



QUATRAIN

No longer mourn for me when I am **dead** a
 Than you shall hear the surly sullen **bell**, b
 Give warning to the world that I am **fled** a
 From this vile world, with vilest worms to **dwell**: b

QUATRAIN

Nay, if you read this line, remember **not** c
 The hand that writ it; for I love you **so** d
 That I in your sweet thoughts would be **forgot** c
 If thinking on me then should make you **woe**. d

QUATRAIN

O, if, I say, you look upon this **verse** e
 When I perhaps compounded am with **clay**, f
 Do not so much as my poor name **rehearse**. e
 But let your love even with my life **decay**, f

COUPLET

Lest the wise world should look into your **moan** g
 And mock you with me after I am **gone**. g

We do see some alliteration: *surly sullen, wise world, compounded clay*.
 We see some reverse rhyme in *world* and *worms*. Notice the assonance
 of *worms* and *verse-rehearse*, and the way this is reversed by the word *surly*.
 We also see assonance in *should look* in the couplet.

Stopped
consonants
capture the
cruelty.

What do you think Shakespeare intended by his alliterated reference to the “wise world”
 in line thirteen? Suddenly in the couplet, Shakespeare uses harsh sounds
 to describe the wise world, that will *look* and *mock* (half rhyme). Why?