

The Debt
 BY PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR

This is the debt I pay
 Just for one riotous day,
 Years of regret and grief,
 Sorrow without relief.

debt & payment

day vs years (disproportion: "interest")

A
 A
 B
 B

Pay it I will to the end —
 Until the grave, my friend,
 Gives me a true release —
 Gives me the clasp of peace.

inversion
 ambiguous syntax tied only w/ next line

death as given (of release/clasp)

Revelation: "There will be no more sorrow"

Slight was the thing I bought,
 Small was the debt I thought,
 Poor was the loan at best —
 God! but the interest!

calculation of "how much"

another economy: release from debt

extortion, usury

not, invoked in context of
 mercy, absolution,
 simply as an exclamation

undisclosed terms

This is the debt I pay
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Let's evaluate metrical norm & any variations.

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syntax

Slight was the thing I bought,
 Small was the debt I thought,
 Poor was the loan at best —
 God! but the interest!

Anaphora: Gives me...
 Gives me...

Sonnet 19: When I consider how my light is spent
BY JOHN MILTON

When I consider how my ^{gone}light is spent,
Ere half my days, in this dark world and wide,
And that one Talent which is death to hide
Lodged with me useless, though my Soul more bent
To serve therewith my Maker, and present
My true account, lest he returning chide;
"Doth God exact day-labour, light denied?"
I fondly ask. But patience, to prevent
That murmur, soon replies, "God doth not need
Either man's work or his own gifts; who best
Bear his mild yoke, they serve him best. His state
Is Kingly. Thousands at his bidding speed
And post o'er Land and Ocean without rest:
They also serve who only stand and wait.

Light is ...

time, timeliness

- comma
- semicolon/colon
- full stop
- no end stop (enjambment)

● lines with no caesura (mid-line pause)

✓ non-iambic stress

When I consider how my ^{sightedness}light is spent, Ere half my days in this ^{insight}dark world and wide are spent, And while that one Talent which is death to hide is (still) uselessly Lodged with me, although my Soul is more bent To serve my Maker therewith and to present My true account, lest he (returning) chide me; (Then) I fondly ask: "Doth God exact day-labour, when light is denied?"

compare how each voice forms sentences

But patience, to prevent That murmur, soon replies, "God doth not need Either man's work or his own gifts; those who best Bear his, mild yoke, they serve him best. His state Is Kingly. Thousands at his bidding speed And post o'er Land and Ocean without rest: They who only stand and wait also serve.

Within 14 line poem, how does rhyme define groups of lines?



Where does 2nd sentence begin?

Sonnet 116: Let me not to the marriage of true minds

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Let me not to the marriage of true minds

Admit impediments. Love is not love

Which alters when it alteration finds,

Or bends with the remover to remove.

O no! it is an ever-fixed mark

That looks on tempests and is never shaken;

It is the star to every wand'ring bark,

Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken. end of L8

Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks

Within his bending sickle's compass come;

Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,

But bears it out even to the edge of doom.

If this be error and upon me prov'd,

I never writ, nor no man ever lov'd.

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Years of regret and grief,
Sorrow without relief.

debt = payment

day vs years (disproportion: "interest")

A
A
B
B

Pay it I will to the end — *(inversion)*

Until the grave, my friend, *ambiguous syntax, tied only w/ next line.*

Gives me a true release —

death as giver (of release/clasp)

Gives me the clasp of peace.

Revelation: "There will be no more sorrow"

Slight was the thing I bought, *calculation of "how much"*

Small was the debt I thought,

Poor was the loan at best —

[God!] but the interest!

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not involved in context of mercy, absolution, simply as exclamation.

2 undisclosed terms.

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Let's evaluate metrical norm
of any variations

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*Anaphora: Gives me ...
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↑
sightedness insight

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