

Student Essay on Sonnet 52

Sonnet 52

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Essay

In Sonnet 52 written by William Shakespeare, the narrator is a love-struck man. He believes that he a rich man that has a "blessed key" that has the ability to unlock his treasure so that he may view it. However, he has a different type of fortune. His "sweet up-locked treasure" is the young lady he is in love with. (This line is full of sexual innuendo as well.) Like a rich man, the narrator doesn't watch or "survey" his love all the time, which makes her a "fine point of seldom treasure." He says that his glimpses at his love are as rare as "feasts" that are "seldom coming in the long year set." He also says that it is as rare and special as "captain jewels in the carcanet." A carcanet is a necklace laced with precious stones. Shakespeare's next two lines ("So is the time that keeps you as my chest, Or as the wardrobe which the robe doth hide") means to me that the narrator wishes to take his love out of the place where he keeps her most of the time so that he can look at her more. He wants to reveal her to the world like he is "unfolding his imprison'd pride." He later shows that he is envious of those that get to see their loved ones more often than he does. He shows this in the line, "Blessed are you whose worthiness gives scope." Even though he is happy with only being able to view his lover every once in a while, he can't wait for the day when he will "triumph." (More sexual innuendo.)