

A doll's house and goethe's faust



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The settings of Ibsen's A Doll's House and Goethe's Faust are extremely important to the plot of the plays. While the many natural settings of Faust contribute to the mood of the play, Ibsen's single setting of the living room in A Doll's House is symbolic to his play. Without the proper settings for both of these plays their effects would not be as great and the mood of the plays would be altered. The entire play of A Doll's House takes place in the single setting of the living room. This room symbolizes the society that Nora and Torvald live in. This is the room that all people coming into the house see and judge the family by. The text refers to the living room as being "furnished with taste" and also states that the living room contains a piano. The reason that the living room is furnished well and includes a piano is because the Helmer's want others to see that they have taste and can afford these things. The entire play is about society and how women should act in society and by placing the entire play in the environment of the living room, a room associated with society, Ibsen strengthens his theme. Goethe must use many different settings to tell his story because he wants to express the many different moods of the play. The scene where Faust learns of Margaret's imprisonment is set in a dark, gloomy environment, which strengthens its affect. The whole play could not be shown in this setting because there are some scenes, like the garden scene, that are meant to be happy. Therefore, to enhance the different moods Goethe wishes to convey, the play has a variety of settings. The setting of a play is very important, especially because it is not only being read, but it is also being seen. When an audience views the different scenes of a play, they are greatly affected by them. The setting of a single scene, if modified, could greatly affect the

theme or moods associated with that play, which proves that settings are important.