
Not Marble, Nor the Gilded Monuments (Sonnet 55)
by - William Shakespeare

- Marble and gilded (gold-plated) monuments are built by the princes and rulers to perpetuate their memory.
 - With the passage of time those monuments, memorials and statues lie neglected and ravaged by the immoral and evil practices of the people living in different times.
 - However, the memory of the poet's friend and patron will not be affected by the ravages of time.
 - The words of this poem will outlive all those monuments, memorials or statues.
 - Wasteful and unnecessary wars will demolish all memorials, monuments and statues erected by princes and rulers.
 - Tumults and conflicts will destroy and ruin huge buildings and monuments made of stone.
 - Even the mighty sword of Mars, the god of war and the quick fire of war will not touch and affect this 'powerful rhyme'.
 - This sonnet will remain as a living record of the memory of his friend and patron.
 - Neither death nor enmity shall obscure or fade away the memory of the poet's friend and patron.
 - The praise of the poet's friend will find a permanent place in the eyes and hearts of the coming generations through this poem.
 - The memory of his friend will last till the doomsday or the day on which the Last Judgement will occur.
 - The poet's friend and patron will live in the eyes of all the lovers till the day of judgement in the form of this poem and its words.
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