

## Analysis of the Sonnet 57 of Spenser

In the **sonnet** LVII- (Sweet Warrior), Spenser –the poet describes himself as a mere slave pleading her in order to make her accept his proposal.

The sonnet continues the ongoing struggle the speaker suffers in dealing with an unresponsive beloved. The lover addresses his beloved as a “Sweet warrior” and asks a question “when shall I have peace with you?” The question is self evident of the frustration and desperation in his tone. Like that of many Shakespearean **sonnets**, this **sonnet** continues with the torment the speaker is going through while dealing with an indifferent beloved.

The lover asks her to end the war she has waged against him as he cannot tolerate any more. His powers have weakened and his wounds have deteriorated. He says that the arrows shot from her eyes pierced through his heart and make him unable to survive without her. In the final two lines he requests her to “Make peace” “and graunt” him “timely grace”, “so That” all his “wounds will heale in little space.” Her attacks are the constant refusals that make him suffer.

Spenser’s **sonnet** 57 is reflective of the sufferings the poet is going through. The intense emotional frustration that arises in him when his beloved is in continuous refusal of his proposal can be seen in the “Yet shoot ye sharply still, and spare me not”.

The parabolic poet-lover moans in pain when she shoots him with her arrows that directly touch his heart. In the **sonnet**, poet describes himself as a mere slave pleading her in order to make her accept his proposal. He wants to end all the conflicts and wars in between them and want to live in complete peace with her:

Spenser wants the war to be over. He asks her what glory she can gain “in slaying him that would lie gladly yours” and ends by suing for peace and grace, “That al my wounds will heale in little space” . Here, again, is irony in that the poet turns his repeated efforts to woo the woman into a defensive stance against her “attacks,” which are in fact merely her refusal to accept his proposal. Read More **Elizabethan Literature**

In Sonnet 57, the poet argues that he is not so much the young man's friend as he is his slave. As a slave, he waits on the youth's pleasure:

The poet takes up the conceit of his suit as a battle, addressing his beloved as "Sweet warrior" and asking when he shall "haue peace" with her (line 1). He wants the war to be over. He depicts his beloved as the aggressor, claiming he can no longer bear her "incessant battry" (line 4), nor can his heart survive the "thousand arrowes" shot at him from her eyes (line 8). He asks her what glory she can gain "in slaying him that would liue gladly yours" (line 13) and ends by suing for peace and grace, "That al my wounds will heale in little space" (line 14). Here, again, is irony in that the poet turns his repeated efforts to woo the woman into a defensive stance against her "attacks," which are in fact merely her refusal to accept his proposal.