

## Chapter XVII: The Hotel *The Blithedale Romance*

Upon Coverdale's return to the city, he has time to ponder things. One conclusion he comes to is that, "It is likewise to be remarked, as a general rule, that there is far more of the picturesque, more truth to native and characteristic tendencies, and vastly greater suggestiveness, in the back view of a residence, whether in town or country, than in its front."

Do you agree with his assessment? Can this same idea be applied on a broader scale? Write an essay in which you explain Coverdale's statement, and apply it to the themes of the novel as a whole.