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With reference to ONE of Gilgamesh, Oedipus the King, Pride and Prejudice, or Ghost World discuss the importance of setting. How do the physical and social circumstances in which the protagonist finds him or herself define his or her character? Does it mirror his or her condition? Is it something he or she must escape in the quest for self? Or is it that to which he or she must return?

Elizabeth’s family is of a lower social ranking, and she feels that she is weighed down by her family. Her mother often embarrasses her for her lack of intelligence, and her younger sisters are reckless and lack the manners of the upper class. Because of this, Elizabeth feels that others are quick to judge herself by her status and family and ironically herself is quick to judge others. From the first time Elizabeth meets Darcy, she does not like him because he appears arrogant and obnoxious in his manners and actions. He refuses to dance with Elizabeth saying “quote here” and Elizabeth despises him afterwards for the majority of the story.

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