

# Literary forms

Literature



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

Drama is driven by action and plot, just as short stories are, which can be seen in many fairytales or children's fables, like Cinderella (Perrault); poetry, on the other hand, is more driven by expression. Poetry and short stories rely on imagery and point of view to display their messages, but drama depends more on the story itself. Yet another greatest difference between these three literary forms is their length: drama is often the longest, followed by the short story. Poetry, though, compresses its ideas and tends to follow specific rhythmic patterns to convey the message or the detail in fewer lines, as *She dwelt among the untrodden ways* (Wordsworth 71) by William Wordsworth; many poems, with some exceptions, such as *Beowulf*, do not exceed a page. Due to the length of poems, the poet has to reveal as much as they can while they are able to. Drama and short stories leave room for other elements to be displayed, such as theme and setting. Two other vast differences between these literary elements can be seen in their settings and in their genres. Drama is capable of taking place where the author decides, even in a location that does not exist or is based on a real place. A short story has a real setting that allows people to be able to picture the location. Poetry does not have any rules in regard to setting, but they are often real places that are brought to life to the reader through the use of imagery. Likewise, each literary form has its own designated genres, with drama claiming both comedy and tragedy, though short stories often play around with different genres. Poetry, always the one to be different, once again relies on imagery and expression to rely on the tone or genre of the poem.