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THOUGHTS ABOUT POEMS
BY CHRISTOPHER MARLOWE (1564-1593) AND WALTER RALEIGH (1552-1618)

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Marlowe wrote a pastoral poem whose name is *The Passionate Shepherd to His Love*. Title of Raleigh's poem is *The Nypmh's Reply to the Shepherd*. Literature historians say for Raleigh's poem was pastoral too, just like Marlowe's poem. I don't agree with this idea. In my opinion Raleigh's poem was totally wrote in a parodic way and includes almost in every line sarcastic discourse and elements. This may be evaluated with classical Turkish term as "nakîze". This ironical attitude begins with the title at first. There is no evidence in Marlowe's poem that it was written to unreal beloved like nymph or water nymphs, tree nymphs etc. When reading we probably feel the addressee-in-text is a real person like speaker, voice, lyrical I in poem too. But Raleigh don't say in the title "beloved's reply", he says "nymph's reply" as an ironical expression.

Both two poems have six stanzas and each stanza has four lines. Beginning from the title (as we indicated at first paragraph about the titles), Raleigh's poem just like a symetrical parody of Marlowe's poem in each stanza or line. In the first stanza Marlowe invites his beloved to a rural love. He wants to be with his beloved in the nature, seeing together shepherds, forests, animals. But Raleigh says all this will not continue in this way. All will be ended, so our pleasures are restricted and this invite is unfounded and imaginary.

In the second stanza, Marlowe tells us beauties of the nature, but the portrait he draws is about the nature in the spring. On the other hand Raleigh says the spring will pass, weather will be cold, concern for the future and livelihood will emerge, and these will not be in a distant time. Spring represents happiness, joy of living; however there is fall season that represents sadness and maybe death. There is winter when we encounter a lot of problems and hard life conditions. Also there is summer season in this world, in summer drought can emerge, animals can have difficulty with finding food and water, likewise humans. There is not only spring in the world, and not only daytime; there is also night of course (namely sadnesses, disasters, diseases, difficulties, agedness, deaths etc.). In third stanza Marlowe says to his beloved that he will make bed from roses for her, but Raleigh reminds the cruel reality: Roses (flowers) fade. Furthermore, he does this with emphasis (The flowers fade>the flowers do fade). Forth and fifth stanzas include similar conrast expressions.

Marlowe says in the sixth stanza: "*The shepherds' swains shall dance and sing / For thy delight each May morning*". If I were Raleigh I would reply to Marlowe's these lines like that: "What will do

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shepherds outside of May" or "Will they dance and sing only in May?!". But Raleigh says youth, love and pleasures are valueble and beautiful things only when they are infinite. We humans are mortals and all beauties have an end, then they have not a real value. With this idea Raleigh turns to the beginning, he wrote similar ideas with another words at the first stanza.

Poems are generally fictive and imaginary texts. For this reason we should analyse the poems by text-centered literary theories and methods. But, as far as I am concerned, in these poems the speakers and the real writers/poets are the same persons. So we can read the poems in terms of writer/author/poet-centered method. As we know from their life stories Marlowe is more civil, more romantic and optimistic person, more oppenent to society in which he lived. In this respect his poem includes more individual, romantic and imaginary elements and expressions. So we can say that he sees the life through rose colored glasses. Contrary to this Raleigh is a soldier, commander, knight. He saw a lot of battle, killed a lot of people and maybe injured or approached to death many times. As a consequence he wrote a more realistic and pessimistic poem.

CHRISTOPHER MARLOWE	**WALTER RALEIGH**
Come live with me and be my love, And we will all the pleasures prove That valleys, groves, hills, and fields, Woods, or steepy mountain yields. And we will sit upon the rocks, Seeing the shepherds feed their flocks, By shallow rivers to whose falls Melodious birds sing madrigals. And I will make thee beds of roses And a thousand fragrant posies, A cap of flowers, and a kirtle Embroidered all with leaves of myrtle; A gown made of the finest wool Which from our pretty lambs we pull; Fair lined slippers for the cold, With buckles of the purest gold; A belt of straw and ivy buds, With coral clasps and amber studs: And if these pleasures may thee move, Come live with me, and be my love. The shepherds' swains shall dance and sing For thy delight each May morning: If these delights thy mind may move, Then live with me and be my love.	If all the world and love were young, And truth in every shepherd's tongue, These pretty pleasures might me move To live with thee and be thy love. Time drives the flocks from field to fold When rivers rage and rocks grow cold, And Philomel becometh dumb; The rest complains of cares to come. The flowers do fade, and wanton fields To wayward winter reckoning yields; A honey tongue, a heart of gall, Is fancy's spring, but sorrow's fall. Thy gowns, thy shoes, thy beds of roses, Thy cap, thy kirtle, and thy posies Soon break, soon wither, soon forgotten In folly ripe, in reason rotten. Thy belt of straw and ivy buds, Thy coral clasps and amber studs, All these in me no means can move To come to thee and be thy love. But could youth last and love still breed, Had joys no date nor age no need, Then these delights my mind might move To live with thee and be thy love.