

He might of all justly bereft,  
20 But yet sufficient for us left.  
When by the ruins oft I past,  
My sorrowing eyes aside did cast,  
And here and there the places spy  
Where oft I sat and long did lie:

25 Here stood that trunk and there that chest,  
There lay that store I counted best.  
My pleasant things in ashes lie,  
And them behold no more shall I.  
Under thy roof no guest shall sit,  
30 Nor at thy table eat a bit.

No pleasant tale shall e'er be told,  
Nor things recounted done of old.  
No candle e'er shall shine in thee,  
Nor bridegroom's voice e'er heard shall be.  
35 In silence ever shalt thou lie;  
Adieu, Adieu, all's vanity.<sup>4</sup> **D**

Then straight I 'gin my heart to chide,<sup>5</sup>  
And did thy wealth on earth abide?  
Didst fix thy hope on mold'ring dust?  
40 The arm of flesh didst make thy trust?  
Raise up thy thoughts above the sky  
That dunghill mists away may fly. **E**

Thou hast an house on high erect,  
Framed by that mighty Architect,  
45 With glory richly furnishéd,  
Stands permanent though this be fled.  
It's purchaséd and paid for too  
By Him who hath enough to do. **F**

A price so vast as is unknown  
50 Yet by His gift is made thine own;  
There's wealth enough, I need no more,  
Farewell, my pelf,<sup>6</sup> farewell my store.  
The world no longer let me love,  
My hope and treasure lies above.

**D FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE**

What does the use of **personification** in lines 29–36 reveal about the speaker's feelings for her house?

**E CLARIFY MEANING**

Use contemporary vocabulary to restate the **archaic language** in lines 37–40. What does the speaker chide, or scold, herself for?

**F FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE**

Reread lines 43–48. What two things does Bradstreet compare in the **metaphor** in these lines?

4. **all's vanity**: an allusion to Ecclesiastes 1:2 in the Bible—"All is vanity," meaning that all is temporary and meaningless.

5. **chide**: to scold mildly so as to correct or improve.

6. **pelf**: wealth or riches, especially when dishonestly acquired.