SET ME WHEREAS THE SUN DOTH PARCH THE GREEN

Sonnet is a lyrical form of poetry and it is generally a personal form because it is strongly focused on private and intimate feelings and emotions. It is born in Italy thanks to Sir Francesco Petrarca and it consisted on two quatrains and two tercets. The sonnet of Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey “Set me whereas the sun doth parch the green” is arranged in another way: three quatrains and one rhyme couplet. He used this form because of the fact the English language is different by Italian language, so the rhythm is different. The title is repeated also in the first line of this sonnet, so the intelligent reader understands that it belongs to a collection of sonnet. Analyzing the denotative level, the reader can understand that it is a poem for the writer’s woman. The intelligent reader asks himself in which historical period the poem was written and thanks to some word like “doth” “ youth” “thrall” “nought” understands it belongs to a Renaissance Period. In that period most of the time the love wasn’t a true love because especially if you belong to the upper class, the weddings were combined following the families interested. The pronoun “hers” instead “yours” make me think that she didn’t know nothing. The words “set me” at the beginning of the three quatrains underlines that he is so deeply in love with her that if she only wanted she could decide about his future. Thanks to the rhyme couplet the reader understands that the writer pleases the woman.