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Shakespeare's Sonnets: A Thematic Study

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Abstract :

Shakespeare is the greatest sonneteer of the Elizabethan period of English literature and further one of the greatest sonneteers of the world. This paper attempts to make an exploration of the thematic uniqueness of Shakespeare's sonnets through analyzing the themes of time, beauty, and love. The 154 Sonnets of Shakespeare can broadly be divided into

two groups; the first 126 sonnets as addressed to fair youth and rest or addressed to Dark Lady. In the first 17 of the 126 fair youth sonnets the poet persuade the fair youth to produce his own copies by marrying some fortunate girl, so that the charm of his beauty may be perpetuated.

Keywords: *Shakespeare, sonnets, Fair Youth, Dark Lady, Love.*

