

Which Words and Phrases Convey the Impression that the Yeats' Love Was not True?

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Which words and phrases convey the impression that the poet's love was/was not true?

In his poem "When You Are Old" (1893), William Butler Yeats (1865-1939) talks about deep, true love. He shows how love can be more than just beauty or looks. The poem uses some words and phrases to show that the poet's love is true.

The first line tells us that the speaker's love is strong and lasting. He talks about the woman being **"old and grey and full of sleep."** This shows how the love he feels is not about her looks, but something deeper.

In the second stanza, Yeats writes, **"How many loved your moments of glad grace, / And loved your beauty with love false or true."** Here, the word "false" tells us that many people loved her for her beauty, but that love was not true. It was only about how she looked, not who she was inside.

The true love is shown in the lines: **"But one man loved the pilgrim soul in you."** The word "pilgrim soul" tells us that this love is for her spirit, her heart, and her soul. This love is not about her beauty but about the person she really is. The poet also loved her "sorrows," which shows his deep, real love.

At the end, when Yeats says, **"Love fled / And paced upon the mountains overhead,"** he suggests that love is now gone. But this shows that true love was real when it existed, even if it is now far away.

The poem captures the depth and beauty of true love. Yeats shows that love is not just about outward beauty but the inner being, soul, and true self. It is a reflection of a love that is beyond time and the changes of beauty.