
THE LITERARY ANALYSIS OF SONNET 130 BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE AND
SONNET XVII BY PABLO NERUDA

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ANNOTATION

The article deals with the comparative analysis of sonnets, which were written by outstanding poets. Both sonnets aim to mention their love to the lovers and their approach is rather different on behalf of style.

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The comparative analysis of two sonnets focuses on eminent English poet William Shakespeare's Sonnet 130 and prolific Latin American poet Pablo Neruda's Sonnet XVII respectively. An analysis of the two sonnets reveals that both urge the individual to value the unconditional love, one emphasizing the simplicity of a beloved woman, the other admits his lover's existence and inseparableness.

To begin with, a prominent poet and playwright William Shakespeare is regarded as the favorite of millions of readers all over the world. It is claimed worldwide that he had a greater influence on the world literature than any other author.

William Shakespeare was born in 1564, on April 23 in Stratford-On-Avon, in England. His father was a rich glove maker of Stratford who after holding minor municipal offices, was elected high bailiff of Stratford. His mother came from a family of landowners. He attended the Stratford Grammar school. Shakespeare's contemporaries initially fancied him for his long narrative poems "Venus and Adonis" (1593) and "The rape of Lucrece" (1594). In 1599 the Globe, one of the eminent of Elizabethan theatres was built and Shakespeare was a leading shareholder and the main playwright to the theatre company. He was an actor as well, but not a first-rate.

Admittedly, he is a true classic, every new generation perceives newness and intangible peculiarities in his works. His popularity regularly surpasses from year to year all over the world. Furthermore, his classics are performed on the stage, in the movies, and on TV. Shakespeare wrote 37 plays, several comedies, 154 sonnets. It is important to note that, his sonnets acquire a unique importance in the Shakespearian eternal heritage, since they are his only lyrical pieces of work, the only remarks he had written about himself, his pure and sincere love.

Shakespeare's *Sonnet 130* is considered as an ordinary and recognizably honest love poem, which his lover is described with all her imperfections, contradictive to the fixed appraisals, most poets of contemporary era go on praising their loved ones' beauty and tenderness with the help of hyperbole.

Obviously, from the initial lines it is noticeable that her, supposing, Dark Lady's eyes are not bright as the sun, her lips are not red as coral, her skin is not white, conversing, the ideality and perfectness of a woman rejects all his Mistress's qualities. As in retrospect, the bright-skinned, blonde-haired, red-lipped, bright-eyed woman is the most beautiful in both real life and poetry. Shakespeare preferred escaping from falsity, he may have emphasized his mistress' outward appearance as not idolized as other poets (such as Petrarchian works) though he may have loved his beloved's inner beauty. If we consider having lack of abovementioned peculiarities of elegance is a shortcoming, Shakespeare loved his lady with all her demerits, shortcomings; on the contrary, he accepts his woman the way how she is. Unconditional love does not depend on just beauty, since Shakespeare may not want to reveal his woman's beauty to others. Remarkably, Shakespeare admits it in the last lines his love to his Mistress, thus he surpasses all other claims which can be deceitful simultaneously in reality.

And yet by heaven I know my love as rare

As any she belied with false compare

Pablo Neruda, whose original name is Neftali Ricardo Reyes Basoalto was born in 1904, on July 12 in Chile. He is assumed as prominent Chilean poet, diplomat, and politician who was awarded the Noble Prize for literature in 1971. Apparently, he was perhaps the most significant Latin American poet of the 20th century with his distinguished works.

Neruda was born in the family of a railway worker, his mother died soon after Neruda's birth. Neruda's precociousness emerged early enough, he started writing poetry at age of 10. Strikingly, his father did not allow him to write poems, henceforth the poet chosen to publish his poems under the pseudonym Pablo Neruda. Later, he officially adopted this name. His first book of poems, *Crepusculario*, was published in 1923, additionally, his poems were really elegant and attention-grasping.

One of his principal works, *Odaselementales*, was published in 1954. Its verse was written totally in a new poetic style – ordinary, direct, precise, and humorous, moreover it included descriptions of everyday objects, situations, and beings.

Neruda is conceived as one of the most influential and well-accepted poets to write in Spanish in the 20th century, besides each of his books delivers unity of style and targets.

His One Hundred Love Sonnets: XVII is a fourteen-line sonnet which consists of three stanzas. The pattern is closer to the Petrarchan sonnet, and it was originally translated from Spanish. It is important to mention that, the sonnet was dedicated to Neruda's wife, Matilde. In the sonnet poet describes the love how he feels and deeply coincides the value of his inner feelings towards his wife. Initially, he begins by admitting his lover about a few things that cannot represent his love.

Following six lines demonstrate that his love is not dependent, he simply wants to be loved by his lover, his love is not plagued or limited by any other surrounding relations. Since their precious love is interconnected heavenly, they need each other to support and feel, their dreams are also unquestionably inseparable, as they are prisoners of love castle.

*I love you without knowing how, or when, or from where,
I love you directly without problems or pride:
I love you like this because I don't know any other way to love,
except in this form in which I am not nor are you,
so close that your hand upon my chest is mine,
so close that your eyes close with my dreams.*

Remarkably, these two sonnets have much in common, as both of them are dedicated to the theme of love, and show the deep feelings of the authors. They are not shy about their emotions and are not afraid of praising their love. Similarly, both authors do not tell directly *I Love you* to their lovers, but from their unconditional feelings, it is vivid that they have the purist love ever. Both authors imitate their love to the natural existences and use extraordinary description, which helps readers to imagine magnificent strength of forever love. Approaching differently, Shakespeare generally chooses various style of describing his love with his lover's imperfections, whereas Neruda follows Petrarchian style.

In conclusion, both sonnets are gorgeous examples of love dedications. They simply and openly deliver the significance of love to the readers.

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