



# **SONNETS**

**By**

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# **SONNETS**

**A lyric poem consisting of a single stanza of fourteen iambic pentameter lines linked by an intricate rhyme scheme.**

**The term derives from the Italian Sonetto, a ‘little sound’ or ‘song’.**

# Sonnet

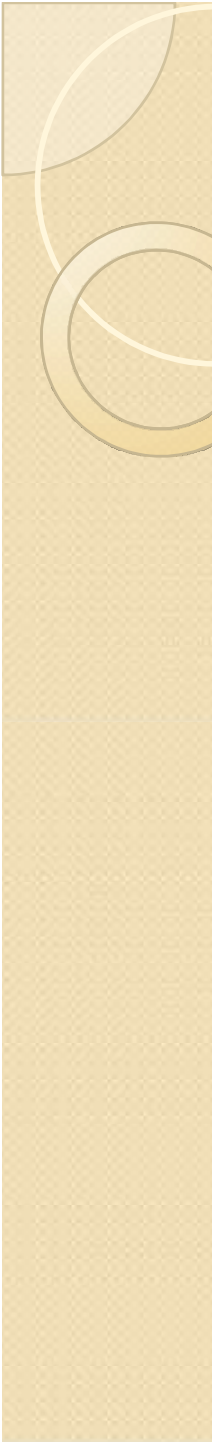
There are two major patterns of rhyme in sonnets written in the English language

**Italian or Petrarchan sonnet** ( named after the 14<sup>th</sup> century Italian poet Petrarch) falls into two parts: an octave {eight lines} rhyming abbaabba followed by a sestet {six lines} rhyming cdecde or some variant, such as cdccdc



## English or Shakespearean sonnet

- The Earl of Surrey and other English experimenters in the 16<sup>th</sup> century also developed a stanza form called the English sonnet, or else the Shakespearean sonnet, after its greatest practitioner. This sonnet falls into three quatrains and a concluding couplet: abba cdcd efef gg.



The sonnet came into the English language via Sir Thomas Wyatt and the Earl of Surrey in the 16<sup>th</sup> century and it was the Petrarchan form which they imparted.

The first major sonnet cycle was *Astrophil and Stella*, written by Sir Philip Sidney, followed by Daniel's *Delia*, Lodge's *Phyllis* Constable's *Diana* Drayton's *Idea's Mirror* and Spenser's *Ameretti*.

The greatest sequence of all was Shakespeare sonnets {154}



*Thank You*