

Compare the ways poets present a speaker's attitudes towards another person in 'To His Coy Mistress' and another poem.

In both poems, their awareness of time during their relationships is dominant. In 'To His Coy Mistress' we witness Marvell attempting to convince his mistress to seize the day. Marvell used symbolism to depict time running out by describing the 'winged chariots' and 'hurrying'. The use of the word 'hurrying' symbolises how time is chasing them. Marvell presents the speaker as very forceful and impatient by using morbid imagery of death to convince the mistress to sleep with him. The use of realism for the mistress's 'beauty that shall no more be found' in 'thy marble vault' is emphasising the speaker's need to persuade the mistress. The 'marble vault' is referring to her grave, to give a semantic field of death to pressure the mistress to give her virginity. He continues to describe how her 'quaint honour turn to dust' and 'into ashes all my lust' to show love deteriorates. The use of the words 'dust' and 'ashes' stress the decaying imagery used to highlight the couple's lack of time.

The theme of time in 'The Farmer's Bride' is shown in a more sensitive tone. Mew represents time passing by using seasons, as the poem starts 'three summers since' and ends 'Christmas-time' showing how their failed marriage goes on unchanged. As the poem goes on the farmer describes how 'the days shorten and the oaks are brown' suggesting the transition of another season which is comparable to how their relationship goes on in a melancholy and sombre tone. The colours used in this stanza such as 'brown' and 'grey' reflect the atmosphere of their relationship as dull as it lacks everything a real marriage should have. The description of the beginning of autumn is effective as it gives a semantic field of decay such as the 'on a leaf in the still air falls slowly', which is a metaphor of their relationship. This illustrates how as time passes their relationship continues to decay like a leaf in autumn.

In the last stanza of 'To His Coy Mistress' the language used to convince the mistress refers to urgency and passion, implying the speaker is becoming impatient. He carries on to describe how time will catch up with her appearance to show time is running out as the 'youthful hue / sits on thy skin like morning dew'. This simile is effective as 'morning dew' quickly disappears just like her youthful appearance, which is to tell the mistress her chances with him are quickly disintegrating as time goes on. The speaker describes the mistress's soul to 'transpire at every pore with instant fires' which is speaking of their feelings of desire. The use of 'instant fires' gives a sense of urgency and passion to illustrate they should seize the day while they can. Marvell describes the speaker and the mistress as 'amorous birds of prey' that 'devour' giving a semantic field of consumption to express his lust. This animalistic imagery expresses his uncontained desire for his mistress.

The vigorous, animalistic imagery in 'To His Coy Mistress' contrasts to the imagery in 'The Farmer's Bride'. The farmer's wife is described as a 'frightened fay' and a 'mouse'. These descriptions give an undertone of vulnerability. The alliteration of 'frightened fay' emphasises how small and afraid the wife is. She is described as a mouse to underline how she creeps around the house, as if she is trying to avoid her husband. The farmer presents her as a confused, scared animal rather than an object of love and desire. The wife is full of distress as she 'flies like a hare / all in shiver and scare' displaying her as frightened, proving she is resistant to the relationship. The simile 'like a hare' illustrates