

Metaphor Used in “To My Dear and Loving Husband” by Anne Bradstreet

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ABSTRACT

The aims of this study are to find out the types of metaphor used in the poem and to analyse the meaning of metaphors found in the poem To My Dear and Loving Husband by Anne Bradstreet. Metaphor is one part of figurative languages which is the most common and widely used in literary works such as poem. This study used descriptive qualitative to analyse the data. This study used Parera's theory (2004) to identify the metaphorical type employed in the poem and to interpret the poem's implicit meaning from the reader's perspective. The result showed that 5 from 12 lines of the poem used metaphor which 1 line is anthropomorphic metaphor, and 4 lines are metaphor from abstract to concrete. It can conclude that metaphor from abstract to concrete is the dominant type that used in the poem.

Keywords: Poem, Metaphor, Semantic Perspective

ABSTRAK

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui jenis-jenis metafora yang digunakan dalam puisi dan menganalisis makna metafora yang ditemukan dalam puisi "To My Dear and Loving Husband" karya Anne Bradstreet. Metafora adalah salah satu bagian dari bahasa kiasan yang paling umum dan banyak digunakan dalam karya sastra seperti puisi. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif untuk menganalisis data. Studi ini menggunakan teori Parera (2004) untuk mengidentifikasi jenis metafora yang digunakan dalam puisi dan menginterpretasikan makna implisit puisi dari perspektif pembaca. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa 5 dari 12 baris dalam puisi menggunakan metafora, di mana 1 baris adalah metafora antropomorfik, dan 4 baris adalah metafora dari abstrak ke konkret. Dapat disimpulkan bahwa metafora dari abstrak ke konkret adalah jenis yang dominan digunakan dalam puisi ini.

Kata kunci: Puisi, Metafora, Perspektif Semantik

INTRODUCTION

When conveying messages, there are two methods available. First, the message can be directly communicated using plain language, thereby preventing any confusion in the audience due to unclear meanings or messages. Second, the delivery is either indirect or implied, as the message is expressed in a manner that deviates from ordinary language, introducing ambiguity to the audience's comprehension. Typically, the writer or speaker employs figurative language in such instances. Figurative language serves to delve into the deeper significance of words. Various forms of figurative language include litotes, onomatopoeia, metaphor, personification, allusion, alliteration, irony, hyperbole, simile, synecdoche, and more. Among of those kinds, metaphor is often used in daily communication and in literary work.

Metaphors are used to create impression of poetic and we usually use them in the language of poems or poem. According to Parera (2004) theory, there are several types of metaphors which are; Anthropomorphic metaphor, animal metaphor, metaphor from abstract from concrete, and synesthetic metaphors. Anthropomorphic metaphor compares experiences to things in the metaphor user's body. Animal metaphors compare animal traits to human qualities. Abstract to concrete

metaphors turn abstract ideas into tangible ones. Synesthetic metaphor shifts perceptions between different senses.

The aims of this study is to examine the metaphors present in poems. "To My Dear and Loving Husband" stands out as one of Anne Bradstreet's notable poems. It was published in 1678. The poem explores themes of unconditional devotion, capturing the intense emotional connection between husband and wife. In this poem, Bradstreet used metaphors as the delicate threads weaving a tapestry of profound emotion and spiritual connection. This study aims to find out what types of metaphors found and what the meaning of metaphors conveyed in the poem "To My Dear and Loving Husband" by Anne Bradstreet.

METHOD

The data in this study were taken from a poem entitled "To My Dear and Loving Husband" by Anne Bradstreet. In this study, descriptive qualitative method was used to identify and analyse the metaphors employed in the poem, aiming to understand the meaning conveyed through these metaphors. This method involved applying Parera's (2004) metaphor theory to discern the various types of metaphors present in Anne Bradstreet's poem entitled "To My Dear and Loving Husband."

To gather data, there are some steps proceeded as follows: First, download the poem "To My Dear and Loving Husband by Anne Bradstreet from the Google. Second, read the poem carefully. Third, find out the types of metaphor used in the poem. Fourth, write down the data. Fifth, categorizing the data into distinct sections according to the metaphor types outlined by Parera (2004). Last, identify the underlying implicit meaning communicated in the poem.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Before presenting the findings of the study, this part is initiated by presenting poem. From the presented poem, then the findings of every study question were presented.

To My Dear and Loving Husband *Anne Bradstreet*

If ever two were one, then surely we.
If ever man were loved by wife, then thee.
If ever wife was happy in a man,
Compare with me, ye women, if you can.
I prize thy love more than whole mines of gold,
Or all the riches that the East doth hold.
My love is such that rivers cannot quench,
Nor ought but love from thee give recompense.
Thy love is such I can no way repay;
The heavens reward thee manifold, I pray.
Then while we live, in love let's so persevere,
That when we live no more, we may live ever.

Picture: To My Dear and Loving Husband by Anne Bradstreet Poem

This poem expresses a wife profound and enduring love for her husband. The poem is a heartfelt celebration of the depth and purity of their connection, going beyond earthly measures. It uses religious language to emphasize the sacred nature of their love, suggesting a divine quality to their bond. The poet explores themes of unconditional devotion, capturing the intense emotional connection between husband and wife. There's a strong sense of hope for a love that extends beyond the boundaries of this life, echoing the idea of an eternal and timeless connection. Overall, the poem beautifully combines personal and spiritual elements, offering a timeless exploration of enduring love and commitment.

[Data 1]

Line 5 : **"I prize thy love more than whole mines of gold,"**

Types : Abstract to Concrete Metaphor

From the line **"I prize thy love more than whole mines of gold,"**, the speaker conveys the profound value she places on her husband's love. The metaphor employed in this line juxtaposes the abstract concept of love with the concrete image of "mines of gold." Love, being inherently abstract and emotional, is positioned as more precious and significant than the tangible wealth represented by entire gold mines. By equating the husband's love to something as concrete as mines of gold, Bradstreet elevates the comparison, emphasizing the immeasurable worth of the emotional connection over material riches. This blending of the abstract and the concrete not only underscores the depth of the speaker's feelings but also adds a vivid and relatable dimension to the portrayal of their relationship.

[Data 2]

Line 6 : **"Or all the riches that the East doth hold."**

Types : Anthropomorphic Metaphor

The line **"Or all the riches that the East doth hold"** expresses the idea that the speaker values her husband's love more than all the wealth of the East. This line employs an anthropomorphic metaphor, ascribing human characteristics or qualities to an inanimate object or abstract concept, in this case, the riches of the East. The meaning behind this line lies in the speaker's assertion that her husband's love is more valuable to her than the immense wealth traditionally associated with the East. Historically, the East, particularly during Bradstreet's time, was considered a source of exotic and valuable goods, including spices, silks, and precious metals. By referencing the riches of the East, the speaker is using a metaphor to emphasize the immeasurable worth of her husband's love.

[Data 3]

Line 7 : **"My love is such that rivers cannot quench,"**

Types : Abstract to Concrete Metaphor

The line **"My love is such that rivers cannot quench"** conveys the idea that the speaker's love for her husband is so intense and enduring that it cannot be satisfied or extinguished, even by vast rivers. This line involves an abstract to concrete metaphor, blending the intangible concept of love with the tangible image of rivers. By using this abstract to concrete metaphor, Bradstreet vividly communicates the idea that the speaker's love is powerful and unending, transcending natural obstacles like rivers. The choice of the concrete image of rivers adds a visual and tangible quality to the description, allowing readers to better grasp the strength and depth of the speaker's emotions.

[Data 4]

Line 9 : **"Thy love is such I can no way repay"**

Types : Abstract to Concrete Metaphor

The line **"Thy love is such I can no way repay"** from Anne Bradstreet's "To My Dear and Loving Husband" conveys the idea that the speaker feels unable to fully reciprocate or repay the depth of love she receives from her husband. This line involves an abstract to concrete metaphor, blending the intangible concept of love with the concrete notion of repayment. It communicates a sense of the speaker's humility and acknowledgment that the love she receives is so extraordinary

that it surpasses any attempt at reciprocation. The metaphor highlights the immeasurable and selfless nature of the love between the speaker and her husband.

[Data 5]

Line 10 : **“The heavens reward thee manifold, I pray.”**

Types : Abstract to Concrete Metaphor

The line **"The heavens reward thee manifold, I pray"** expresses the speaker's wish for her husband to be abundantly rewarded by the heavens. This line involves an abstract to concrete metaphor, blending the intangible concept of heavenly reward with the more concrete idea of multiplication or manifold increase. The metaphor enriches the language of the poem, emphasizing the depth of the speaker's feelings and her hope for divine blessings and abundance for her beloved husband.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results above, this study concluded that the poem “To My Dear and Loving Husband” by Anne Bradstreet consists of 5 lines that used metaphor, which 1 line is anthropomorphic metaphor, and 4 lines are metaphor from abstract to concrete. It can be said that the dominant types of metaphor is an abstract to concrete metaphor. By using from abstract to concrete metaphor, the poet tries to express an intangible or complex concept using more tangible and concrete images or comparisons.

From this analysis, this study concluded that metaphors play a crucial role in crafting poem. By incorporating metaphorical meanings, poems become more engaging and facilitate readers in vividly imagining the content. Moreover, poets can convey their emotions effectively, enabling readers to grasp the implicit message within the poem through the depictions or comparisons presented.

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