

Sonnet XVIII

Quatrain 1

- A** Shall I compare thee to a summer's **DAY**? If I compared you to a summer day
B Thou art more lovely and more temper**ATE**: I'd have to say you are more beautiful and serene:
A Rough winds do shake the darling buds of **MAY**, By comparison, summer is rough on budding life,
B And summer's lease hath all too short a **DATE**: And doesn't last long either:

Quatrain 2

- C** Sometime too hot the eye of heaven **SHINES**, At times the summer sun [heaven's eye] is too hot,
D And often is his gold complexion **DIMM'D**; And at other times clouds dim its brilliance;
C And every fair from fair sometime de**CLINES**, Everything fair in nature becomes less fair from time to time,
D By chance or nature's changing course No one can change [trim] nature or chance
un**TRIMM'D**;

Quatrain 3

- E** But thy eternal summer shall not **FADE** However, you yourself will not fade
F Nor lose possession of that fair thou **OWEST**; Nor lose ownership of your fairness;
E Nor shall Death brag thou wander'st in his Not even death will claim you,
SHADE,
F When in eternal lines to time thou **GROWEST**: Because these lines I write will immortalize you:

Couplet

- G** So long as men can breathe or eyes can Your beauty will last as long as men breathe and see,
SEE,
G So long lives this and this gives life to As Long as this sonnet lives and gives you life.
THEE.