

### The Judgement to Hide the Feelings of Loneliness in “Miss Brill”

“Miss Brill” an ambivalent short story by Katherine Mansfield depicts the pure and truthful meaning of loneliness.

Our thoughts fathom the way we act and perceives the way we feel. Miss Brill is one of the main character that has powerful thoughts that leads to discovering that she is indeed, lonely. She enters a park, full of life and music, however, she sits on her own and observes the people and concentrate on their lives, “...Miss Brill always looked forward to the conversation.” (p. 1) She enters the park, every Sunday, to find out about other people and their wellbeing. The majority of the story, no one expresses the tendency to strike a conversation with Miss Brill as she was judging other people, “They were odd, silent, nearly all old, and from the way they stared they looked as though they’d just come from dark little rooms or even-even cupboards!” (p. 2) Miss Brill imagines that the people at the park are boring and their lives are extremely dull hence the phrase, “...they looked as though they’d just come from dark little rooms...”. (p. 2) However, we discover that even though she finds them “old” and “silent” they actually “... talked around her.” (p. 1) The quote signifies that she is truly lonely and that her life does not involve a lot of human interaction. Equally, her judgement of other people seems to be depicting the truth about her life, as she is in fact the one returning home to the “...dark little room-her room like a cupboard-...” it shows that her judgement is merely there to cover the fact that she is actually the one who’s life is “...odd, silent, nearly all old...”. (p. 2).

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In a crowded room or a vibrant park, we feel the presence of people and conversations, but often, we feel empty and become a small part of the loneliness, just like Miss Brill.