

/ / x / x / x / x /  
How many women would do such a message? ||

x / / / x / x / x /  
Alas, poor Proteus! thou hast entertain'd

x / x / x / x / x /  
A fox to be the shepherd of thy lambs.

x / x / / x x / x /  
Alas, poor fool! why do I pity him

x / x / x / x / x /  
That with his very heart despiseth me?

x / x / x / x / x /  
Because he loves her, he despiseth me;

x / x / x x / x /  
Because I love him I must pity him.

x / x / / x / x / x /  
This ring I gave him when he parted from me, ||

x / x / x / x / x /  
To bind him to remember my good will;

x / x / x / x / x /  
And now am I, unhappy messenger,

x / x / x / x / x /  
To plead for that which I would not obtain,

x / x / x / x / x /  
To carry that which I would have refused,

x / x / x / x / x /  
To praise his faith which I would have dispraised.

/ x x / x / x / x /  
I am my master's true-confirmed love;

x / x / x / x / x /  
But cannot be true servant to my master, ||

x / x / / / x x x /  
Unless I prove false traitor to myself.

x / x / x / x / x /  
Yet will I woo for him, but yet so coldly ||

x / x x / x / x / x /  
As, heaven it knows, I would not have him speed. ||

# Scansion

- Stress by syllable
- 2 syllables per iamb/foot; 5 iambs/feet in a line
  - \* "regular" line
  - \* unstressed / stressed
- begin by reading / stressing each line as regular
  - \* what doesn't work?
  - \* sense making rules all
- not all stressed syllables are equal / get same amount of emphasis
- can break rules to make meaning stronger
  - \* line 14: I AM vs. I am
- "Cave Man" for sense / finding stresses
  - \* what gets stress; what needs biggest stress