

# Title

Crystal Mandal

Last Edited October 29, 2025

## Question 1

Poet Chosen: Francesco Petrarca

Francesco Petrarca (1304 - 1374), commonly known by the mononym Petrarch, numbers among the most influential poets in the Italian Language; ironic, as his Humanist and Catholic background informs a relative disdain for the “vulgar” language.<sup>1</sup> At the age of 23, Petrarch meets “Laura”, the love of his life, who he immortalises as the subject in over 300 sonnets (among other poems) his collection of Italian Poetry “Canzoniere” - meaning “songbook”.

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1. *Petrarch*, in *Encyclopedia Britannica Online* (Britannica, October 16, 2025), accessed October 29, 2025, <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Petrarch>.