



AP European History

Wyatt – Anne Unattainable

Name:

Section:

Directions: Read the following Sonnet by Sir Thomas Wyatt and S.O.A.P.S.TONE it to better understand it and early modern England.

Sonnet 3 “Anne Unattainable”

Sir Thomas Wyatt



"Whoso list to hunt, I know where is an hind,
But as for me, alas, I may no more,
The vain travail hath wearied me so sore.
I am of them that farthest cometh behind;
Yet may I by no means my wearied mind
Draw from the Deer: but as she fleeth afore,
Fainting I follow. I leave off therefore,
Since in a net I seek to hold the wind.
Who list her hunt, I put him out of doubt,
As well as I may spend his time in vain:
And, graven with diamonds, in letters plain
There is written her fair neck round about:
Noli me tangere, for Caesar's I am,
And wild for to hold, though I seem tame."

NOTES:

hind = a female deer.

Whoso = whoever.

list = desires.

helas = a variant form of 'Alas'.

Noli me tangere = Do not touch me (Latin).

For Caesar's I am = I belong to the King

The Poems of Sir Thomas Wyatt edited by A.K. Foxwell, London 1913.