

Student Samples of Settings

Today is the day! After weeks of waiting, I finally came to the fun-filled amusement park. There is not a single whispering gust of wind and the trees stand still as the ground. The concrete holding my feet is burning from the insufferable heat raging from the flaming sun. Off in the distance, the carousel passes its lively, high-spirited music to the various areas of the park. Where shall I go first? Which ride will first be privileged to provide the most joyous of experiences for me? I look up to see the Big Dipper roller coaster ride, magnifying and lighting the park up with its gleaming magnitude. The blood-curdling screams of small, innocent children tingle my neck with excitement.

It was a dark night. The fog partially covered the moonlight. What was left of the light shone on the marshes. The only sounds were the frogs croaking and the 11:15 train passing by. Seven-year-old Eddie quickly got off the stopped train. He was wearing rags as he silently walked down the gravel path and vaguely heard echoing footsteps in the empty night trailing behind him. Cautiously, he looked back. He saw nothing but heard rattling in the bushes. The thought that someone was watching him sent shivers down his spine. He hoped he would be at his grandmother's soon. As he continued on in the pitch black, again he heard the footsteps, so he forged on speeding his step. He turned quickly into a dark abandoned alley, faced a shadow of a man, and knew he would meet his death. Eddie screamed out, but only the silence called back.

The aromatic breeze wafted through the park on that perfect July morning. The calm buzz of couples courting and children playing and laughing was shattered by the off-beat barking of a stray dog. The dog's cries soon died off as he raced toward the dike at the end of the park. The sounds of the sailboats' splashing echoed off the lake and dominated all sounds for just an instant, before the enthusiastic chit-chat resumed once again.