Research Finding

This research is discussing based on the kinds of theme that have been collected in some poems by Anne Bradstreet. The data of this research are analyzed by four steps; for the first step is identification, read all of those poems were chose and identified the theme that included in poems. Then classification, it is classified the poems based on Waluyo’s theory of kinds of theme. According to Waluyo there are seven kinds of theme. But in this research I found four kinds of theme that include in five poems from Bradstreet that I chosen. There are religious theme, love theme, nature theme and social critics theme.

Poem 1: To My Dear and loving Husband

This poem consists of twelve lines. The purpose in life was to love husband for eternity such as in the first line, said that “If ever two were one, the surely we”. The next line “if ever wife was happy in a man”, “compare with me, ye women, if you can”, in this case as a wife that really happy has a husband compares the love to something that cannot be compared to, it is too strong and too powerful to be measured. “I prize thy love more than whole mines of gold” shows that the love to husband never ever can be matched with anything although with the gold itself. In other words love that I has it is something precious. Also
makes it a point to show there is nothing gonna changes the love to husband. And the words above reinforced with “Or all the rich that the east doth hold”.

In the next line stated “my love is such that rivers cannot quench” shows that compared love with rivers that cannot give satisfy for the thirst. The last line “that when we live no more, we may live ever” in this case, know that the love will always until forever; even though, we are not long live in the world this love still until forever.


This poem above consists of twenty six lines, for the some lines want to analyzed are:
My head, my heart, mine eyes, my life, nay more,
My joy, my magazine, of earthly store,
If two be one, as surely thou and I, (L.1-3)

In this case, stated that everything include the part of body that husband has are mine, no one can get them. This is proved by line “If two be one, as surely thou and I”.

I, like the Earth this season, mourn in black,
My Sun is gone so far in's zodiac,
Whom whilst I 'joyed, nor storms, nor frost I felt,
His warmth such fridged colds did cause to melt. (1.7-10)
In this part of poem above, use the symbolism of nature by referring to husband, as the sun. When summer is gone, winter will arrive. Summer refers to happiness and warmth, while the winter refers to gloomy and cold. When I with him it as always summer. I was happy but if my husband is leaves home, everything becomes winter. I was deeply sadness and wishes for my husband to back soon, I was miss him so much and said “Return, return, sweet sol, from Capricorn”. And the next lines said that:

I weary grow the tedious day so long;
But when thou northward to me shalt return,
I wish my Sun may never set, but burn
Within the Cancer of my glowing breast, (l. 18-21)

These lines shows how I was feel lost when husband is not around and life was always better when he was around. But this situation was conscious that summer cannot be always around and winter will follow soon. Husband’s job was so important and he cannot be always there and must also go away at times. “Till nature’s sad decree shall call thee hence”. One thing that keeps spirit is even though we are far away from each other; we are still be met and also live together.

Poem 3: The Prologue

This poem consists of eight stanzas for the first stanza that wants to analyze is:

To sing of wars, of captains, and of kings,
Of cities founded, commonwealths begun,
For my mean pen are too superior things:
Or how they all, or each, their dates have run;
Let poets and historians set these forth,
My obscure lines shall not so dim their work,  (s.1/1-6)

This stanza above explains that to fight for something like in a war, which a leader or king wants to get the win. So also I was expressed that writing is something that must be fought. In other words, this stanza refers to the society’s belief that the women should not be doing something other.

From school-boys tongues no rhetoric we expect,
Nor yet a sweet consort from broken strings,
Nor perfect beauty where's a main defect:
My foolish, broken, blemished Muse so sings;  (s.3/13-16)

Furthermore, in the next stanza shows that, where said that everyone has ability. Even though they has a liability but still has other ability and they should be explored it. In lines “Nor perfect beauty where’s a main defect” refers to nobody is perfect which is everyone has an ability and liability too. So that from this, the woman can doing something other based on their ability.

I am obnoxious to each carping tongue
Who says my hand a needle better fits.
A poet's pen all scorn I should thus wrong;
For such despite they cast on female wits,
If what I do prove well, it won't advance--
They'll say it was stolen, or else it was by chance.  (s.5/25-30)
In this case, emphasize that women has intelligence. “who says my hand a needle better fits” this statement refers to the words of contradict which society expects women to do household chores rather than writing poetry. And it is also support by statement “If what I do prove well, it won’t advance” and “they’ll say it was stolen, or else it was by chance” shows that I would be do and prove it, even though the society were not accepted it too.

But shure the ancient Greeks were far more mild,
Else of our sex why feignéd they those Nine,
And Posey made Calliope's own child?
So 'mongst the rest they placed the Arts Divine.
But this weak knot they will full soon untie--
The Greeks did naught but play the fools and lie. (s.6/31-36)

In the next stanza above explains that still to fights for what that want to be a women’s ability, rather than taking care of household and said “The greeks did naught but play the fools and lie”, it means that the Greeks just make a play or fools those women who lived in those moment.

Let Greeks be Greeks, and women what they are.
Men have precenency, and still excell.
It is but vain unjustly to wage war,
Men can do best, and women know it well.
Preëminence in all and each is yours--
Yet grant some small acknowledgement of ours. (s.7/37-42)
Furthermore in continues stanza shows that to never give up to fight for it. Where women can doing what they want to do like a man. They are also can do something with their ability. It was supported in line “*Men have precenency, and still excell*” and “Preëminence in all and each is yours”. In other words the women can doing anything based on their ability like a man.

And oh, ye high flownquills that soar the skies,
And ever with your prey still catch your praise,
If e'er you deign these lowly lines your eyes,
Give thyme or parsley wreath; I ask no bays.
This mean and unrefinéd ore of mine
Will make your glistening gold but more to shine. (s.8/43-48)

Actually, they are Puritanism. The roles of women in a puritan society were to be a wives, mother and should be taking care their family in everyday. In other words women were expected to spend all their time to cooking, cleaning, taking care their children and husband every need. So that, in this case shows about criticized to society that women can do something others, it is not just to serve household. They should to express their ability like writing poetry.

Poem 4: Deliverance From Another Sore Fit

This poem consists of seven stanzas and twenty eight lines. For the first stanza that wants to analyze is:

In my distress I sought the Lord
When naught on earth could comfort give,
And when my soul these things abhorred, (s.1/1-3)
In three lines above, told that when living in this world full of hatred and anger, the only one who that shows devote what I felt is God. “And when my soul these things abhorred” this sentence refers to when my soul was full of aversion, I has to complain it to God and also said in last line for the first stanza “Then, Lord, Thou said’st unto me, “Live’”, proved that God was very love me no matter how dreadful and will always give a spirit to live.

   Thou knowest the sorrows that I felt;
   My plaints and groans were heard of Thee,
   And how in sweat I seemed to melt
   Thou help'st and Thou regardest me,  (s.2/5-8)

   That stanza above, I really believed that God hears all of my complaints and sadness that I felt where God always give me strength and help to never give up. In line two said that “My plaints and groans were heard of Thee”; this sentence explain that which God was always in my side and heard my plaints. “Thou help'st and Thou regardest me” shows that God always help me whatever the condition.

   My wasted flesh Thou didst restore,
   My feeble loins didst gird with strength,
   Yea, when I was most low and poor,
   I said I shall praise Thee at length.  (s.3/9-12)

   In those next stanzas above, in my collapsed, God is the one who always loved me; give strength whatever my condition and I was very grateful to God for everything. And also give thanks to God that still cares and loves me in every
time. “Yea, when I was most low and poor” and “I said I shall praise thee at length”. In those sentence shows that when I was in my difficulty, God is always here in my heart.

What shall I render to my God
For all His bounty showed to me?
Even for His mercies in His rod,
Where pity most of all I see. (s.4/13-16)

Stanza above shows about contemplated what should I do to reply all of the love and grace that the God has. And also I was really grateful to God. My whole of life is dedicated to God who is given me strength in every condition.

Thy name and praise to celebrate,
O Lord, for aye is my request.
O grant I do it in this state,
And then with Thee, which is the best. (s.7/25-28)

And the last stanza I was hope to God would be grants my request and the best things for me. I am never to forget to God and always to gratitude.

Poem 5: Contemplation

This poem above consists of fifteen stanzas, for the first stanza that wants to analyze is:

Sometime now past in the autumnal tide,
When phoebus wanted but one hour to bed
The trees all richly clad, yet void of pride
Were gilded o’re by his rich golden head.
Their leaves and fruit seem’d painted but was true
Of green, if red, of yellow, mixed hew. (s.1/1-6)
In stanza above, expressed how much I was admired God’s creation. Which God created everything perfectly, with grow of trees and fruits. In lines three “The trees all richly clad, yet void of pride” shows that I was amazed how the trees are wearing clothes and fruits such as was painted with color variations there are green, red, yellow etc. “Rapt were my senses at this delectable view” shows that the beauty of God’s creation is so amazing and reassured.

I wist not what to wish, yet sure thought I,
If so much excellence abide below,
How excellent is he that dwells on high?
Whose power and beauty by his works we know.
Sure he is goodness, wisdom, glory, light,
That hath this under world so richly dight.
More Heaven than Earth was here, no winter and no night. (s.2/8-14)

Furthermore in continues stanza tells about the most high place by God. God has the power that is able to create all of the content of the earth with luxury.

“That hath this under world so richly dight”, “more heaven than Earth was were, no winter and no night” shows that heaven has the luxury more than the earth, and there we are will be lasting forever.

Thou as a bridegroom from thy chamber rushes,
And, as a strong man, joys to run a race;
The morn doth usher thee, with smiles and blushes,
The Earth reflects her glances in thy face.
Birds, insects, animals with vegetive,
Thy heart from death and dulness doth revive:
And in the darksome womb of fruitful nature dive. (s.5/29-35)
This stanza shows that God’s perfect her creation with birds, insects, animals, and other plants. “Thy heart from death and dulness doth revive” shows that which God can turn who was die. And also God can save someone from the darkness like she said in the last line “And in the darksome womb of fruitful nature dive”.

Art thou so full of glory that no Eye
Hath strength thy shining Rays once to behold?
And is thy splendid throne erect so high
As, to approach it, can no earthly mould?
How full of glory then must thy Creator be!
Who gave this bright light luster unto thee.
Admir’d, ador’d for ever be that Majesty! (s.7/43-49)

The next stanza above explain about, how God has the power and no one can match it. God has a glory that created the earth with the contents. “And is thy splendid throne erect so high” shows that which the God has the highest place and no one can compete it. After that it is continued with the next line “Who gave this bright light luster unto thee” and “Admir’d, ador’d for ever be that Majesty!” two lines above explain that the power of God are created light is so bright and only God was own the Majesty.

Silent alone where none or saw or heard,
In pathless paths I lead my wand'ring feet.
My humble Eyes to lofty Skies I rear'd
To sing some Song my mazed Muse thought meet.
My great Creator I would magnify
That nature had thus decked liberally,
But Ah and Ah again, my imbecility! (s.8/53-56)

Stanza above shows about gratitude to God who created me and other things perfectly.

While contemplating and sing to praise the God. Almighty God and I will always pray for God and praise the God’s greatness.

I heard the merry grasshopper then sing,
The black clad Cricket bear a second part.
They kept one tune and played on the same string,
Seeming to glory in their little Art.
Shall creatures abject thus their voices raise
And their kind resound their maker’s praise
Whilst I, as mute, can warble forth no higher lays? (s.9/57-63)

In the next stanza described the greatness of God, which in every creature creations were enjoyed and also praised of God gratitude. “Seeming to glory in their little Art” this statement proved that the creation of God in the earth was always praised to God.

Our life compare we with their length of days.
Who to the tenth of theirs doth now arrive?
And though thus short, we shorten many ways,
Living so little while we are alive.
In eating, drinking, sleeping, vain delight
So unawares comes on perpetual night
And puts all pleasures vain unto eternal flight. (s.17/113-119)
This case stated that life is not eternal. All of in this world would be return to God. Which will life forever there, even though we life with luxurious, everything would be vain. “So unawares comes on perpetual night”, “And puts all pleasures vain unto eternal flight” those sentences prove that which everything will be lost and it will be eternal in God’s beside.

When I behold the heavens as in their prime
And then the earth (though old) still clad in green,
The stones and trees, insensible of time,
Nor age nor wrinkle on their front are seen.
If winter come and greenness then do fade,
A Spring returns, and they more youthful made,
But Man grows old, lies down, remains where once he's laid. (s.18/120-126)

In continues stanza above tells about everythings in the earth is not eternal. Everything will be dissapear and leave us. Eventhough anyone is come but it will be comes time there all of will be gone forever.

Shall I then praise the heavens, the trees, the earth,
Because their beauty and their strength last longer?
Shall I wish there, or never to had birth,
Because they’re bigger and their bodies stronger?
Nay, they shall darken, perish, fade and die,
And when unmade, so ever shall they lie
But man was made for endless immortality. (s.20/134-140)
In those next stanza above described, which I was in a confusing. To whom I should praise, whether the sky, trees, or earth that shows their beauty and strength are owned by them. And at the end they still would be perish or die. But I believed that the human was created in eternity.

And yet this sinful creature, frail and vain,
This lump of wretchedness, of sin and sorrow,
This weather-beaten vessel wrackt with pain,
Joys not in hope of an eternal morrow.
Nor all his losses, crosses, and vexation.
In weight, in frequentcy and long duration
Can make him deeply groan for that divine Translation. (s.30/204-210)

Furthermore, the next stanza above explain about human being created will be definitely feel the vain, a loss, sorrow, suffering, but all of that will make us strong and convinced to God.

**Discussion**

In this part presents the discussion based on the kinds of theme by Waluyo’s theory. In this research there are four kinds of theme that I found in five poems by Anne Bradstreet’s poems. They are as follow:

1. Religious theme

According to Waluyo’s theory, religious theme is described about religious. Pray to the creature continually, think about the power of creature, proud to the nature that created, in other words it is a kind of theme that can bring people close
to the creature. Furthermore, in this research, I took five poems but I found two themes in those poems. They are:

Firstly, Deliverance From Another Sore Fit, this poem consist of seven stanzas and twenty eight lines. This poem talks about sorrow to God. I believed that the God will always help me. I was never give up to my suffering that I have. Indeed, convinced that the God never leave whatever the condition. “In my distress I sought the Lord” shows that when I am in trouble, I would still look for God in everywhere. God is always provides the strength, comfort, and encouragement. And also, eliminates all suffering and sorrow. “Then, Lord, Thou saids’t unto me, “Live”. God is always there and said you have to get up and “Live”.

Besides that, in the next line “My plaints and groans were heard of Thee” shows that God is always there in every lamentation. God hears of my entire groan which God always helpful and cared for me. It was proved in line “Thou help’st and Thou regardest me”.

“What shall I render to my God”, this line explain that what should I do to repay all of the kindness that God has given to me. And I would give all my life as a gratitude to God. It was proved in line “My life shall dedicated be and to praise in thought, indeed, in word”.

Secondly, the poem that include in religious theme is Contemplation. This poem talk about the power of God is able to create the earth with the contents perfectly. In lines “Their leaves and fruits seem’d painted but was true” shows
that God created the earth is equipped with a beautiful view, trees was thrive like a human who wears clothes, leaves and fruits such as painted in various colors like “Of green, of red, of yellow, mixed hew”. This is makes them looks more beautiful and attractive.

Furthermore, in the next line “Art Thou so full of glory that no Eye” shows that glory owned by God and no one else has it. Besides that, God created the animals as evidence of the perfection of God. “I heard the merry grasshopper them sing” refers to I am very amazed to the God’s creation was created perfectly as proved that they never forget to be grateful and thankful to God. It was proved in line “And in their kind resound their maker’s praise”.

“Living so little we are alive” shows that which we should to use the time as well as possible. Because there will come time when life was going to the end. In life we have to multiply goodness, not just “In eating, drinking, sleeping, vain delight”, “So unawares comes on perpetual night” which time will come a day when we will live forever and everything in this world will be vain.

Meanwhile, in the next line said “Shall I then praise the heavens, the trees, the earth, because their beauty and their strength last longer?” tell about confusion to whom I have to praise, whether the sky, trees, or earth were shows their beauty and at the end all of will be perish.
Based on the explanation above, clearly those poems include in religious theme. Because both of poems above strongly showed about power and believed on the existence of God. So that I can conclude that the theme in poems above is almighty God and only He is worthy to be worshiped.

2. Love theme

Generally love theme can be described by the relationship between two people, man woman, friends, and family. But in this theme, love story in the relationship not only about happiness, but also about sadness. Based on the five poems that I took, I found one poem include in love theme is “To My Dear and Loving Husband”. All of lines in this poem are clearly demonstrated about love to someone who is a husband. This poem begins with three lines to make readers believed that, there is ever a woman that really loves husband unconditionally.

“If ever two were one, the surely we” explain that if there is something that consists of two then it would be one like me and husband. Which both of us always together whatever we are where and the love that we have is more than everything’s including gold mines. It was proved in line “I prize thy love more than whole mines of gold”. Cannot be matched with anything else “Or all the riches that the east doth hold”. I would like to love my husband more than in this world and no one can compete it.
“My love is such that rivers cannot quench” shows that love that I has compared with a river that cannot give satisfy for my thirst. Besides that, the love that I has it was something precious, there is nothing going to changes my love for him. And I believed that this love will be forever until die.

Finally, based on the explanation above, this poem include in love theme. Because, clearly this poem talk about love that someone has to husband. And the theme of poem above is an endless love.

3. Nature theme

Based on the Waluyo’s theory, the poets wants the readers can feel the condition of animal and plants that can bring people back to nature. In this case, I found nature theme in poems that I analyzed is “A Letter to Her Husband, Absent Upon Public Employment” this poem uses the symbolism of nature by referring to husband as the sun. The warmth of the sun was being to happiness “My sun is gone so far in’s zodiac”, my sun in this line refers to husband. And when I am with him it is always summer. When summer is gone, winter soon arrives. Summer can be seen as a time of happiness and warmth. Otherwise, winter on the other hand can be seen as being gloomy and cold, “His warmth such frightened colds did cause to melt” refers to when the warmth is gone it would be changes with colds. When husband is leaves home to work, everything would be winter. I am so sad and wish for my husband to soon return, “Return, return, sweet sol, from Capricorn”.
Furthermore, this situation is inevitable thought, summer cannot be around always and winter soon would be follow. My husband’s job was important; he cannot be there always and also must go away at times. “Till nature’s sad decree shall call thee hence”. One thing that keeps me going was even though we are far away from each other, we are both one. It was proved in last line stated that “I here, thou there, yet both but one”.

From the explanation above, clearly this poem include in nature theme. Because this poem talks about someone who was compared with the season; use the symbolism of nature between summer and winter. Furthermore, I can conclude that the theme from this poem is the anxiety at the turn of the season.

4. Social critics theme

According to Waluyo’s theory, a social critic is known as social criticize because it tells about the unempirical in a society. In this case, I found social critics theme in poem the title is “Prologue”. This poem talks about demonstrated how society criticized women’s accomplishment and should be doing other things such as writing poetry. “For my mean pen are to superior things” shows that something that use to write is pen. So that pen in this line refers to write something else. In other words, writing is a process to explore the skill as well as in writing poetry, prose, etc.
Likewise in the next line “who says my hand a needle better fits” this is another example of sarcastic voice because society expected women to perform household chores rather than write poetry. Therefore, I am never to give up fighting for it. Where women can doing what they want like a man. They are also can do something with their ability. It was supported by line “Men can do best, and women know it well” and also “preeminence in all and each is yours”.

“Will make your glistening gold but more to shine” stated that all of would be fact and shiny. Which the women can do something else not just taking care their family in everyday. So that, clearly this poem include in social critics theme because this poem shows criticized to society that woman can doing something else or expressed their ability like writing poetry. So that, I conclude that the theme of this poem is the freedom to express the ability.