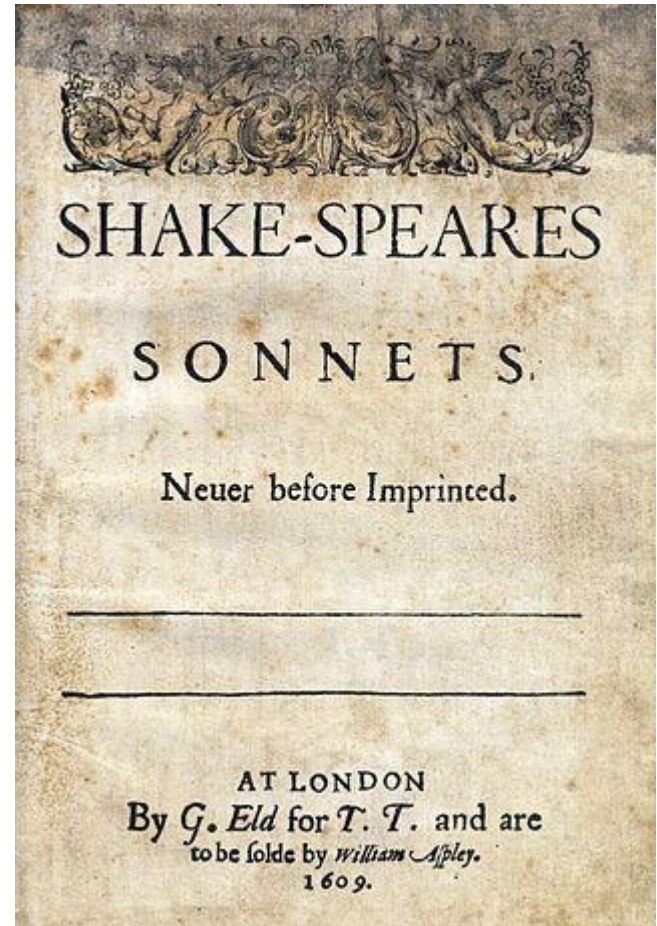


*Shakespeare's  
sonnets  
(The Book)*



- The sonnets were first published in a 1609
- Collection of 154 sonnets
- cover themes: such as the passage of time, love, beauty and mortality
- 126 sonnets are addressed to a young man
- 28 sonnets are addressed to a woman

TO. THE. ONLIE. BEGETTER. OF.  
THESE. INSVING. SONNETS.  
M<sup>r</sup>. W. H. ALL. HAPPINESSE.  
AND. THAT. ETERNITIE.  
PROMISED.

BY.

OVR. EVER-LIVING. POET.

WISHETH

THE. WELL-WISHING.

ADVENTVRER. IN.

SETTING.

FORTH.

T. T.

# The sonnets to the young man

- express overwhelming, obsessional love
- the first 17 poems, traditionally called the **procreation sonnets**, are addressed to the young man urging him to marry and have children in order to immortalize his beauty by passing it to the next generation
- Other sonnets express the speaker's love for the young man; brood upon loneliness, death, and the transience of life

- The final two sonnets are allegorical treatments of Greek epigrams referring to the "little lovegod" Cupid.



- **Thomas Thorpe,**  
entered the book in  
the Stationers'  
Register on 20 May  
1609

