I find no peace

“I find no peace” is a poetry written by Thomas Wyatt. He introduced the sonnet into England. Just consider the title the reader may expect the poem to be about a person who find no peace. In the title the word “no” expresses an absolute negation and the noun “pace” is not preceded by an article. The reader understands that the poet expresses something personal because the voice is in the first person singular.

Consider the layout the reader understands the text is a poem made up four stanzas. The first two stanzas are composed by four lines instead the last two stanzas are composed by three lines. It follows the classic structure of the Italian sonnet, the same structure followed by Petrarch. The rhyme scheme is ABBA in the quatrains and CDD in the tercets.

The intelligent reader wants to find out the function of the quatrain and the tercets. In the first quatrain there is the repetition of the subjects personal pronoun “I”. The repetition of the subjects personal pronoun “I” underlines the subjective character of the text. The fist quatrain is full of oxymorons, for example: “burn- Freeze”, “peace- war”, “fear-hope”. The oxymorons underline the inner conflicts of the poet. In the second quatrain there is the repetition of the pronoun “me” underlines again the subject character of the text. The first tercet is similar than the first quatrain indeed there is the repetition of the subjects personal pronoun again. In the same way the last stanza is located in relation to the second quatrain because there is the repletion of the pronoun “me”.

The speaking voice expresses an inner conflict/a psychological contrast that is express through a list of oxymorons: indeed, the reader comes across a series of semantic appositions that range from words to verbs. The choice wants to convey/communicate/bring the struggle of somebody who is looking for peace, serenity and tranquility. In a few words, he looks for emotional rest after all the fights, he has had to cope with so far. The reader also understands that the speaking voice, who speaks in the first personal singular and seven times in the space of the first stanza, in addition, his climatic desperate mood resorts to hyperbole to make his feeling clear and evident: “I fly above the wind” (line three) “can I not arise” . Exaggeration helps and adds to meaning and the reader totally perceives the speaking voice’s inner situation and, as a consequences feels involved and hopefully feels empathy for the speaking voice/ the subject. In the second quatrain the word “That” refers to the mood of the poet and with the pronoun “me” the reader understands that the poet has become passive, pain imprisons him. It presents the alliteration of the sound “eth”. In the third stanza the poet tells that he is not happy with himself, but he loves someone else.

After analyzing the text the reader understands that the poet lived an inner conflict and he expresses this with opposed concepts.