

A Tale of Two Houses

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...¹”

It was really a tale of two houses. The best of times included the great memories of family and the activities that made us who we are. The worst of times is the loss of this familiar² environment.

One house was kept in the family’s possession, and inside it were stored many of the previous generation’s possessions. This allowed the present generation time to think about them and have them “migrate” to the proper recipients – those in the family that would most appreciate these things.

The other house was sold after the generation that bought it was moved to another place. Their possessions were reduced as quickly as possible and the house put up for a quick sale, and many valuable things were lost or given to family members who didn’t really appreciate them.

Was this a far, far, better thing to do³?

1. A Tale of Two Cities, Charles Dickens (opening)
2. Note the connection between the words “familiar” and “family”
3. see A Tale of Two Cities, Charles Dickens (closing)