

B.A Sem - III

Subject : English MJC-4

Topic : "To His Coy Mistress"
(By - Andrew Marvell)

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Critical Appreciation of the poem To His Coy Mistress

By - Andrew Marvell

"To His Mistress" is probably the best-known poem of Andrew Marvell in which the speaker offers a strong plea for the beloved to soften towards him. The lover says that her coyness or sexual reluctance would have been justified if they had enough space and time at their disposal. If they had enough time at their disposal he would have started loving her ten years before the great flood (mentioned in the Bible) while she could refuse to satisfy his desire till the judgement

Day when the Jews might agree to be converted to Christianity. If they had enough time, he would spend a hundred years in praising her eyes and gazing on her forehead; he would spend two hundred years in admiring each of her breasts and he would spend thirty thousand years in praising the remaining parts of her body.

The lover goes on to say that time is passing at a very fast pace. After some years her beauty will no longer be found on this earth. She will lie in her marble tomb, and he would no

longer be there to sing his
lone song. There, on the grave
worms will attack her long-
preserved virginity. Therefore,
it would be appropriate
for both of them to enjoy
the pleasure of lone when there
is still time, when her skin
is still youthful and fresh,
and her responsible soul is
burning with a desire for
lone-making. They should,
like voracious birds of prey,
devour the pleasures of joy.
They should not suffer the
pangs of unsatisfied lone.

