Module 4: Examining Love, Friendship, and Power Topic 2 Content: "Sonnet 75" by Edmund Spenser

One day I wrote her name upon the strand¹,
But came the waves and washéd it away:
Again I write it with a second hand,
But came the tide, and made my pains his prey.
Vain man, said she, that dost² in vain assay³,
A mortal thing so to immortalize,
For I myself shall like to this decay,
And eke⁴ my name be wipéd out likewise.
Not so, (quod⁵ I) let baser things devise
To die in dust, but you shall live by fame:
My verse, your virtues rare shall eternize⁶,
And in the heavens write your glorious name.
Where whenas⁷ death shall all the world subdue,
Our love shall live, and later life renew.

⁷ whereas; although



¹ beach

² do

³ try

⁴ also

⁵ said

⁶ make eternal