stars worth is unknown yet its height is still taken seems to be imagery for love and how no one ever truly knows the **outcome of it**. For example, no one who gets in a relationship knows if it will last, or if that person is really the one

Commented [CAF3]: My process when writing this text was a lot like the way the NCTE views writing in “Beliefs about the Teaching of Writing”. The NCTE says that writing is a “tool for thinking” and that when you are writing, you have a constant flow of new ideas. I completely agree with this statement because while writing this piece I found that I was learning and thinking of new ideas as I was writing. This was a very eye opening experience because I realized how strong my work was becoming with each new idea.

Commented [CAF4]: From a teaching perspective I feel that my writing here is a good example of a writing sample that aligns with PDESAS’s standard 1.4.12.C. “Write persuasive pieces” for 12th grade writing. This standard includes:

- Using rhetorical strategies (e.g. exposition, narration, description, argumentation, or some combination thereof) to support the main argument or position.
- Clarify and defend positions with precise and relevant evidence, including facts, quotations, expressions of commonly accepted beliefs, and logical reasoning.

for them. Though, Shakespeare seems to say that if you are truly in love you trust that person, take love to new heights, let it lead you places, and have no regrets.

Next, the last quatrain switches the topic yet again. Now, Shakespeare discusses how aspects of time effect true love. These lines start out by remarking that love is not a fool of Time (9). The first thing that is noticed about this line is that Shakespeare is now referring to time as a person, which makes sense of Time being capitalized in the line. Time in this poem is referring to the Grim Reaper, the one who controls someone's time life on Earth. Shakespeare goes on to point out that yes, the Grim Reaper does control who dies and ensures that their beauty will fade with age (9-10). However, love can still last through this process. The sonnet claims that love does not change despite the Grim Reapers little hours that he allows us to have on Earth (11). True love lasts through this dilemma and "bears it out even to the edge of doom" (12). Signifying that true love will be able to last until Judgement Day.

Finally, like almost all of Shakespeare's sonnets, the couplet marks another change in the sonnet and raises another topic to the readers. In this particular sonnet Shakespeare presents his readers with almost a cocky remark. The lines say "if this be error and upon me proved, I never writ, nor no man ever loved" (13-14). This seems like almost a challenge to the reader to prove him wrong, also a challenge that is nearly impossible due to Shakespeare's repercussions if someone does try to prove him wrong. Shakespeare is so confident that he is right that he goes to the extent of saying that if it is error and if he is proven wrong then he has never written anything (14). This is an obviously false statement because the reader knows that Shakespeare has written many things. Along with this, he says that if he is wrong then no man has ever loved (14). This statement is also questionable because many people have loved someone. So, ultimately,

Commented [CAF5]: This piece also relates well with PDESAS's standard 1.2.12. E. This standard states that students should be able to: Evaluate textual evidence to make subtle inferences and draw on complex conclusions based on and related to an author's implicit and explicit assumptions and beliefs about a subject. I feel that this assignment accurately reflects this because I had to do an extensive amount of reading to figure out exactly what Shakespeare's beliefs about love really were and what he was trying to convey through his work. I had to work off of even the littlest cue's to find the answer, and most of the time even something very small such as the tone in a single line could tell much more than expected.

Shakespeare is suggesting that his sonnet is the truth about true love, there are no errors in the statements he has made, and that no one can prove him wrong.

Throughout this sonnet the main goal of Shakespeare's is to prove to his readers what a true love is. He describes the characteristics are of a love so true that it is not bound by a wedding ceremony, but with the marriage of two minds that are intertwined forever. Shakespeare classifies what true love is by stating both how it is and how it is not. He does so in a way that by the end of the sonnet when the reader is told to look, and try to prove that this is not what true love really is, the reader is most likely not in any state to say that there is error. The reader, by this point, has already been convinced. Shakespeare essentially completes his goal, and proves by the end that a love that meets all qualifications the sonnet states, must be a love that is true.