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Personal Analysis Essay

**“To the Virgins, to Make Much of Time**

The poem, “ To the Virgins, to Make Much of Time “ is the best description of the Carpe diem theme which says that the life is beautiful and short so one must enjoy it with full heart before it ends. In his poem, Robert Herrick (1591-1674) suggests that the one who is not committed to anyone and anything should grab the chance and explore the world to enjoy it fully. He says that life is not going to wait for anybody and the one who is not committed should have fun before the will run out of time. The poet motivates the readers by persuading them to pick the flower before it is no longer available and enjoy that sun before it sets. In the end, he explains the age of a virgin by saying that, it is the prime time when you have all the energy to set things up and this age needs to spend well. Herrick also suggests virgins get married on time before the beauty of this age vanishes.

Everyone can easily relate this poem to his/her life. It is the fault of our generations that we do not have time to get married. We only plan to get the best life but fail to implement it practically, thus marrying in our late thirties. In such cases, married life becomes boring and couples end up getting divorced.

A couple who gets married at a young age sees the ups and downs of life together and it helps to develop trust in themselves. They also have an opportunity to have each other’s support. They will get to have healthy children as compared to couples in older ages. Youth fullness comes once in life and sharing that time with a good partner will lead to a happy and prosperous life. The poet tells us about the ways our lives should be. Life is boring when we lose all the energy to go out and enjoy playing with our kids or spend some quality time by going for a morning walk. The time needs to be understood before we become very busy and all our energy drains away.

“**To My Dear and Loving Husband.”**

The poet Anne Bradstreet (1612-1672) was the first American ever to publish a volume of the poem. To My Dear and Loving Husband’ is one of her short poems and she has used very pleasant and clear language. Broadsheet praises her husband with a full heart and says that he is her complement and he completes her. She further says that his love is more important than all the money and wealth in the world. The poetess has showed respect and love for her husband in every possible way. They were living in the mid-seventeenth century when life was hard to live in Massachusetts, so the love and support she got from her husband were more expensive than money and gold. The social setup of that time was that women were superior to their husbands and are portrait as a human that have a task of reproduction, not a partner so Brodsheet is praising her husband who supported her in her tough time and gave respect to her. She represents her relation in a self-effacing way not in a way that they are married but she tried to show the connection in a spiritual way.

She has used the collective word ‘we’ for both of them which shows that she used to consider them one being and that shows so much love. She ended her poem with a beautiful wish that if they managed to love each other like that when they are going to live together forever in heaven. Poet has used the concept of life for different lifespans, like she used it for the life she was living, the life she will be living after death .She is hopeful that she will get the same love from her husband in eternal life as well (Bradstreet).

The poem is not just her story but it reveals the marriage life of many other couples in that time span. She is representing the feeling of every wife who ever loved by her husband.

This poem can be beautifully linked to one’s life. Being the part of a society with increasing numbers of divorces, mistrusts, separation and many other unpleasant situations a person will always want a loving partner. In today’s world, women do not get the support and love from their husbands due to many reasons. Some couples manage to balance their busy schedule and their married life. We can evidence the happy couples with a lot of affection, I personally got interacted with one of such couples and the wife seemed to be the happiest person due to the love that she was getting from her husband. She told me that she feels complete, because she has a better half as that supports her every single day of her life. She said that she realized her love for her husband when her husband stood for her in front of her family, who wants their son to remarry as his present wife was unable to give birth. She says that her husband is the strength she needs to fight against the world and she wants to be with her like forever. So Bradsheet’s poem is not a reflection of her own life but it tells the story of million other women around the globe in different ages and in different time spans.

**References**

Bradstreet, Anne. *To My Dear and Loving Husband*. 2012.

Herrick, Robert. “To the Virgins, to Make Much of Time.” *Arthur QuillerCouch, Ed*, 1919.