



## LOVE IN THE WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S SONNET CXVI

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### ABSTRACT

This research is aimed to analyze kinds of love and how to love depicted in the sonnet 116 written by William Shakespeare. Sonnet is a poem that consists of 14 lines. Sonnet 116 is one of the famous sonnet in the English Literature and scholars are interesting to analyze sonnet 116. The author uses the theory of love proposed by Steven Gans (2020). The research is library research, and the technique to analyze the data is content analysis. Based on the analysis, two types of love revealed in the sonnet 116 consist of fatuous love and companionate love. The fatuous has two lines depicted in line 2 until 4 and 5 until 6. The companionate has one line depicted in line 9 until 12. Commitment, forgiveness and intimacy are revealed in the sonnet 116 as the value of the true love in the sonnet 116.

**Keywords:** William Shakespeare, sonnet 116, love.

### I. Introduction

In Renaissance times, William Shakespeare is a brilliant author. In the English Literature, his works such as Romeo and Juliet, Othello, Macbeth, Sonnet 55, Sonnet 116 became legendary. Born in Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, Shakespeare was baptized a few days later April 26, 1564.

Sonnet 116 was published in 1609 and one of the popular poem in the English Literature. Abraham in Siswantoro (2010:28) explained that "sonnet is lyrical poetry which is written in a stanza that consists of 14 lines with iambic pentameter pattern and all of that lines are banding in varieties rhyme. Sonnet belongs to interpretative Literature, which is differentiated from escape literature. Sonnet. Furthermore, Bull (2008:395) stated that "a sonnet is a poem which contains 14 lines with ten syllables in each line.

Love is the central theme of this sonnet, as it is in so many of Shakespeare's sonnets. The sonnet revealed the constancy and permanency of love in the poem. Shakespeare writes about how love never changes in this sonnet. He claims that love is unaffected by the circumstances. It does not shift over time, according to him. It is like a lighthouse, he says, and it does not move. He claims that he is entirely sure of these facts and that if he is incorrect, the world has never known love. There is not a single other theme running through this poem. Besides, Amanda (2012: 1) stated that "sonnet 116 is about love in its most ideal form. The poet praises the glories of lovers who have come to each other freely and enter a relationship based on trust and understanding.

Love as a core theme in this sonnet is interesting to be analyzed and therefore, to analyze the love in sonnet 116, the author uses the theory of love whom Steven Gans proposes. Steven Gans (2020:1) stated that there are seven kinds of love, namely: friendship, infatuation, empty love, romantic love, companionate love, fatuous love and consummate love.

In this study, the author tries to analyze the kinds of love depicted in sonnet 116. Next, the objective is to find loves depicted in sonnet 116.

## **II. Literature Review**

Steven Gans (2020:1) stated that there are seven kinds of love, namely: friendship, infatuation, empty love, romantic love, companionate love, fatuous love and consummate love

### **2.1 Friendship**

This type of love is when the intimacy or liking component is present, but feelings of passion or commitment in the romantic sense are missing. Friendship love can be the root of other forms of love.

### **2.2 Infatuation**

Infatuation is characterized by feelings of lust and physical passion without liking and commitment. There has not been enough time for a deeper sense of intimacy, romantic love, or consummate love to develop. These may eventually arise after the infatuation phase. The initial infatuation is often very powerful.

### **2.3 Empty Love**

Empty love is characterized by commitment without passion or intimacy. At times, a strong love deteriorates into empty love. The reverse may occur as well. For instance, an arranged marriage may start out empty but flourish into another form of love over time.

### **2.4 Romantic Love**

Romantic love bonds people emotionally through intimacy and physical passion. Partners in this type of relationship have deep conversations that help them know intimate details about each other. They enjoy sexual passion and affection. These couples may be at the point where long-term commitment or future plans are still undecided.

### **2.5 Companionate Love**

Companionate love is an intimate, but non-passionate sort of love. It includes the intimacy or liking component and the commitment component of the triangle. It is stronger than friendship, because there is a long-term commitment, but there is minimal or no sexual desire. This type of love is often found in marriages where the passion has died, but the couple continues to have deep affection or a strong bond together. This may also be viewed as the love between very close friends and family members.

### **2.6 Fatuous Love**

In this type of love, commitment and passion are present while intimacy or liking is absent. Fatuous love is typified by a whirlwind courtship in which passion motivates a commitment without the stabilizing influence of intimacy. Often, witnessing this leaves others confused about how the couple could be so impulsive.

## 2.7 Consummate Love

Consummate love is made up of all three components and is the total form of love. It represents an ideal relationship. Couples who experience this kind of love have great sex several years into their relationship. They cannot imagine themselves with anyone else. They also cannot see themselves truly happy without their partners. They manage to overcome differences and face stressors together.

## III. Research Method

This research is the library research proposed by Khotari (2004). The author uses descriptive qualitative as an approach in this research. Khotari (2004:7) states that “descriptive research includes surveys and fact-finding inquiries of different kinds.”. The data consists of two types; there are primary data and secondary data. Primary data are the utterances in the sonnet 116, and secondary data are books and other references which are related to the sonnet 116. Donny (2021:300) stated that “the author should know the technique in analyzing utterance or quotation in the literature form”. In analyzing the data, the author uses content analysis as the technique to analyze the data. Ratna (2004:48) stated that “content-analysis consists of analyzing the contents of documentary materials such as books, magazines, newspapers and the contents of all other verbal materials which can be either spoken or printed.

## IV. Discussion

Sonnet 116 written by William Shakespeare

Let me not to the marriage of true minds  
Admit impediments. Love is not love  
Which alters when it alteration finds,  
Or bends with the remover to remove.  
O no! it is an ever-fixed mark  
That looks on tempests and is never shaken;  
It is the star to every wand'ring bark,  
Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken.  
Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks  
Within his bending sickle's compass come;  
Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,  
But bears it out even to the edge of doom.  
If this be error and upon me prov'd,  
I never writ, nor no man ever lov'd.

## **4.1 Analysis of love**

### **1. Fatuous Love**

Love is not love  
Which alters when it alteration finds,  
Or bends with the remover to remove. (2-4)

The above line depicted even if one or both partners shift, or if anyone wants to separate them, people who love each other will always be there for each other. The partners never change his love however, many obstacles or burden faced by both partners. The partners are hard to remove his love because they are binded by the commitment. Commitment is a self-reminder to the partners to still love each other and stay survive; however, one partner has shifted. The time may decrease the love, but the commitment is still alive. Commitment depicted in the above line is a part of fatuous love because fatuous love consists of commitment between the partners.

### **2. Companionate Love**

Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks  
Within his bending sickle's compass come;  
Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,  
But bears it out even to the edge of doom. ( 9-12)

The above line depicted true lovers remain faithful to each other indefinitely, perhaps even after death. They are stronger together till the end of the life. True lovers can still love each other because they have a long-life commitment to still together until the world ends without any sexual desire or minimal desire. Besides, they have an intimate relationship so that they hardly separate themselves. The "edge of doom" listed here may refer to the end of a person's life, or the end of all life in this or the next world or judgement day. The above line is companionate love because companionate love depicted long-term commitment and intimate love.

### **3. Fatuous love**

O no! [Love] is an ever-fixed mark  
That looks on tempests and is never shaken (5-6)

The above line depicted true love is not influenced by storms such as conflicts or other difficulties. True love strengthens each other to pass whatever the problems. Conflict cannot influence the partners because they have the love alive in their hearts for a long time. Besides, a commitment made the partners still together however many problems and conflicts faced by them. True love consists of commitment, forgiveness and intimacy. The above line is fatuous love because the partner depicted true love, which consists of commitment as part of fatuous love.

Based on the above analysis, fatuous love is the dominant form depicted in line 2 until 4; 5 until 6. Next, the companionate depicts in line 9 until 12.

## V. Conclusions

Based on the finding, the kinds of love depicted in the sonnet 116 consists of two types, namely: fatuous love and companionate love. Fatuous love is depicted in line 2 until 4 and 5 until 6. Furthermore, companionate love is depicted in line 9 until 12. The love in sonnet 116 depicted that the love should have long-life commitment, forgiveness and intimacy so that the partners can strengthen both partners to stay together till the end of the world. In addition, the partner may be shifted or changed because of the time, but the commitment has binded the partners and the partners can remind each other. The partners usually face problems and difficulties, but the partners can solve the problems by using the love.

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