

**THE INFLUENCE OF FAMILY CONFLICTS TOWARDS JEFF
GREENE'S PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT IN CYNTHIA VOIGT'S *A
SOLITARY BLUE***

AN UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

Presented as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Degree of *Sarjana Sastra*
in English Letter



By

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Student Number: 164214065

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LETTERS
FACULTY OF LETTERS
UNIVERSITAS SANATA DHARMA
YOGYAKARTA
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Yosaphat Made Dharma Suryanata

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ABSTRACT

SURYANATA, YOSAPHAT MADE DHARMA. (2020). **The Influence of Family Conflicts towards Jeff Greene's Personality Development in Cynthia Voigt's *A Solitary Blue***. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Universitas Sanata Dharma.

Each individual has its own personality. The personality of each person will develop or even change as the time passes by. There are several factors that influence the personality development of a person. In Cynthia Voigt's *A Solitary Blue*, Jeff Greene's personality is influenced by his family conflicts. The family conflicts that Jeff Greene has to endure has shaped Jeff Greene's personality development.

There are three objectives of this thesis. The first objective is to find out the characteristics of Jeff Greene before experiencing family conflicts. The second objective is to find out the influence of family conflicts towards Jeff Greene's personality development. The third objective is to find out the personality of Jeff Greene after experiencing family conflicts described in the novel.

To analyze and to find the answers of the three objectives above, the researcher uses three theories and one approach of study. The approach used is psychological approach by Rohrberger and Wood. The theories used are theory of character and characterization by Murtagh John Murphy, personality development by Hurlock and family conflicts by Fitzpatrick and Noller. The researcher uses library research in order to find the data needed for this thesis. Primary data consist of the novel which will be analyzed, which is *A Solitary Blue* by Cynthia Voigt. The secondary data of this undergraduate thesis are books, PDF, internet and e-books.

There are three findings of this thesis. The first finding reveals the characteristics of Jeff Greene before experiencing family conflicts. Those characteristics are cautious and diligent. The second finding shows the influence of family conflicts towards Jeff Greene's personality development. The family conflicts between his parents are influencing Jeff Greene's personality development in a bad way. The family conflicts between his parents make Jeff Greene lack of attention and love he needed to develop his personality in a good way. As a result, because the influence of family conflicts, the personality of Jeff Greene is starting to develop in a bad way. The third finding reveals the characteristics of Jeff Greene after he is experiencing the family conflicts. After having the effects of family conflicts, Jeff Greene feels disconnected to the world and do not have motivation to be diligent anymore. As a result, now Jeff Greene has apathetic and lazy characteristics.

Keywords: family conflicts, influence, personality development

ABSTRAK

SURYANATA, YOSAPHAT MADE DHARMA. (2020). **The Influence of Family Conflicts towards Jeff Greene's Personality Development in Cynthia Voigt's *A Solitary Blue***. Yogyakarta: Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Sastra. Universitas Sanata Dharma.

Setiap individu memiliki kepribadiannya masing-masing. Kepribadian setiap orang akan berkembang atau bahkan berganti seiring waktu. Ada beberapa faktor yang mempengaruhi perkembangan kepribadian dari seseorang. Dalam novel Cynthia Voigt *A Solitary Blue*, kepribadian Jeff Greene dipengaruhi karena masalah keluarganya. Masalah keluarga yang Jeff Greene harus lewati telah mengganti kepribadian Jeff Greene.

Ada tiga tujuan dalam skripsi ini. Tujuan pertama adalah untuk menemukan gambaran dari kepribadian Jeff Greene sebelum mengalami masalah keluarga. Tujuan kedua adalah untuk menemukan pengaruh dari masalah keluarga terhadap perkembangan kepribadian Jeff Greene. Tujuan ketiga adalah untuk menemukan gambaran kepribadian Jeff Greene setelah mengalami masalah keluarga.

Untuk menganalisis dan menemukan jawaban dari tujuan-tujuan diatas, peneliti menggunakan tiga teori dan satu pendekatan studi. Pendekatan studi yang dipakai adalah pendekatan psikologi oleh Rohrberger dan Wood. Teori-teori yang dipakai adalah teori karakter dan karakterisasi dari Murtagh John Murphy, teori pengembangan kepribadian dari Hurlock dan masalah keluarga dari Fitzpatrick dan Noller. Peneliti menggunakan metode kepenelitian kepustakaan untuk menemukan data yang diperlukan dalam skripsi. Data primer terdiri dari novel yang akan dianalisis, yaitu novel *A Solitary Blue* karangan Cynthia Voigt. Data sekunder dari skripsi ini adalah buku, PDF, internet dan buku elektronik.

Ada tiga penemuan dalam skripsi ini. Penemuan pertama mengungkapkan kepribadian dari Jeff Greene sebelum mengalami masalah keluarga. Kepribadian itu adalah berhati-hati dan rajin. Penemuan kedua memperlihatkan pengaruh dari masalah keluarga terhadap pengembangan kepribadian Jeff Greene. Masalah keluarga diantara kedua orang tuanya mempengaruhi perkembangan kepribadian Jeff Greene ke arah yang buruk. Masalah keluarga diantara kedua orang tuanya membuat Jeff Greene kekurangan perhatian dan kasih sayang yang dia butuhkan untuk mengembangkan kepribadiannya ke arah yang baik. Hasilnya, karena pengaruh dari masalah keluarga, kepribadian dari Jeff Greene berkembang ke arah yang buruk. Penemuan ketiga mengungkapkan kepribadian dari Jeff Greene setelah mengalami masalah keluarga. Setelah terkena dampak dari masalah keluarga, Jeff Greene merasa tidak peduli lagi dengan dunia dan tidak memiliki motivasi lagi untuk menjadi rajin. Hasilnya, sekarang Jeff Greene memiliki kepribadian apatis dan pemalas

Kata Kunci: family conflicts, influence, personality development

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Family is the first layer of humans' life. The definition of family can be different based on its culture, social or economic. But what they have in common is that family is a home to each individual where they can feel safe. The definition of family maybe has been evolved as the time passes by but its importance always remains.

Family takes importance role in the cycle of life a person will undergo. In his famous book titled *A Theory of Human Motivation*, Abraham Maslow stated that human beings need to fulfill five aspects of life in order to have a proper life. Those aspects of life are physical, security, social, ego and self-actualization. Physical is the need of having food, water, air and health. Security is the need for shelter, safety and stability. Social is the need for being loved and belonging. Ego is the need for self-esteem, power and recognition. Self-actualization is the need for development and creativity. Then he stated that the aspects of physical, security and social, which are the most important, can only be provided by family. (1943, pp. 57-60)

Family is also a place where a person belongs to and in the family as well a person's principle of life is constructed. The way a person behave in this world is being influenced first by his family. Basically, family is the foundation of one

's personality. Whether a person will have a good attitude or bad attitude is significantly influenced by their family. Family affection can give a significant good effect towards a person personality but family conflicts can give the opposite effects. Those effects are important towards a person's personality development.

This research focuses on how family conflicts influence an individual personality development. The individual that is being the object of this research is Jeff Greene from Cynthia Voigt's *A Solitary Blue*. In the novel, Jeff has undergone a lot of change because of his family and its conflicts. From when he was a child, Jeff had to undergo so many family conflicts such as having his mother leaving him. Because of that, he had to suffer so many changes in his personality. The vivid portrayal of the way his family conflicts influences Jeff's personality development is the reason why this character is suitable in this research.

Jeff's mother had conflicts with Jeff's father, that's why she is leaving. However, Jeff always thinks that his mother disappearance is because of him. As a result, Jeff is haunted by the imagination of his father leaving him also. Jeff is always scared and he feels insecure when he talks to his father. He always thinks that a small mistake would make his father leave him.

According to Walter Mischel in *Personality and Assessment*, personality is a distinctive pattern that differentiate one person towards the other. It is including the nature of thoughts, behavior, feeling and emotion which are constructed to be a psychological mechanism of a person's mind. Analyzing a person's personality means analyzing what a person will do in some circumstances. When one can

analyze perfectly a person personality, he can predict what that person will react to some situations. (1968, pp. 30-37)

To be able to understand a person's personality, one needs to see what that person has gone through. A personality of a person can change as he grows up. Some situations and events can change a person's personality. Whether it is bad or good, certain circumstances can influence a person personality. Some treatments of other person can massively influence a person personality. But it is not only the actions of other that can change a person's personality. The attitude and the way a person react to certain events are also matters in shaping a person' personality.

The key aspect of this study is the emotional relationship between parents and children. This study will show the effects of family conflicts towards a child's personality development portrayed in the novel. The family conflicts influence tremendous effect towards a children personality. It is supported by Roger Gould, an American writer in *Transformation* "deep inside us, we know what every family therapist knows: the problems between the parents become the problems within the children." (1978, p 69)

The numbers of family conflicts reported have grown each day. From when I was a child, I have found a lot of family conflicts in my neighborhood as well. It makes the children whose suffer family conflicts get negative effects towards their life in general. They tend to have bad grades and tend to have behavior problem such as anti-social behavior problems. Because of that the writer wants to conduct a study in this particular field. By studying the influence of family conflicts towards Jeff's personality development, it is hoped that the

researcher gets the necessary information needed to answer the formulated problems.

B. Problem Formulation

There are three problems formulated in this research. They are:

1. What are the characteristics of Jeff Greene before experiencing the family conflicts?
2. How do the family conflicts influence Jeff Greene's personality development?
3. How is the personality of Jeff Greene described after experiencing the family conflicts?

C. Objectives of the Study

The focus on this study is to reveal and to observe the influence of family conflicts towards Jeff Greene's personality development. More precisely, there will be three main objectives of this study. The first objective is to find out the characteristics of Jeff Greene before experiencing family conflicts. The second objective is to discover how the family conflicts which Jeff Greene has undergone influence his personality development. The third objective is to find out the personality of Jeff Greene after experiencing family conflicts.

D. Definition of Terms

There are three terms needed to be explained in this study to avoid ambiguity and misunderstanding. They are:

Family Conflicts, according to Jacob Borst in *A Systematic Review of the Effects of Family Conflict: Focusing on Divorce, Infidelity, and Attachment Style*,

is defined as any conflict that happens within a family. This could include conflicts between each member of the family against each other such as husband against his wife, his children, his grandmother etc. This conflict is vary immensely and often resulting negative effects towards family's harmony. Family conflict can also give destructive effects towards a person's personality. (2015, p 12)

Personality, according to Randy Larsen and David Buss in *Personality Psychology: Domains of Knowledge About Human Nature*, is defined as collection and composition of psychological traits and instruments of human beings that effects his or her interactions and modifications to the psychological, social and physical environment surrounding them. (2001, p 14)

Personality Development, according to Swami Vivekananda in *Personality development*, is defined as a result of behavior on how a person react to circumstance he or she has done in the past. It grows constantly as an individual evoke in the process. (1999, p. 8)

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

A. Review of Related Studies

Like previously mentioned before, family is an important thing in human life and its interaction between each family member, whether it is good or bad interaction, builds up a person personality. That's why there are a lot of studies which have been conducted in this particular field. This part will show two studies which are having similarities to this research. The first study is titled "*a Study on the Influence of Society and Family toward Francie`s Character Development in Betty Smith`s A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*". The second study is titled '*Economies of Childness in Cynthia Voight`s Homecoming*'.

"*A Study on the Influence of Society and Family toward Francie`s Character Development in Betty Smith`s A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*" (2007) by Luke Anggraini aims to analyze the influence of society and family toward main character's personality development using psychological approach. Anggraini is using three theories in her undergraduate thesis. They are theory of character and characterization, theory the relation between literature and psychology and theory of psychology.

The result of her undergraduate thesis shows that Francie, the main character which is being observed, is becoming a good person because of his family as well as his society. The constant affection given by his family and society develops Francie to become a person with pride and confidence. The result

of Anggraini's undergraduate thesis also shows that in the end, Francie always loves her family.

The similarities between this research and Anggraini's undergraduate thesis are that both studies are analyzing the influence of family towards main character's personality development. Both studies are also using same approach which is psychological approach. The differences are that Anggraini's undergraduate thesis is observing not only family, but also the influence of society towards the main character's personality development. The difference also lies in the result of the thesis. The main character which is being observed in Anggraini's undergraduate thesis shows that end the end she loves her family whereas the main character's which is being observed in this study, in the end, doesn't truly love all of his family's member.

"Economies of Childness in Cynthia Voight's Homecoming" (2017) by Sarah Hardstaff's aims to show how adult influence child displayed in Cynthia Voight's *Homecoming*. This research demonstrates the concept which points out that ideas of children are limited and created by adult. The childhood experiences, which is important thing in a child's life, play important part of this concept.

The similarities between Sarah Hardstaff's paper and this undergraduate thesis are that both studies show that Cynthia Voight novels are often displaying the concept in which children ideas are imbued by adult. Moreover, those ideas are sometimes being turned into something advantageous to the children. Both Sarah Hardstaff's paper and this undergraduate thesis are also analyzing the main character's of each novel personality.

The difference between Sarah Hardstaff's paper and this undergraduate thesis lies in the result in which the children perceived adult's ideas. In the Sarah Hardstaff's paper, children are receiving adult's ideas without filtering it. They merely just copying adult's ideas. While in this undergraduate thesis' result show that adult ideas are being filtered and improved by children.

B. Review of Related Theories

1. Theory Character and Characterization

According to Rene Welek and Austin Warren in *Theory of Literature*, characters can be defined as the element of literature which represents a living fantasy figure to construct a novel storyline. This figure is having own unique personality and traits. Those unique personality and traits are what usually being called characterization (1956, p. 23).

Moreover, M.J Murphy in his book titled *Understanding Unseens: an Introduction to English poetry and the English Novel for Overseas Students* (1972, pp.160-174) divides the way personality and the characterization of a character described in the novel into nine ways. Those nine ways are:

a. Personal Description

The personality of a character can be determined by the character's appearance. The body type of the character, the color of eyes, hair, skin of the character and the clothes used by the character can determine the characters personality. By giving a clear image of appearance on the characters, the author tries to show the personality of the characters towards the reader.

Moreover, it can be said that a characters' appearance is the reflection of their personality. Murphy in his book also explains that the feature or the appearance of a character is influencing on how other characters view the character. For example, a character neatly dressed in a suit is often being respected by other character.

b. Character as Seen by Other

The personality and the characterization of a character can be seen by other characters' perspectives and opinions. An author of a novel often reveals a personality of a character by showing on how other characters see the character. By using other characters' perspectives and opinions, the author gives the reader more range of vision towards a character's personality.

This method also shows a type of personality and characterization that cannot be described by the character on his own. A character in the novel sometimes is portrayed to see their self as having a good personality and always justifying the things that he/she did. But other characters may have different views on that character's personality and cannot justify on what that character did.

c. Speech

Personality of a character can be seen by his speech towards given circumstances. The speech of characters in certain circumstances can easily reveal their personality. The way character reacts towards circumstance with his speech gives a clear view of their personality.

Certain circumstances often force character to give a quick reaction. A character does not have time to think and what they said is the reflection of their

personality. Moreover, the level of politeness in a characters' speeches can also reveal their personality.

d. Past life

Past life of a character can be used to help the reader finding a clue to a character personality. The past life of a character can be showed by the author or by the direct comment of another character. The things that the characters did in the past or their behavior in the past does have influence to the present time characters' personality.

The personality of a character in the present is the product of their past life. Whether it has bad affect or good affect, past life of a character is the element that creates the personality of a character.

e. Conversation of Other.

A character's personality can be revealed through the conversation of other character. Other characters in the novel through their conversation often gives a description of character's personality. Conversation of other through gossip or a rumor in the novel is one of the ways the author of the novel giving clue to a character's personality through conversation of other.

Observing conversation of other characters is an important aspect to reveal a character's personality. It is because sometimes the way other characters through its conversation gives a clear vivid image of a character's personality.

f. Reactions

The personality of a character can be seen by how she or he reacts to different circumstances. A character may make a good reaction towards a big

problem but make a bad reaction towards a simple problem. The way a character reacts to certain circumstances may be the most important element when we want to reveal a character's personality and characterization.

Revealing a character's personality through their reactions is not as easy as it looks. A character's reaction towards a circumstance is influenced by many factors. In order to correctly reveal a character's personality, one must observe all of the factors that makes a character react to a situation as well.

g. Direct comments

The author can describe a character's personality through comments directly to give clear insight of the character's personality. In some cases, the author may give an instant description of a character's personality. Observing a character's personality through direct comments by the author is the safest way to correctly reveal a character's personality.

h. Though

The personality of a character can be seen by what the character is thinking. Observing the thought of characters is an important aspect to reveal characters' characteristics. It is because by observing their thoughts, we can see the true intention of characters when they do some of their actions.

Characters in the novel may do some good deeds but their intentions may be not. Their intentions revealed through their thoughts are the clue to reveal a character's true personality. Thus, it is important to observe characters' thoughts.

i. Mannerism

The character's manner, habits and idiosyncrasies can reveal a character's personality. Some characters may be given some kind of unique manners or an odd hobbit. That uniqueness is the element of mannerism in subconscious level that can be observed to reveal a character's personality.

2. Personality Development

Each person has personality which will develop as the time passes by. This personality will create a pattern of constant change and it will grow to shape a person's behavior. Personality development according to Swami Vivekananda in *Personality development*, is defined as the outcome of that change and it is the result of behavior on how a person react to circumstance he or she has done in the past. It grows constantly as an individual evoke in the process. (1999, p. 8)

According to Hall and Lindzey in *Theories of Personality*, each person's personality is unique. Each person has distinctive personality which sets him apart from all other persons. This personality is represented as 'the essence' of man. (1981, p. 9)

According to Hurlock in his book titled *Personality Development*, personality development of a person is influenced by their surrounding such as their family and the society they live in. Personality will develop each time a person receives an interaction directly or indirectly with other people. Several circumstances will also develop a person's personality. Primally, family is the major entity which takes a huge part in shaping a person's personality (1974, pp. 200-267)

Basically, according to Hurlock, personality of a person is developed through the process of imitating what a person perceives in their surroundings. In most cases, especially when a person is still a child, they tend to imitate what their parents do. That's why family and the parents of a person are so important to the personality development of a person. (1974, pp. 290-311)

Those statement above is being supported by John Janeway Conger and Jerome Kagan in their book titled *Child Development and Personality*. They stated that there have been numerous studies of the relationship between family and parental attitudes towards the personal and social adjustment of children. Family is the instrument to shape children goal's-oriented activity, motivation and internalization of personality of children. (1974, pp. 290-311)

3. Family Conflict

Family is a place where an individual grows up. Positive affect such as love and affection are given by family but sometimes family can create negative impact such as creating conflict. Family Conflicts, according to Jacob Borst in *A Systematic Review of the Effects of Family Conflict: Focusing on Divorce, Infidelity, and Attachment Style*, is defined as any conflict that happens within a family. This family conflict can damage mutual relationship between each member of the the family. (2015, pp 12-15)

According to Fitzpatrick and Noller in *Communication in Family Relationship*, the cause of family conflicts usually come from two issues, content issues and relationship issues. Content issues in family conflicts are the issues related to financial problem and freedom. Difference in opinion or belief and a

quarrel can be categorized as content issues as well. While relationship issues are related to lack of loving emotions. Other issues such as implicit agreement about things or the demand for role flexibility and interchangeability are also often occurred in these modern days. (1993 pp. 24-34)

According to Jenny Reynolds and Catherine Houlston in *Parental conflict: outcomes and interventions for children and families*, these conflicts created by family can do harm especially to the children and its personality. They stated that conflicts are normal part of family life and sometimes it is necessary for a family to have conflicts. However, they also stated that if those conflicts are handled badly it could damage the family life especially its children. (2014, p. 26)

In family conflicts handled badly, children will get negative effects that will shape their personality in a destructive way. It is due to the fact that children still cannot control their emotional perfectly and they tend to absorb every energy surrounded them, including negative energy. This will give them difficulties when settling up with their friend and achieving at school. Even it will give them bad effects in health such as giving them sleep difficulties and poorer health. (2014, p. 27)

Those statements above show that family conflict can affect a person's personality in a negative way. Moreover, those statements are also supported by Van Goozen in *the Role of Neurobiological Deficits in Childhood Antisocial Behavior*. He explains that family conflicts which is being handled badly can affects normal developmental processes of children such as brain development,

which in turn affect children's emotional, behavioral and social development. (2008, pp. 45-50)

C. Theoretical Framework

The theories in this thesis will be used in order to give deeper understanding about the topic as well as to answer the problem formulation of this thesis. The theories are also needed to strengthen the arguments of each analysis. The theories will be directed applied in the analysis.

To answer the first problem formulation, theory of character and characterization will be used. Theory of character and characterization explains how a personality of a character displayed in the novel. Through nine layers and perspective, the description of a character can be revealed using this theory. Therefore, it can help to answer the first problem formulation.

To answer the second problem formulation, family conflict theory will be used. Family conflict theory explain the effects of family conflicts toward the member of family. Therefore, it can be used to answer the second problem formulation.

To answer the third problem formulation, personality development theory will be used. Personality development theory explains the way a person's personality is being shaped. Therefore, it can reveal the personality of a person after being developed. Thus it can be used to answer the third problem formulation.

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

A. Object of the Study

The object of the study in this undergraduate thesis is a novel created by Cynthia Voigt entitled *A Solitary Blue*. The novel was published by Simon & Schuster Publishing company in 1983. It consists of 250 pages with 12 chapters in it. This novel is the third book of *Tillerman series* which means there are two books preceded this novel, they are *Homecoming and Dicey's Song*. While the continuation novels are *The Runner, Come a Stranger, Sons from Afar* and *Seventeen Against the Dealer*. Although it is series, it does not follow a strict chronological order.

A Solitary Blue has won John Newbery Honor Medal in 1984 and Phoenix Award Honor Book. This novel also has been nominated for many children awards such as ALA Notable Children's Books, ALA Best Books for Young Adults and Boston Globe/Horn Book Award Honor Book.

This novel talks about the story of a boy named Jeff Greene. He is left by his mother at age seven years old and lives with his father, who is being called the professor, alone. His father is a flat and emotionless person. He never gives the affection and love that Jeff needed. Although without being given the affection and love that he needs, Jeff still loves and respects his father because he is scared that his father may leave him just like her mother. So, in the story, Jeff will

become so sensitive when it comes to his family. He will try to do what his father wants although his father actually does not want Jeff to be like that.

Later on in the story, there will be several family conflicts occurred. Those conflicts are basically coming from Jeff Greene's mother who is actually a bad mother. The family conflicts never affect Jeff until he goes to his second summer holiday where he spent his time in his mother house. Several family conflicts occur there and from that moment those conflicts are influencing Jeff Greene characteristics.

B. Approach of the Study

This study focuses on a character's personality. That's why psychological approach will be applied in this study. Psychological approach according to Rohrberger and Wood in *Reading and Writing about Literature*, is an approach to observe a character or a person's mind, behavior, though and motivation. This approach focuses on how a personality of a character in the novel can be observed through the methods of psychology. (1971, pp. 13-16)

This approach deals with the conscious state as well as the unconscious state of human behavior. This approach also tries to understand the pattern of behavior, though and sense of feeling in a character. A character may have a good-looking posture and appearance but his personality may not as good as his appearance. Based on this approach, to be able to identify as well as to analyze a person's personality, we need to observe the psychology of the characters first. The psychology aspects that need to be observe are though, motivation and consciousness. When we can observe those aspects of a character, then we can

reveal a character's true characteristics (1971, pp. 20-38). With this approach, a personality of a person can be revealed and observed vividly.

In this undergraduate thesis, this approach will be used to identify the personality development of Jeff Greene. It also will be used to identify the effect of family conflicts towards Jeff Greene'. In the novel Jeff Greene will have to deal with a lot of family conflicts which affect his psychology and because this approach deals with psychology, it will be suitable for this undergraduate thesis.

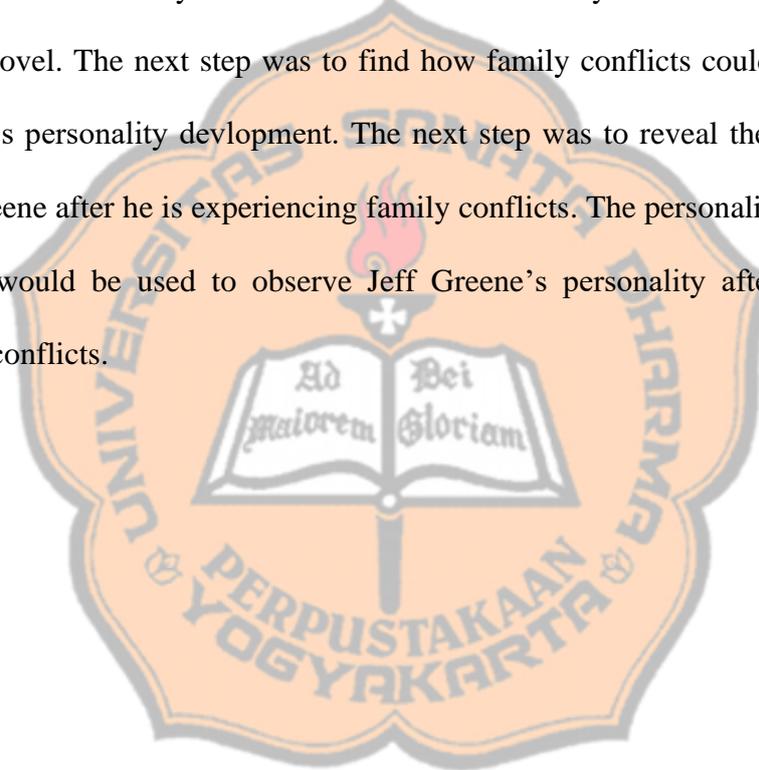
C. Method of the Study

The method which the writer used to analyze the three formulated questions was library research method. To support this undergraduate thesis, the writer used two kinds of sources, primary source and secondary source. The primary source of this research is the novel which will be analyzed in this undergraduate thesis, which is a solitary blue by Cynthia Voigt. The secondary sources of this undergraduate thesis are the books, PDF, internet and e-books which were used to help analyzing the two formulated questions.

There were some steps used to answers the two formulated questions of this undergraduate thesis. The first step was to read the novel. The second step was to find how the novel described Jeff Greene. The researcher was analyzing each actions and narration which involving Jeff Greene. It is including the way Jeff Greene's being portrayed in the novel. Because this research is using psychological approach, Jeff Greene's characteristics would be analyzed in psychological aspects such as his motivation, though a consciousness to be able to reveal Jeff Greene's personality.

In order to analyze more deeper on Jeff Greene, the researcher used theory of character and characterization. Some of the layer in theory of character and characterization would be used to reveal the characteristics of Jeff Greene. The characteristics of Jeff Greene would be revealed in this section.

The third step was to describe the family conflicts seen in the novel. The family conflicts theory would be used in order to analyze the family conflicts seen in the novel. The next step was to find how family conflicts could influence Jeff Greene's personality development. The next step was to reveal the personality of Jeff Greene after he is experiencing family conflicts. The personality development theory would be used to observe Jeff Greene's personality after experiencing family conflicts.



CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS

This section consists of three main parts of analysis which will answer the formulated problems the researcher has made in the chapter I. The first part is about Jeff Greene's characteristics before experiencing family conflicts described in the novel. The second part is about the influence of family conflicts towards Jeff Greene's personality development. The last part is about the characteristics of Jeff Greene after he is experiencing family conflicts.

A. Jeff Greene's Characteristics Before Family Conflicts

In this part, the researcher will analyze the characteristics of Jeff Greene before experiencing family conflicts. Jeff Greene is the main character of the novel. The novel itself is revolving around the life of Jeff Greene. As the main character, Jeff Greene's characteristics are being showed quite a lot in the novel. Conducting an analysis of Jeff Greene's characteristics before experiencing family conflicts is needed in order to answer the formulated problem number one in this research. It is also needed to have better understanding about his character and later on will help the researcher analyses about the impact of family influence towards Jeff Greene's personality development. Here are some major characteristics of Jeff Greene before he is experiencing family conflicts depicted in the novel.

1. Cautious

The first major characteristic of Jeff Greene that is being showed a lot in the novel especially in the beginning of the novel is cautious. According to Hans

Eysenck in his book titled *Dimensions of Personality*, cautious characteristic trait is a characteristic of a person who becomes very careful about everything or some particular topic around him. A person who has this characteristic tends to avoid danger and seek safety. To do that, they tend to be so conscientious about everything they do. When it comes to the topic that makes them become so conscientious, a cautious person tends to be more organized and take the job seriously. In some cases, a person has this characteristic because they have hard life when they still a child. The book also mentions that people who have this kind of state are mostly formed when they still a child or a teenager. (1947, pp. 22-30)

When he was seven and a half years old, Jeff Grenee got a letter from his mother stated that his mother would leave him and his father. He instantly became emotional at that moment and cried.

He knew she couldn't be happy unless she was doing something to make things better—she said so but “he didn't know why she had to go away to do that. And not come back. A cold, frightened feeling lay all over his body like a wet blanket, and he started to cry. He wrapped his arms around himself and cried.

(Voight, 1983, p. 4).

Using the theory of character and characterization through reaction, we can imply that the reaction from Jeff Greene occurs because a change in his emotional state. That makes Jeff Greene have cautious characteristic, especially when it comes to his family. There are a lot of feelings occurred when Jeff Greene talks about his family. He becomes so sensitive and so cautious about it.

As the day continuous after Jeff Greene got the leaving letter from his mother, he becomes so emotional about his family as well. He starts to cry when

he has nothing to do due to the fact that he will think about his mother when he has nothing to do. Because of that, he has to do something to cease the pain.

“He knew that if he stayed there, looking out, with room for questions to rise up in his head, he might cry again, so he took a warm sponge and washed down the drainboard by the sink, scrubbing it with Comet”

(Voight, 1983, p. 9).

Using theory of character and characterization through though which explained by the narrator, we can observe that Jeff Greene is becoming more emotional when he talks to his father. That just makes Jeff Greene’s cautious characteristic grow stronger. He becomes so cautious when he talks to his father. It is because he thinks that if he does something that his father does not like, his father may leave him as well. “He had lost his mother, he didn't want to run any risk of losing his father too.” (Voight, 1983, p. 8).

Because of that, Jeff always act carefully in front of his father. He even cries when he does not know what his father like. “Jeff, still crying, thought about his father now. He wasn't sure what his father liked” (Voight, 1983, p. 7). Using theory of character and characterization through mannerism, we can see from some of the novel’s text mentioned before, at this stage, Jeff Greene is acting so cautious towards his family. The feeling of losing his father makes him so to act cautious around his family. He wants to talk a lot with his father, he wants to talk about his father’s feeling about his mother but Jeff Greene could not because of the emotional walls of fear and cautiousness that he created for himself.

It is also unfortunate for Jeff Greene because of his father is lacking an ability to become a father in the early beginning of the novel. Jeff Grenee’s father,

the professor, actually cares about Jeff but he lacks the ability to show it. He often acts like everything does not affect his family in general and he has emotionless mindset. He always says “everything doesn’t make any difference”. He never asks Jeff Greene’s condition or feeling like the other father should do. Jeff Greene’s father just always focuses on his routine and his daily life. That thing is also one of the factors why Melody leaves. Because of that, there is some kind of distance of separation between Jeff Greene and his father. It just makes Jeff Greene becomes so cautious when he talks to his father.

Since that, when his father around him, every action that Jeff Greene wants to do is based on what his father like. He is acting so cautious towards his father that he only commits an action based on his father’s will. “Jeff looked at his father. He wondered if this was the way the Professor liked to be talked to, but he knew he himself couldn't talk that way.” (Voight, 1983, p. 19).

Even when he is sick, Jeff Greene still does not say it to his father. He is pretending like he is okay but the truth is he is not. He does that because he is afraid that if he says the truth, he will disturb his father. So Jeff Greene acts cautiously towards it.

"No, thank you," Jeff said, trying to sound better than he felt, so that the Professor wouldn't be disturbed. He hadn't been really sick for such a long time that he had forgotten how terrible it felt."

(Voight, 1983, p. 19).

Jeff Greene in the novel is also having a chance to meet with his mother again. He is so happy that he has a chance to meet his mother again but the cautious characteristic and actions of Jeff Greene is applied to his mother as well.

"You goose." She smiled at him, like sunlight, again. He had been afraid she would be angry. "You silly, silly goose. We'll have to give you some. And take some of you, for me. I almost didn't recognize you. I had to study you for a minute, you're so different. Then I saw the suit case. I thought you'd be looking for me," she said. "I'm sorry," Jeff said. "I was just waiting. (Voight, 1983, p. 33).

Jeff Greene now becomes cautious too when he talks to his mother. He is afraid that his mother will leave him again when he does something that his mother does not want. Even when he wants to go to bathroom in the night, Jeff Greene still acts cautiously and carefully because he does not want her mother to wake up.

The closeness might mean a smaller room. If he was wrong, if, for instance, it was his mother's bedroom, how would she feel if he opened the door and woke her up? Or, worse, her family's bedroom door, some total stranger. Jeff silently argued with himself that perhaps he didn't have to go to the bathroom after all, but he did, and badly. He opened the door next to his, gently turning the white porcelain handle, gently pushing the heavy door inwards. It was—he saw with a rush of relief that brought tears to his eyes and was immediately dominated by intense pressure on his bladder—a bathroom. (Voight, 1983, pp. 38-39).

Using theory of character and characterization through mannerism and though, we can see clearly that Jeff Greene becomes so cautious when it comes to his family. He is so afraid and so sad at the same time when he thinks about his family. The result is he becomes so cautious when he does some actions towards his family.

2. Diligent

The second major characteristic that Jeff Greene has before experiencing family conflicts is diligent. According to Alan Fine in *Performance, Getting What's Inside out*, diligent is an application of focus and compassion towards

achieving something. A diligent person would finish the given job regardless the situation. They never complain about the things they work for and they always have extra energy to do their work. (2012, pp.24-30).

Jeff Greene's diligent characteristic can be seen in the very beginning of the novel. Using the theory of character and characterization through mannerism, we can see that Jeff Greene is a diligent student. He will try to spend his time to study wherever he can.

The Professor, his father, didn't like crying, because he wanted things regular and even. He wanted a boiled egg every day for breakfast and his usual times in his study when nobody disturbed him. He had all of his classes in the afternoons so he could stay home and study in the mornings. After supper, he went back into his study to do more.

(Voight, 1983, p. 33).

Even though the circumstance is not supporting him, he always finds a way to be able to study. "They ate all their meals at the Formica table in the kitchen. Jeff did his homework at that table too, because there was no room for a desk in his tiny bedroom tucked under the eaves at the back of the house." (Voight, 1983, p.7). It shows how diligence he is as a student. In his school life, Jeff Greene also always focuses in his study. He always obeys the school's rules and he always follows what his teacher wants him to do. "Jeff sat quiet and did his best to do exactly what the teacher said she wanted them to do. His papers were always perfect." (Voight, 1983, p.1).

Jeff Greene's diligent characteristic is also being showed in his house. He often makes dinner for his family, something that average seven years old children rarely do.

Jeff knew how to set the table and how to get a hot dog dinner for himself and his father, because Melody often could not get home for dinner, when

she had a meeting, or when she had a lot of work to do with a committee, or a demonstration to plan.

(Voight, 1983, p. 8).

Since from his mother left, Jeff is also doing chore for his family. “Jeff washed the dishes, rinsed them, and placed them in a rack to dry. He took out the broom and swept the floor” (Voight, 1983, p.1).

Using theory of character and characterization through mannerism, we can clearly see that Jeff Greene is a diligent person. In his school, he focuses into his study and he has good grades. In his home, he always do chore for his family.

B. The Influence of Family Conflicts

It is normal for a family to have conflicts. Every family in the world must have experienced conflicts in their family life at least once. A family can have a lot of conflicts but none of the conflicts is a big one or a family may rarely have a conflict but when a conflict occurs, it is a big one. Unfortunately for Jeff Greene, his family is having a lot of conflicts and one of them is a big one.

According to family conflicts theory by Fitzpatrick and Noller stated in chapter II, family conflicts can be divided into two categories, content issues and relationship issues. Jeff Greene’s family in its family life have those two issues. Contents issues in Jeff Greene’s family are related to the quarrels of Jeff Greene’s father with Jeff Greene’s mother. While the relationship issues are related to the betrayal of Jeff Greene’s mother who has relationship with other man.

In the very beginning of the novel, there are a lot of flashback when Jeff Greene's mother, Melody, still in Jeff's house. Melody is a kind of woman who wants the attention of his husband. But his husband, Jeff Greene's father, is always busy with his routine and his work. The result is that there are some kind of dissatisfaction and quarrel between these two that can be categorized, based on family conflict theory, as content issues.

The Professor always said things didn't make much difference, wouldn't make much difference. He said that when Melody talked about women's rights and signing anti-war petitions or endangered species. "Don't you care Melody would ask him, her voice ringing, her big gray eyes filled with feeling. She was fifteen years younger than her husband and had long, thick dark hair that she let hang loose down her back, all the way below her waist. "What about nuclear war?" "That would make a difference," the Professor agreed, without any change of voice or expression. His mild blue eyes looked at his wife. "Oh my God" she would say, turning away impatiently. Her dark hair rippled down her back. Her patchwork skirt whirled around her slender legs. When she was unhappy like this, Jeff didn't know how to comfort her.

(Voight, 1983, p.10).

From the citation above we can see that Jeff Greene's father doesn't put any effort to try to understand Melody. He only says what he wants to say without concerning what Melody would feel if she heard those words. Things and quarrels like that are often occurred in Jeff Greene's family life. It is like Jeff Greene's father and his mother cannot have a proper normal talk. Even when they are having a dinner together, they still cannot have a proper normal conversation.

Melody had tried to get him not to drink coffee, she had told him all about caffeine and cancer in it, she had even made him taste some of the herb teas she drank; but he wouldn't change. "Coffee's addictive," she had warned him. "Anything in excess tends to be addictive," the Professor answered. "The point is to avoid excess. Isn't it?" "I can't talk to you," Melody said. "You already know all the answers." Her voice sounded as if she didn't

think what she said was true. "I never said that," the Professor said. Melody didn't answer, just sat staring at her cup of tea; but Jeff saw tears come up in her eyes, so he went around to hug her.

(Voight, 1983, p.9).

Melody cried because of Jeff Greene's father words, but it looks like Jeff Greene's father does not care, he even doesn't want to know that his wife got hurt because of his words or not. Melody has known her husband for many years, she knows what his characters are like. She knows that her husband is a bit of emotionless person who only focuses on his routine and does not want to understand other people. "He's afraid of changes," Melody used to tell Jeff. "He's a creature of routine. And he doesn't know how hard it is on other people." (Voight, 1983, p.16).

She even tells Jeff Greene about the characteristic of his father when it comes to becoming a father. It is that his father is not capable to become a good father. "He doesn't know anything about being a father," Melody had told him, "so you can't expect very much" (Voight, 1983, p.13).

Those are conflicts in Jeff Greene's family life that Jeff Greene has to watch almost every single day. But those conflicts are small conflicts and has a little impact to Jeff Greene's characteristics. However, Jeff Greene's family is also having big conflicts. This big conflict is the conflict that will influence Jeff's Greene's personality development. That big family conflict is when Jeff Greene knows his mother is having a relationship with other man and it makes Melody does not have time to take care of Jeff Greene anymore. Instead taking care of Jeff Greene, Jeff Greene's mother is prioritizing her new boyfriend and she is

becoming easily furious at Jeff when he makes a mistake. So because of his family conflicts, Jeff Greene is lacking attention and love that he needed. Instead of love and attention, his mother gives Jeff constant blame.

That family conflict issue is the one that really affects and influences Jeff Greene's personality development. Jeff's Greene personality is developed because of this conflict. Jeff Greene may can overcome the fact that his mother and father are having quarrel in almost every single day but this conflict is a conflict that Jeff Greene cannot overcome properly that later on affects Jeff Greene's personality development.

When Jeff Greene has to accept the fact that his mother is leaving him and his father alone, he always cried and became so emotional. Fortunately for him, he can cope with those pain. It is due to the fact that he can meet his mother in summer holiday and he can also send letter to his mother. But later on in the novel, when Jeff Greene went to spend his another summer holiday in his mother's house, he found that his mother is having a new man to replace his father although Jeff Greene's mother and father are actually not divorced yet.

He felt so sad at that moment not only because he found that his father is being replaced, but also because he could not spend his summer holiday with his mother anymore. It is because Melody was gone in almost entire summer holiday with his new boyfriend. "Finding something to do was what Jeff did—for a month, because Melody was away from the middle of June to the middle of July, as it turned out" (Voight, 1983, p.103).

When Melody gone, Jeff Greene started wondering around the village without his mother or his grand mother knowing. He did that because he felt so lonely in Melody's house. He met some friends along the way and got acquainted with them. But the problem started to occur when his mother and grandmother knew that he was missing. When Jeff Grenee came back to his mother house, his mother so furious at him.

Honestly, Jeffie, I thought I could trust you."Jeff felt ashamed of himself, although he couldn't be quite sure why, and he hadn't noticed Gambo forgetting, just not being interested. "I'm sorry," he said, and then said it again. "I'm sorry." She wasn't satisfied. "And I told Max I'd go with him out to Santa Fe, and now I don't know if I can," she told Jeff. "All you can say is, 'I'm sorry.' Just like your father."

(Voight, 1983, pp.104-105).

After that Jeff Greene started to feel sadness more and more. In this stage as well the family conflicts began to affect Jeff Greene's personality development. He felt that his mother doesn't love him anymore. He felts so separated from his mother. He felts so lonely at that moment.

When Jeff was at last alone in his room that night, he lay across the bed and cried. He didn't even take off his clothes or turn on the lights. He felt so bad—sorry for himself, and angry at himself for losing her—and helpless. He didn't know what he should have done, what he could have done. He felt—rolling over onto his back and wrapping his arms across the pain in his chest and stomach, pain that wasn't even real—as if he had been broken into thousands of little pieces. Broken and then dropped into some dark place. Some dark place where he was always going to stay.

(Voight, 1983, p. 106).

The day continued and the family conflicts relationship issue that his mother was finding a new boyfriend to replace Jeff Greene's father which made Jeff had a little time to spend with his mother is starting to take effect. Couple

days after he was being scolded by his mother, Jeff Greene was starting to feel disconnected to the world.

Jeff made it through several long days, trying not to think. He mostly stayed up in his room. He did not come down for meals, but ate sandwiches in the kitchen if he felt hungry. Nobody paid much attention to him. He paid no attention to anybody, just struggled with the sadness that always threatened to overwhelm him into crying again. He was ashamed of himself, but he couldn't help it.

(Voight, 1983, p. 106).

The sadness that Jeff Greene had to endure slowly were changing into anger. Jeff Greene usually never argues when his mother was angry or scolding him. But this time, due to the fact that Jeff Greene's mother is prioritizing her new boyfriend instead of Jeff, Jeff Greene was angry at his mother when his mother was furious him.

Unless having a boy wins the prize. I wanted a girl. You didn't know that, did you; but you should have figured it out. If you're so smart. If you'd been a girl I'd have taken you with me when I walked out on him. I thought you were a girl when I got pregnant, I was sure of it." "Oh yeah?" Jeff answered right back. He didn't know what to say to show her that he knew she wanted to break him into pieces. And he could see that; she wanted to hurt him, as badly as she could. Then he thought of something. "Well, Max told me why you got married, because you had to. So don't go blaming me for anything. You probably lied to the Professor too, he probably isn't even my father."

(Voight, 1983, p. 117).

It was the first time Jeff Greene released his anger towards his mother. The fact that Melody, a loving mother who always cares for him started to become easily furious to him, has big affects on influencing Jeff Greene personality development. This family conflicts will change Jeff Greene's characteristics and it will be analyzed in the next section.

C. Jeff Grenee After Family Conflicts

Personality is a unique feature of a person. It can develop and change each passing day. There are so many factors that shape a person personality. But mainly the factor that can shape a person personality is their society and their surroundings. That's why a family is contributing a lot to shape a person's personality.

In Cynthia Voigt's *a solitary blue*, the family conflicts occurred has influencing Jeff Greene personality development. It changes the characteristics of Jeff Greene. The family conflicts in his family has put constant pressure towards Jeff Greene. In the novel, those pressure are making Jeff Grenee so scared to lose his family and he is starting to behave like what his parents want him to do. But when his mother starting to easily become so furious towards him, Jeff Greene's characteristics is starting to change. Here are the characteristics of Jeff Greene after the family conflicts affect him.

1. Apathetic

According to Tomy McCracken in *Apathy in Literature: A Discourse on Emotionless Characters and Concepts*, apathetic is a emotional state of a person who has lack of enthusiasm and emotion about his surroundings. A person who has this characteristic may feel so disassociated with their feelings thus it will make them lack of awareness about his world as a result. A person who has this characteristic usually has given up to understand other feelings and it usually has lost its motivation to gain positive feelings (2013, p. 12).

There are many factors which make a person become apathetic. Mostly because of being abused, punished or being treated badly. It is usually the affection of parents that can heal an apathetic person. But in the life of Jeff Greene, the one who makes him apathetic is her parents with their family conflicts.

In the beginning of the novel, as it has been mentioned in previous section, Jeff Greene's is a person who is so careful in his life, especially when it comes to his family. His feeling is easily getting touched when it comes to his family. He is easily becoming sad just thinking about his mother. He is becoming so sensitive and so scared at the same time when he is near to his father because he is scared if he does something that his father does not want him to do, he will lose his father. Thus, he becomes so careful when he talks towards his father and his family. But this time, when the family conflicts is starting to influence him, Jeff Greene's characteristic changes from careful to become apathetic.

It starts when Jeff Greene comes to his mother's house in his second summer holiday. He was hoping that he could spend his time with his mother but sadly he could not. Instead, he had to accept that his mother was spending her time with his new boyfriend and not him although they rarely see each other. Then he wandered aimlessly across his mother village without his mother knowing then his mother started to get angry when she knew that. After he got his mother's wrath and furious feelings, Jeff Grenee's became so sad. That sadness that he could not cope turned him to become an apathetic person.

In the last day of his summer holiday, Jeff Greene's mother felt sorry to Jeff because she knew that Jeff's holiday in her house did not match what Jeff wanted it to be. But at that time Jeff Greene has become an apathetic person. So he only said "that doesn't make any difference" an exact same answer that his father, which is an apathetic person as well, would say.

"Oh Jefrie." She put her hand under his chin and turned his face toward hers. "It hasn't been the way you wanted it to be, has it." "It doesn't make any difference," Jeff said. All he had to do was remember how badly she had hurt him and he would be all right.

(Voight, 1983, p. 114).

From that moment, Jeff Grenee, who usually becomes so careful and so sensitive when it comes to his family, is starting to doesn't care anymore. He is starting to have mindset like his father.

Big tears rolled down Melody's cheeks. Jeff didn't mind that. He got off the bed and went to stand by the window. "I've made you unhappy," Melody said. "I'm so sorry, Jeffie." "I'm not unhappy," Jeff lied. "I just don't care." "Like your father." "Don't say that. Don't say it that way just when you want to criticize me. He's not so bad."

(Voight, 1983, p. 116).

Jeff Greene who usually also doesn't want to hurt his mother feeling is starting to hurt his mother's feeling because its apathetic characteristic that he has now.

"Don't lie to me," he said to his mother. "I don't believe you. If you really cared you'd have stayed here, and you wouldn't be going away tomorrow and lying to Gambo about it, and—" He was making her angry, he could see that. But he couldn't stop. "And I don't like the way you lie. You make it sound like the Professor is so terrible, but you're terrible yourself. What you do to people," he said. "Lying to them so you'll get what you want."

(Voight, 1983, p. 116).

The day before he went back to his house and ended his summer holiday, Jeff Greene went to beach and crossed a low sandy sand dune, overgrown with shrubs. From that time Jeff Greene's apathetic characteristic is starting to grow inside on him. He knows that he will miss that place but he does not want to accept that feeling because of his apathetic characteristic and he starts to think that everything does not make any difference.

When the shadows grew longer and the temperature started to drop, he knew he ought to cross back, return to the boat. But he couldn't do that. He made no decision to stay the night, but he couldn't make himself leave the beach. Gradually, he understood that he would miss the last bus. That made no difference.

(Voight, 1983, p. 120).

According to the personality development theory, a personality of children can easily be influenced by their family and surrounding. When a child is living in a family who has a lot of conflicts, it can put negative effect towards him. That's what happen to Jeff Greene. The family conflicts have shaped him to become an apathetic person.

When Jeff Greene had back from his rough summer holiday, the apathetic characteristic changed the way he lived. Jeff Greene is usually having a good awareness and motivation in his life as general now he becomes less aware and he is starting to have an apathy mindset.

At school, the classes of boys didn't bother Jeff either. The teachers left him alone as long as he kept quiet in class, although when they called on him and discovered that he couldn't answer questions, they looked at him in anger or suspicion or even pity. None of that made any difference to

Jeff. He handed in his homework if he had done any, whether it was complete or not. He didn't even notice the other boys in his classes.

(Voight, 1983, pp. 125-126).

The apathetic personality that develops inside of Jeff Greene has made him become friendless. It is like he is disconnected to the world. He loses his motivation on the study and doesn't care about his school life anymore.

In mid-February, the Professor took Jeff for an appointment with the principal of the University School. Jeff sat silent while the two men talked—he had worn the gray flannels and blazer—and stared unseeing at the toes of his polished shoes. The Professor wanted to withdraw Jeff from the school, and the Principal agreed that that might be all for the best. He talked about academic pressures on a student of less than average ability, and he didn't look at Jeff. He suggested testing, to get a precise fix on just what the limits were, he suggested therapy because "socialization was well below norm." The Professor didn't disagree.

(Voight, 1983, pp. 134-135).

As suggested by the principal, Jeff Greene's father brings Jeff to a doctor for some kind of therapy. When the doctor tries to examine him, Jeff Greene is completely lost his awareness and he is thinking about anything else. Even when he is being suggested to repeat his 8th grade, he seems doesn't care because of his apathetic characteristic.

He looked at Jeff. "I would like to keep him out of school and have him repeat eighth grade next year. Somewhere else." "Jeff?" Dr. Baker asked. Jeff looked up at him. He had been thinking about the beach again and how the pelicans swooped low over the water, scooping up their prey with buckety beaks. "What do you think?" "It doesn't make any difference to me." Dr. Baker studied him for a long time. Jeff kept his face expressionless and looked right back.

(Voight, 1983, pp. 135-136).

In the ending of the novel, Jeff Greene's mother come to Jeff's house and she is saying but she loves Jeff so much and she wants to say her farewell before going out to another country. But the true intention of Jeff Greene's mother is to have the diamond heritage that Jeff possessed. Jeff knows that as well but it seems the apathetic characteristic of Jeff Greene doesn't not even care by that, even Jeff himself surprised by his own feeling that he does not care.

Jeff was beginning to see. His lack of feeling about it surprised him, pleased him. He looked out over the creek and marsh. He guessed Max would be putting in a crop of marijuana, or poppies—that was his guess.

(Voight, 1983, pp. 135-136).

In the end, because of the family conflicts that is affecting him, Jeff Greene's personality has change. His characteristic has changed from a careful person to become an apathetic person. The way his mother is prioritizing someone's else than him, showing her furious to him and not showing any kind of true affection has affected Jeff Greene's personality.

2. Lazy

According to Thomas Madsen in his research titled *the Conception of Laziness and the Characterization of Other as Lazy*, lazy is a habit of unwillingness to engage with life. That habit is slowly manifested in one's mindset. Thus, creating a tendency and mannerism which formulate a personality. Generally, people who are lazy do something without putting a lot of energy to it. They have lack of motivation to do something and they tend to postpone their work or not doing their work at all. (2018, pp. 3-7)

In the beginning of the novel, Jeff Greene was a diligent person. He always had good mark in his class. He was also doing chore and preparing for food in his house, something that average 7 years children rarely do. However, because of the family conflicts he had to endure, his personality changed. The diligence personality that he had now is gone and he is becoming a lazy person.

It starts after Jeff Greene's rough summer holiday. We know in that summer holiday Jeff Greene didn't have the holiday that he wanted it to be. He was hoping to be able to spend his summer holiday with his mother but instead he did not. Instead he had to watch his mother new boyfriend and he had to face his mother's anger towards him. That makes him lose the motivation on almost everything. Having a change of characteristic from cautious to become apathetic is not the only thing he had after that family conflicts. It is also influencing and changing Jeff Greene's diligence characteristic. He becomes lazy now.

After Jeff Greene goes back to his father's house, his life is complete changed. Jeff Greene who is usually eager to go to school now starting to cut his class. Even when he knows that day is an exam day, he is still cutting his classes.

They all went out to the Professor's car. Jeff sat in the back, but they both turned around to stare at him. "You're supposed to be in a math exam now," the Professor said. "You missed English and geography yesterday. Exams, Jeff. I don't understand. They called me, the principal did." He knew everything.

(Voight, 1983, p. 128).

When Jeff Greene's father brings Jeff to the doctor because of his problem, the narrator explains that Jeff is being lazy and he is also often not focused in the class.

"Well, if you think of any. How do you do in school?" "Okay," Jeff told him. He did not want to say that his grades had been drifting down, that his teachers said he was "lazy" or "dreamy." The doctor nodded and closed the file.

(Voight, 1983, p. 130).

As a result of his laziness, like mentioned in section before, Jeff has to repeat his 8th grade. Even when he knows that, Jeff Greene seems does not care. He is still being lazy and not focused in class. In fact, Jeff Greene's grades is falling further and he is often daydreaming in his class.

His grades went down further, and the teachers said he was daydreaming during class. The other boys formed themselves into friendships and ignored Jeff. He played soccer, if they needed someone, but always ate lunch alone.

(Voight, 1983, p. 130).

When the exam's score is being showed, he got another bad grade. This time Jeff Greene shows a little bit sympathy. Not to himself but to his father because he feels that he has wasted his father money for the school.

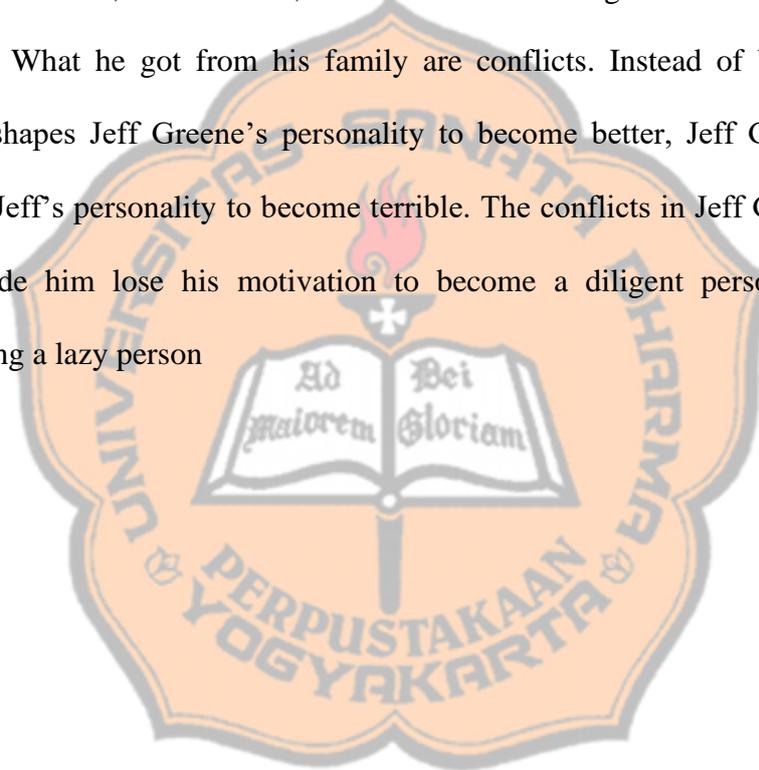
He felt bad, because his father's money was being wasted. He wasn't doing very well in school, C's at the best; and somehow, over that first seventh grade semester, he had become a real nobody

(Voight, 1983, p. 134).

According to Hurlock in personality development theory, a personality of a person can be shaped and can be controlled by their family. A person is usually

having a bad personality because they are being affected their surrounding and society. The rough experience that they had in their surrounding or society can change a person's personality. Fortunately, a family affection can prevent a person to have a bad personality. That's way family is an important entity in humans' life.

However, in the novel, Jeff Greene does not get the family affection he needed. What he got from his family are conflicts. Instead of being an entity which shapes Jeff Greene's personality to become better, Jeff Greene's family shapes Jeff's personality to become terrible. The conflicts in Jeff Greene's family has made him lose his motivation to become a diligent person. He is now becoming a lazy person



CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

This chapter is intended to show the conclusion of this research. This research has three objectives. Those objectives are to find the characteristic of Jeff Greene before experiencing family conflicts described in the novel, to find the influence of family conflicts towards Jeff Greene's personality development and to find the description of Jeff Greene after experiencing family conflicts.

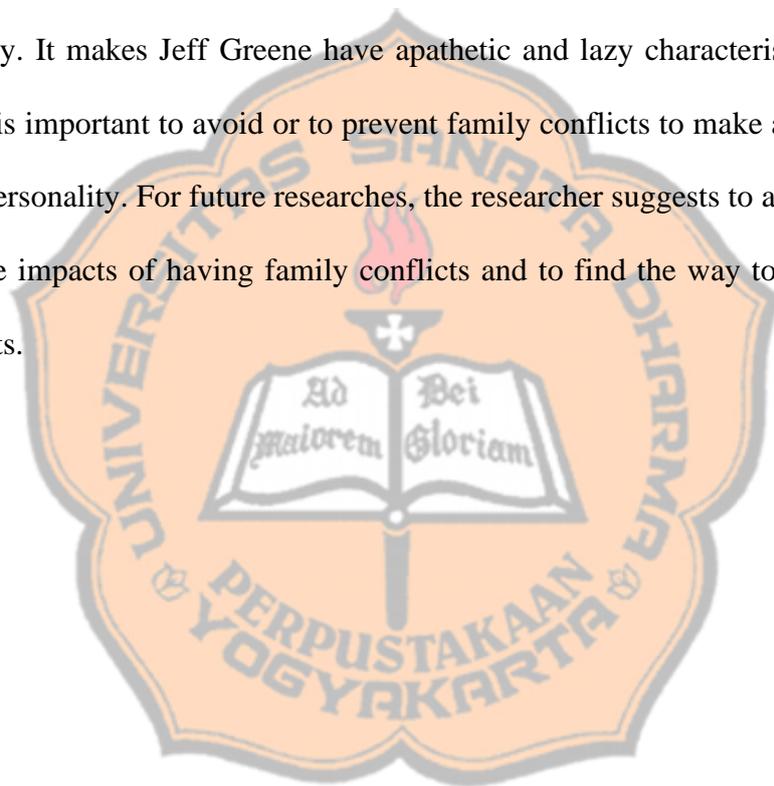
The first conclusion is that Jeff Greene has two major characteristics before he is experiencing family conflicts. By using the theory of character and characterization, this research reveals the characteristics of Jeff Greene before experiencing family conflicts. They are cautious and diligent. Jeff Greene before experiencing family conflicts is a person who has cautious characteristic, especially when it comes to his family. He always acts cautiously and carefully in front of his father and his mother. He becomes like that because his mother left him when he was seven and half years old. He thinks that his mother is leaving their family because of him. So, Jeff Greene is always act cautiously towards his family to prevent them from leaving him. The other major characteristic of Jeff Greene before experiencing family conflicts is diligent. From the beginning of the novel, Jeff Greene is being described as a diligent person. He always does chore for his family and he is also always work hard in his study. He always got good grade while maintaining to help his family in his home.

The second conclusion is about the influence of family conflicts towards Jeff Greene's personality development. In the novel, Jeff Greene is having a lot of family conflicts such as his mother leaving him when he was still a child. He also has to hear the quarrel between his mother and his father every day. But the family conflicts that affect him the most is when he finds that his mother is having a new boyfriend. Jeff Greene expects that his second summer holiday to be great and he expects to spend his second summer holiday with his mother. Unfortunately for him, his second summer holiday is not like what he wanted it to be. He has to accept the fact that his mother is having a new boyfriend and his mother is prioritizing his new boyfriend instead of Jeff. The lack of attention and love because of family conflicts in Jeff Greene's family has affected Jeff Greene's personality. It changes the characteristics of Jeff Greene.

The third conclusion is that Jeff Greene has two major characteristics after he is experiencing family conflicts. They are apathetic and lazy. Because of the family conflicts he has to endure, Jeff Greene is starting to become disconnected with the world and become an apathetic person. He doesn't care anymore about his mother feeling and he is starting to have no compassion in his life. He is also starting to become a lazy person who does not want to study anymore.

In general, family is an important place for an individual to grow and to develop his personality. Family plays a vital role in shaping a person's personality. Whether a person will have a good personality or a bad personality is hugely influenced by their family. The family conflicts will lead a person, especially a child, to have bad personality just like Jeff Greene. In the beginning

of the novel, Jeff Greene is a cautious and a diligent person, but because of the family conflicts he has to endure, his personality is developing in a bad way. Attention and love are needed to develop a person especially a child to have a good personality. But because of the family conflicts, Jeff Greene is lacking the attention and the love he needed to develop a good personality. Therefore, the family conflicts are influencing the personality development of Jeff Greene in a bad way. It makes Jeff Greene have apathetic and lazy characteristics. So in the end, it is important to avoid or to prevent family conflicts to make a child develop good personality. For future researches, the researcher suggests to also observe the positive impacts of having family conflicts and to find the way to handle family conflicts.



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