Sonnet Assignment

Now that we have studied sonnets and even wrote one collectively as a class, you will be writing one of your own. You will abide by the following guidelines.

**Theme**: Your sonnet will have a distinct theme. Keep in mind that the theme of most sonnets is love. You may choose to take a modern approach to your sonnet and discuss love in a way that is distinctly modern or you may choose to honor the Petrarchan conventions (or even to take on Shakespeare’s tongue-in-cheek style).

**Tone**: You will establish the tone of your essay (as directed by your theme). Will your sonnet be a humorous take on love? A sad expression of love lost or love scorned? This tone should be made evident by your diction, which should be specific, colorful, and rich.

**Form**: You will use either the Shakespearean or Petrarchan sonnet format. You must have fourteen lines in iambic pentameter and you must follow the rhyme scheme of your type of sonnet. Remember to also include a **volta (turn)** within your poem. It may be between the octave and sestet or even closer to the ending lines. Your ending lines should be ones that express the theme and major argument of your sonnet.

Your poem should also exhibit evidence of poetic devices, such as: **imagery, figurative language (similes and metaphors), repetition/parallel structure, etc**.