

Analysis of brief pause, pause,  
and emphasis in “Shall I Compare Thee”

Shall I  
compare *thee*

to a summer's *day*?

Thou are *more* lovely,  
and *more* temperate.

*Rough* winds do shake  
the darling buds of May,

And summer's lease  
hath all too *short* a date, ||

Some time  
*too* hot  
the eye of heaven shines,

And *often* is his gold complexion dimm'd.

And every fair  
*from* fair  
some time declines,

By chance,

or nature's changing course untrimm'd. ||

But *thy* eternal summer shall not fade,  
Nor lose possession of that fair *thou* ow'st,

Nor shall Death brag *thou* wander'st in his shade,  
When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st.

So long as men can breathe  
and eyes can see,

So long lives *this*,

and this

gives *life*

to thee.