

Kristin in A Dream Play

"I'm pasting, I'm pasting!" repeats the housekeeper Kristin in A Dream Play when she glues up all the cracks in the house. The daughter experiences a feeling of suffocation and feels trapped "You're shutting out the air! I'm suffocating!..." while the Lawyer encourages Kristin "That's right Kristin; heat costs money!".

Despite Kristin's unassuming role, her lines have great symbolic significance for the drama. The dialogue between Kristin, the Daughter and the Lawyer is emotional where The lawyer's cold retorts, which Kristin reinforces, are in sharp contrast to the daughter's anxious and anguished feelings. Kristin's repeating, "I'm pasting, I'm pasting!" symbolizes not only a marriage in decay, but also a cold and "suffocating" world, and the significance of Kristin's role thus becomes so much more than just a housekeeper's preparations for winter.

Lifting human suffering and sadness is something fine and beautiful, I think. Suffering is part of human life, but at the same time so difficult to describe.

Kristin is probably experiencing a form of suffering herself as she seals up the cracks in the house, while at the same time she wants to give the Daughter an experience of suffering. The suffering itself has many faces and portraying it through a symbolic language makes the essence of suffering even more multifaceted. The times I've seen A dream play it is usually Kristin who made the biggest impression.

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