

“The Doll’s House”

Jerica: In this story, Mansfield portrays the attitude and distinction of the different social classes. The Burnell children were given a Doll house by Mrs. Hay; all of the children were thankful and excited about their new elaborate toy. Kezia was especially interested in the lamp that was included in the house. Just as any other kid would be, the children were ready to show their friends their new trinket. Two girls in particular, the Kelvey sisters, were friends with Kezia, and they wanted to see the doll house as well. However, because of there low class, Kezia’s mother insists in not conversing with them. The Burnell children’s mother’s attitude influences the children in an awful way. Nevertheless, Kezia fought back against her mother to do what she felt was right, and she showed the Kelvey’s sisters the house anyways. She put a smile on the girls faces, which was quite unusual for them. Mansfield did a fine job on portraying the stereotypical view of an aristocratic family, but through her story she taught a lesson that all individuals must offer a polite performance and behavior to all mankind. I think this was a good story for all ages, and it would be a good lesson taught to young children. What do you guys think? Do you guys have the same stereotypical thought on how wealthy act?

Jessica: Thanks for that summary Jerica! Although I think this concept might be difficult for children to fully understand. I think Mansfield is trying to show the injustices and cruelties that can be seen between classes. I wouldn't like to be treated differently just because I may not have enough money as someone else. What do you guys think?

Kubo: Thanks for the summary Jer. I think what Mansfield is trying to portray is that everyone, whether poor or rich, should just get along. We are all one people in God’s eyes and it doesn’t matter about your social status. What really matters is focusing on God’s plan for you. I personally think that the story should be made for kids in intermediate to high school. The wording and the understandability of

the story are more for older children. I am pretty sure a five year old would not understand what's going on. And I do not have the same stereotypical thought that the characters in this story have. Like I said above, we are all people of God no matter our social status. Therefore whether poor or rich we should love each other and serve God.

Shayne: Jerica, your summary helped me to understand the story a little better. Thanks for that! Also, Jess and Kubo, I agree with both of your analyses of the story. The story clearly demonstrates the idea of discrimination between two groups of different classes. This story can be applied to the lives of people in an enormous age range, namely from middle school all the way to senior citizens. People can always be reminded to treat others equally, no matter how different or poor the individual may be. I know that God created all people in His own image, which gives everyone an equal importance. A key verse that can support the equality of all people can be found in Galatians 3:28, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." Since all people are one in Christ Jesus, everyone should be treated equally.