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## Course Materials

Alan Liu

### Sir Thomas Wyatt, "They Flee From Me" (1557)

They flee from me that sometime did me seek  
 With naked foot, stalking in my chamber.  
 I have seen them gentle, tame, and meek,  
 That now are wild and do not remember  
 That sometime they put themself in danger  
 To take bread at my hand; and now they range,  
 Busily seeking with a continual change.

Thanked be fortune it hath been otherwise  
 Twenty times better; but once in special,  
 In thin array after a pleasant guise,  
 When her loose gown from her shoulders did fall,  
 And she me caught in her arms long and small;  
 Therewithall sweetly did me kiss  
 And softly said, "dear heart, how like you this?"

It was no dream: I lay broad waking.  
 But all is turned thorough my gentleness  
 Into a strange fashion of forsaking;  
 And I have leave to go of her goodness,  
 And she also, to use newfangledness.  
 But since that I so kindly am served  
 I would fain know what she hath deserved.

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they  
this  
what

8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14

naked / dressed  
animal / human  
hunter / hunted  
man / woman  
wild / fashion  
present / past

15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21

gentle / gentle  
kind  
good

"small" = slender  
 "fain" = gladly

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