

Two Descriptions of the Same Room

What a generous sized room it is with its wood panelling at the bottom of the walls. On the upper it is painted smoky grey and the ceiling a wondrous off-white. Opposite the door is a grand fireplace having a wooden mantle and a cast iron grate. There is warmth in the room and the grate is empty; save for a few sheets of crumpled newspaper. A wonderful landscape oil painting in a gilt frame is hanging above. The wall on the left is adorned with a bay window, letting the morning light stream onto the beautiful leaf green patterned Wilton rug.

One corner of the room is dominated by an outstanding walnut grandfather clock. It's pendulum hypnotically swinging back and forth in time with its rhythmic ticking. Another corner by a baby grand piano in walnut, topped with a photograph of an elderly gentleman with side whiskers.

There is comforting aroma of wholesome cooking wafting throughout.

Oh dear, another loud noise of one of those new fangled petrol engine horseless carriages manoeuvring at speed along the roadway.

It's a large room with old wood panelling at the bottom of all the walls; the paintwork is chipped and exceptionally dirty.

The top part of the room painted grey with aerosol graffiti.

The ceiling is heavily nicotine stained. Opposite the door is a fire surround, empty lager cans overflowing in the grate.

The broken glass of the bay window scattered around the wooden floor.

There are gaping holes in the wall opposite the window, exposing the skeletal structure beneath.

The air is dominated by a stench of urine.

The loud revving of engines and the squeal of hand-brake turns is coming from outside.