CARLA'S IDENTITY CONFUSION IN *DROP* BY KATIE EVERSON

THESIS



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ABSTRACT

Cahyono, M. (2021). Carla's Identity Confusion Depicted in Drop by Katie Everson, English Department, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisor: Sufi Ikrima Saadah. M.Hum

Keywords: identity confusion, psychosocial development, new criticism

This thesis aims to know the personality of Carla Caroll and discusses identity confusion that Carla experienced in a novel entitled *Drop* by Katie Everson. Three problems are proposed in this study: first, How is Carla's identity depicted in *Drop*. Second How is Carla's identity confusion illustrated in *Drop*, and third What are the possible factors that cause Carla's identity confusion in *Drop*.

This study uses the qualitative method. To analyze how Carla's personality is portrayed in the story, the researcher used the New Criticism theory. The psychosocial development theory analyzes Carla's identity confusion in the story and the factor that caused her to suffer identity confusion. The researcher gathered phrases, sentences, and dialogue to be analyzed to answer the problem statement.

The result shows that Carla's personality is loving art, avarice, or a simp. She becomes a druggie girl because of her love and affection and also an insensitive girl. Several symptoms are categorized as identity confusion symptoms. They are: first, she is not sure about what she wants. Second, her sense of life has changed. Third, she cannot answer who she is. The research also shows that the possible factors that cause Carla's identity confusion are: First, her family, second love and affection, third her insensitivity, and fourth her desire to be popular. Knowing the symptoms of identity confusion and the factors that caused it will help us be more careful about adolescent identity development.

ABSTRAK

Cahyono, Muklis. (2021). Carla's Identity confusion Depicted in Drop by Katie Everson, Program Studi Sastra Inggris, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisor: Sufi Ikrima Saadah. M.Hum

Kata kunci: kebingungan identitas, perkembangan psikososial, kritik baru.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui kepribadian Carla Carroll dan membahas kebingungan peran yang dialaminya dalam sebuah novel berjudul *Drop* karya Katie Everson. Tiga permasalahan yang diajukan dalam penelitian ini, yaitu: pertama, Bagaimana identitas Carla digambarkan dalam *Drop*. kedua Bagaimana kebingungan peran Carla digambarkan dalam *Drop*. Dan ketiga Apa saja faktorfaktor yang mungkin menyebabkan kebingungan role Carla di *Drop*.

Metode kualitatif digunakan dalam penelitian ini. Untuk menganalisis data tentang bagaimana kepribadian Carla digambarkan dalam cerita, peneliti menggunakan teori Kritik Baru. Sedangkan teori perkembangan psikososial digunakan untuk menganalisis kebingungan peran Carla yang digambarkan dalam cerita dan faktor-faktor yang mungkin menyebabkan dia mengalami kebingungan peran. Peneliti mengumpulkan frase, kalimat, dan dialog sebagai data untuk dianalisis guna menjawab rumusan masalah.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa kepribadian Carla adalah mencintai seni, berlebihan dalam mencintai atau bucin, dia menjadi remaja pecandu narkoba karena terlalu berlebihan dalam mencintai, dan juga remaja yang tidak peka. Beberapa gejala kebingungan peran, antara lain yaitu: pertama, dia tidak yakin dengan apa yang diinginkannya. Kedua, cara dia melihat kehidupan berubah. Dan ketiga, dia tidak bisa menjawab siapa dia. Penelitian ini juga menunjukkan bahwa faktor-faktor yang mungkin menyebabkan kebingungan peran Carla adalah: Pertama keluarganya, kedua, cinta dan kasih Sayang, ketiga ketidakpekaannya, dan keempat keinginannya untuk menjadi populer. Mengetahui gejala-gejala kebingungan peran dan faktor-faktor yang menyebabkannya akan membantu kita untuk lebih peduli terhadap perkembangan identitas remaja.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter introduces the thesis, which presents the background of the study, statement of the problem, scope and limitations, significance of the study, definition of key terms, and research method.

1.1 Background

Several theories try to define the terms of identity. For example, according to Motyl (2010), identity is nothing but the answer to the question, "who am I?" Watterman (1993; as cited in Guardia, 2019) said that identity reflects a person's best potential, self-realizing. Identity is expressed through self-realizing activities to fulfill their goals in life. Erikson (1968) defines the most common concept of identity. He described identity as the fundamental of oneself and constantly developed throughout life.

Santrock conducts another theory of personal identity development as Erikson state that identity constantly develops throughout life. Santrock (2010) defines that human psychological development is divide into nine parts. Infancy, early childhood, middle and late childhood, adolescence, early adulthood, middle adulthood, late adulthood, and endings. Growth was influenced by biological, cognitive, and socio-emotional variables.

Erikson (1963) states that adolescence is a mind between childhood and adulthood. Adolescence is the stage of transition between childhood mind to adulthood mind. Erikson also defines this stage in his eight psychosocial development stages, which is in the fifth stage. Getting old is never easy.

Adolescence in this stage is vulnerable to suffering identity confusion if they fail in exploring their identity. As adolescence, they need good support from parents and also their peers to achieve a good identity.

Adolescence relationships with their parents and peers are associated with their mental health and ability to adapt to the environment. Although their relationship with parents is also relevant, the center of adolescent life is related to peers (Tarant, 2002: 110-124). Belonging to a regular or popular group is also positively related to teenage adaptation to the environment.

Adolescence's center of life is their relationship with their peers (Tarant, 2002: 110-124), so self-comparison with their peers is essential for youth when they try to match their identity to their peers. Member of the peers could model their habit to reach the group norms.' Therefore, peers groups could play a significant part in adolescent identity development.

In the identity vs. role confusion stage, adolescents should try to figure out who they are. During this period, adolescence should explore possibilities and begin to form their unique identity. According to Erikson (as cited in Alwisol 2005), the source of identity is from strengthening or disappearance the identity from childhood. Bee (1992) stated that the outcome at the end of this stage should be a reintegrated sense of self, what she wants or wants to be, and one appropriate sex role. Failure to establish their unique ability leads to identity confusion. Identity confusion involves individuals unsure about themselves or what they need to do.

Identity confusion is the state that someone Does not know what to do or what they will do. According to Erikson (1994), the big question of identity vs. role confusion is who I am. Adolescence needs to figure out how they could answer this question to avoid identity confusion. Identity confusion is also described as confusing being or doing something, confused about where they belong, and confused about who they indeed are.

Humans in the real world are experiencing identity confusion, but an imaginary character from literary works is sometimes also suffered from identity confusion. The object of literature may be from the author's imagination with real-life experience or just the author's imagination. So it is possible that a character from literary works experienced identity confusion because the character is sometimes portrayed from a natural person or half based real-life person or entirely imaginary person.

One of the examples of literary works is the novel. The novel is a story that tells about character's experiences, complex or easy thoughts, feelings, and the world that the characters live in. There is no specific word length for literary works to be automatically called a novel, but a short novel is shorter than a novella is a short fiction.

Drop is a novel written by Katie Everson. The story is about Carla, who wants to be popular and has good grades, a good life described in her favorite movies. "This is my time to shine," Carla said in the novel. So, she changes her whole life in the future. She transforms into an innocent girl being to the drug addicts. This transformation was due to her parent's attitude toward her. They

always move from one town to another. This situation makes Carla does not care anymore about being in a relationship with others. However, now it is different. She will stay in London, so she decided to *upgrade* her life in school.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

To be able to understand this novel, the researcher within this literary work focuses on the following problems:

- a. How is Carla's identity depicted in *Drop?*
- b. How is Carla's identity confusion depicted in *Drop*?
- c. What are the factors that cause Carla's identity confusion in *Drop?*

1.3 Significance of the Study

Through this research, the writer wants to contribute theoretically and practically.

1.3.1 Theoretical

This research provides Erik Erikson's psychosocial development information, especially in the identity vs. role confusion stages. The identity vs. role confusion stage occurs in adolescence, which is 12 to 18 years old. The researcher hopes that this research can be helpful as a reference for further studies about Erik Erikson's identity vs. role Confusion stages.

1.3.2 Practical

The findings of this study were expected to increase the reader's awareness of the Identity vs. Role confusion stage, which occurs in the

adolescence stages. Thus, the researcher hoped that if someone is in adolescence, they could find how to deal with and anticipate suffering identity confusion when they pass through identity vs. role confusion stages.

1.4 Scope of the Study

The scope of this study is focusing on the novel that shows Carla's personality, identity confusion, and the possible factors that caused Carla to suffer identity confusion.

1.5 Limitation of the Study

This research is limited to a novel entitled *Drop* by Katie Everson to avoid the research becoming too broad and distorted. Furthermore, this research focuses on Carla as the main character in the novel

1.6 Research Design

The present study focused on a literary work entitled *Drop* by Katie Everson. The writer used a qualitative analysis method to analyze the object. Yin (2019) stated that the qualitative approach aims to gather and present data from various sources and evidence of the study. Furthermore, this qualitative method seeks to describe and interpret the situation or event in the story related to psychology, mainly in the character's personality and the cause of the identity and identity confusion of the character.

1.7 Data Source

In this study, there are two primary data sources that the researcher used. First, the primary data source used is *Drop*, written by Katie Everson, published in

August 2015. Second, the researcher used secondary data sources like books, articles, journals, internet sources, and previous studies related to these research topics.

1.8 Data Collection

This research used a novel as the primary data source, so the qualitative descriptive method was used. The data obtained also came from secondary sources such as the internet, journal, and e-books. There are several ways that the researcher used to analyze the data:

- 1. The researcher read the novel several times to get a complete understanding of the issue.
- 2. The researcher selected, collected the quotations, and compiled the data about the personalities and identity confusion of the main character in the novel. The quotation itself can be from a direct conversation or narration.
- 3. The researcher classified the data based on the categories of the character's personalities and identity confusion.
- 4. To analyze the data, the researcher portrayed the main character using new criticism.
- 5. The researcher explained the character's identity confusion using psychology, identity vs. role confusion stages by Erikson.
- 6. The researcher also explained the possible factor that caused the main character to suffer from identity confusion.

7. The researcher made a conclusion based on the data that the researcher found.

1.9 Data Analysis

To conduct this research, the researcher followed several steps below:

- First, the data classified was analyzed by New Criticism to describe the main character's personalities.
- 2. Second, the data classified was analyzed using Psychosocial Development theory to answer Carla's identity confusion depicted in the story.
- 3. Third, the data were also analyzed with Psychosocial Development theory to find the possible factor that caused Carla's identity confusion.
- 4. Last, the researcher concluded the result of this study in the conclusion section.

CHAPTER II

Review of Related Literature

The chapter shows the theory that the researcher describes in the study—accordingly, the discussion regarding understanding identity confusion.

2.1 New Criticism

New Criticism is a variation of Anglo-American formalism. New criticism appeared in the early decades of the twentieth century. All literary works are autonomous. This means that formal and rhetorical features constructed the unity and the meaning of literary works. The unity and the purpose are not related by the social factor of the world where that literary works were created or from any connection to the author who produced them (Versaci, 2019)

According to Tyson (2006., p. 135), New Criticism is a theory which is an approach in the research of a literary work by making a careful reading of the text of the literary work so that it can find examples of real and specific evidence in the text of the literary work itself to validate the reader's interpretation. The quotation above means that new criticism cannot be separated from close reading. Such reading allows the reader to understand the text more concretely.

In new criticism, the best way to analyze literary works is through the text itself. The analysis is just focused on the intrinsic element and excludes the extrinsic factors.

2.1.1 Intrinsic Elements

Intrinsic elements are part of literary works such as drama, novels, movies, prose, and others. Literary works need to have intrinsic elements. Intrinsic elements could be used to analyze literary work according to the text in the literature.

2.1.1.2 Plot

The plot is one of the intrinsic elements that are important to make a story. There will be no story if there is no plot because the plot decides where the story should be. The plot consists of exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution.

2.1.1.3 Character and Characterization

Character and characterization have a prominent role in making the literary work look interesting. The audience will be wondering what will happen to the character in the story or how the character will be as long as the story begins. Character and characterization Cannot be separated from the plot. The plot makes the audience ask and wonder what happens with the character in the story.

Holman (1985) said a character is a concise, descriptive piece of the person who shows some definite quality. Abrams (1999) supported that stated characters are the persons put in literary works with specific moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities. The reader will interpret these persons through the dialogue they have and the action they do. In a short story, usually, there will be a primary and secondary character. The primary character is the main character who

leads the story to be developed, whereas the secondary character is the supporting character who is less developed.

According to Arp and Johnson (2006), the author forms the character divided into two ways: direct presentation and indirect presentation. The direct presentation describes the character straight on its exposition, how characters look, and what the other characters look like. While the direct presentation looks directly at the exposition of the character, in an indirect presentation, the audience needs to observe the character, what they said, what they do, or what they thought.

In character, we also know the major and minor characters. People usually assume that a major character or the protagonist's character, is the same as the main character who stays in the beginning until the end of the story and the minor character is a supporting character that sometimes appears in the story. In reality, it depends on the plot of the story.

2.2 Psychology

According to (Dimmick, Boring, Langfeld, & Weld, 1940), psychology is an academic and applied discipline involving the scientific study of behavior and mental process. Psychology also refers to the application of such knowledge of various human activities. The other social sciences are different from psychology. Psychology only focused on the mental process and behavior of individuals. however, psychology Does not necessarily refer to brain and neuron activities.

2.3 Stage of Psychosocial Development

Erikson insisted that from infancy to adulthood, personality will develop from the eight stages of psychosocial development in a predetermined order. The person will experience a psychological crisis at each stage, which may positively or negatively impact personality development.

For Erikson (1958, 1963), these crises have a psychosocial nature because they involve the conflict between the psychological needs of the individual (i.e., the psychology) and the needs of the society (i.e., the society). According to the theory above, if someone successfully gets through each stage, they will get a healthy character and fundamental virtue. The primary virtue is the characteristic advantage that the ego can use to solve some crises. Failure to achieve one stage will fail to complete further steps, leading to unhealthy character and self-awareness.

2.3.1 Trust and Mistrust

The first stage of Erik Erikson's psychosocial development is trust and mistrust. This stage starts from newborn until about 18 months. At this stage, babies are unsure about the world they live in and expect their primary caregiver to provide stable and consistent care (Erikson, 1950)

If the babies receive consistent, predictable, and reliable care, they will build a trust that will bring them to other relationships and feel safe even if they were threatened. However, mistrust, doubt, and anxiety may arise if those needs were not met consistently. If the care is inconsistent, unpredictable, and unreliable, the baby may feel mistrust, doubt, and anxiety. In this case, the baby will lose trust in the world around them or the ability to influence events.

2.3.2 Autonomy vs. Shame and Doubt

The second stage of Erik Erikson's psychosocial development is autonomy, shame, and doubt. This stage lasts between 18 months and about three years of age. According to Erikson, children focus on developing a sense of personal control and independence of physical skills at this stage (Erikson, 1950).

The virtue of will is the goal of this stage. Their independence may arise if children are encouraged and supported at this stage, then their ability to survive in the world will become more confident and safer. On the other hand, if children are over-control or do not have the chance to talk to themselves, they will start to think that they are insufficiently viable and may be too dependent on others and feel ashamed or doubtful of their abilities.

2.3.3 Initiative vs. Guilt

Initiative versus guilt is the third stage of Erik Erikson's psychosocial development. In the active and internal stage, children gain more confidence through coaching games and other social interactions.

Initiative vs guilt is a particularly active and rapid development time in the children's life. Based on Bee (1992), this is a "time of vigor of action and of behaviors that the parents may see as aggressive." In this period, the primary function is to allow children to interact with other children regularly. The center of this stage is games because it gives the children opportunities to explore their skills. The children started planning activities, playing games, and doing activities with others. If given this chance, the child will develop a sense of creativity.

2.3.4 Industry vs. Inferiority

Erikson's fourth psychosocial stage, involving industry (ability) and Inferiority, occurred in the childhood of 5 to 12 years old. According to Erikson (1950), Children are at the stage of learning to read, write, seek peace, and do their thing. Teachers begin to play an essential role in children's lives when they teach children specific skills.

2.3.5 Identity vs. Role Confusion

The fifth stage of Erik Erikson's psychosocial development is identity and role confusion. It happens in adolescence, approximately 12 to 18 years old. At this stage, young people seek the meaning of their life (Erikson, 1963)

During adolescence, the most important thing is the transition from childhood to adulthood. Children become more active in seeking independence and start looking at the future in terms of occupation, family, relationships, housing, etc.

They want to belong to and integrate into society. According to Erikson, the adolescent mind is the mind or moratorium, a psychosocial stage between the morality learned by a child and the ethics developed by the adult.

This is the main stage of a child's growth, and the child should learn the role that he will play as an adult. In this stage, the teenager will tend to find out exactly who they are. Erikson suggested that there are two identities involved: sexual identity and professional identity.

According to Bee (1992), the goal of this stage is a feeling of self-reintegration, that is, what people want to do or do, and appropriate gender roles. At this stage, the body image of adolescents changes.

Erikson claimed that before adapting and "adapting" to these changes, teenagers might feel temporarily unwell. If individuals pass this stage, it will lead to loyalty (Erikson, 1968). Loyalty includes being able to dedicate oneself to others based on accepting others even if there are differences in ideology. In this period, they tend to explore various possibilities and start to form their identities based on the results of the exploration. Failing to achieve a sense of identity or failing to find a role model in life ("I do not know who I want to be when I grow up") can lead to identity confusion. Identity confusion involves individuals not being sure about themselves.

To cope with identity confusion or identity crisis, teenagers may begin to try a different lifestyle (such as education, community, organization, and work).

Similarly, pressing an individual into an identity can lead to rebellion.

2.4 Identity Diffusion

Identity diffusion is part of the teenager's identity development to figure out who they are. The term identity diffusion refers to teenagers who have not fully realized their social identity and are not actively seeking it. Individuals in the identity diffusion stage do not participate in self-exploration or make firm commitments (Kroger and Marcia, 2011). Diffusion arrives in various structures, yet they all have a short or non-existent exploratory time and the powerlessness to make substantial responsibilities. Diffusion can show up unimaginably flexible, beguiling, and vastly versatile at their best. Diffusions are confused and isolated at their worst, filled with feelings of emptiness and meaninglessness. (Kroger and Marcia, 2011).

2.5 Previous Study

The literature review has a crucial part in a study. Before conducting the research, a researcher needs to comprehend the previous studies related to their issue. This comprehension will help them get the insights and understanding of those issues and then develop it into complete research. The writer finds two previous studies that examine identity vs. role confusion stages, however, the writer did not find previous studies that examine *Drop* by Katie Everson. The two of them are Linda Lestiana (2019) and Dessy Christin (2018).

The first paper is by Linda Lestiana entitled Jacob Portman's Identity

Confusion in Ransom Riggs' *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*. This

study discussed identity confusion in the story, which used Erikson's

Psychosocial Development theory to analyze it. The result shows that the

character experiences identity confusion with the symptoms that he cannot answer

the question "who am I", change the sense of life, and his life was divided into

before and after. Several possible factors caused the character to experience

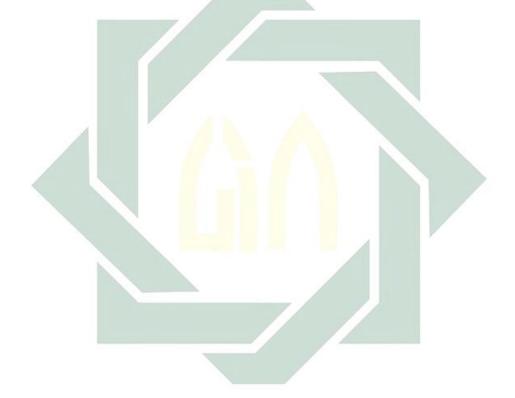
identity confusion. They are lack supports from his parents. The parents force

them to create an identity, and they do not decide things for their lives.

Dessy Christin conducted a study entitled The Adolescents' Search of Identity In "Lady Bird" Movie as The Representation of Erikson's Theory of Identity Versus Identity Confusion. This research discussed adolescents' process of searching for their identity according to Erikson's theory. This research proves the relation between intrinsic and extrinsic elements of the story about Erikson's theory of identity vs. identity confusion.

From the explanation of two previous studies above, none of them uses *Drop* by Katie Everson as their data source. None of them also have used New Criticism combined with the Psychosocial Development by Erikson theory.

Therefore, in this study, the researcher decides to research a novel entitled *Drop* by Katie Everson using theories which are New Criticism and Psychosocial Development by Erik Erikson.



CHAPTER III

ANALYSIS

This chapter consists of the discussion presented by the researcher based on the data found in the literary work. This chapter has been divided into two sections, as the researcher stated in the research question. The first main topic is discussing Carla's identity as depicted in the story. In this part, the data was analyzed with New Criticism theories. While in the second main topic, Identity confusion with the causal factor was discussed. In this part, Erikson's psychosocial development helps the researcher analyze the data found through the stories.

This study analyses *Drop* novels, which tell us about a teenage girl named Carla that moved and stayed in London several times after moving between cities. Before they stayed in London, they permanently moved every 3, 4, and six months because of her mother's job. Now that Carla stays in London for the rest of her life, she would try the social life she dreamed of. Having some friends and lovers made her blind and caused her to fall into the drugs and alcoholic life.

3.1 Carla's Identities

Carla, at first, is just a teenage girl who loves art. "art is a subject I enjoy. Ideas bubble inside me. Bursting to get out" (Everson, 2015: 24). She loves art because she can express her feelings. Carla could not tell her feelings because of the circumstance of her family that had to move because

Of her mom's job. Before, she could not receive any genuine relationship with her friends because that relationship had an expiry date. When she moves to a new place with her family, Carla's relationship with her friends in the last place is over. However, after moving to London, it will change. Her family does not need to move again, so she starts to think more about relationships, friends, grades, popularity, and others that she could not have achieved back then.

Carla's dad was a calm type of person that liked to keep one's temper. He is the type that would be calm no matter how angry her mother would be, then letting the anger out in the night when everyone seems asleep. While Carla's mother was the workaholic type, she loved her job more than loving her family. She is the main reason Carla's family needs to move every two years, one year, and even six months.

By knowing Carla's personality, we can understand the result of passing the identity vs. role confusion stage, the possible cause behind her identity confusion, and how she handles the problems that appear in her life.

3.1.1 A Girl That Loves Arts

Carla was loving art because she thought that it was the way to express her feelings. She was a creative person that had many ideas in her head.

We are studying sculpture, which I am excited about. Art is a subject I enjoy. Idea's bubble inside me, bursting to get out. Whether drawing, painting, or writing, I hope that sculpting; will do it well after this course. Art is an outlet, a way to express myself. I sound like a hippy. Whatever. (Everson, 2015: 24)

The quotation above shows that Carla was confident with her talent in arts.

She said herself that she had many ideas in her head waiting to be expressed in the object.

When I get home, Dad is stacking boxes in the garage. "Look what I found." He pulls out a canvas with a purple flower painted on, another with a boat on a choppy sea, then an underwater scene with a seahorse. "Oh, here is a good one." A penguin and a rabbit are frolicking on a hillside. "I never was that great with geography." Pity penguins are not native to England. You used to take commissions, you know. Tenner a canvas. Rather enterprising at seven years old." (Everson, 2015: 39)

The quotation above shows that Carla has been gifted in art since she was a child. As we can see many attainments that her father found in the garage, Carla was a creative person in arts.

3.1.2 A Low Self-esteem Girl

Carla's low self-esteem was found in most parts of the story. Because of family circumstances, they needed to move every two years, one year, and even six months. In the fourth to the fifth stage described by Erikson, there is a transition from childhood to adulthood. In this part, children should be more active in the relationship with each other to gain confidence. However, because of Carla's family circumstances, Carla seems to miss the chance to get more confident in herself. She mostly thought that she was inferior to others.

"I... um... I have never done one before." Suddenly I do not feel drunk at all. I feel stone-cold sober, and scared. I am afraid, all right, terrified of what it might do to me. Scared of what I will do if I take it or what I will feel like. What if I am sick or something or die like that girl who drank too much water because she felt like she was dehydrated and oh God, I should say something.

"You do not have to," Isaac says. I am about to tell. I think I will pass, but then they will probably never speak to me again. Maybe I

should *Drop*. Perhaps I would feel fit in. I have never done anything remotely wild, and time is ticking down; the sixth form will not last forever; after this is uni and then adulthood and the Big Bad World and jobs and mortgages and car insurance and council tax. Before that humdrum vanilla life arrives, here is a chance to prove I am more than a strait-laced, head-down study whore. I can surprise. I can be somebody. (Everson, 2015: 123)

From the quotation above, Carla was someone with very low self-esteem. Carla overthinks the situation she experienced that time was a test to join Finn's Crowd. If she rejects the drugs that Greg gave her, it means she failed to join the crowds, and it means that they will not speak to her again. That will be the end of the chance for Carla to join the group.

It was Isaac that wanted to help Carla going through the pressure from the crowds. He knows that Carla just lacked awareness of her potential skill. He is trying to help Carla pass this situation because everything has consequences behind it. However, Carla's low self-esteem made her interpret Isaac's intention the wrong way. Instead of thinking that Isaac was trying to help her, she felt that it was humiliating her. She almost said she would take the pill; however, Finn takes it instead because the mood is not good anymore. She thought she failed at the test of joining the crowd, and she left the party.

Maybe I can at least find out what he thinks about Finn and me.

[&]quot;So, I never thanked you for walking me home from the party. Well, I did, but I do not think you heard. You were off back to Fat Mike's lightning."

[&]quot;I was starting to come upon the pill. I did not- it Does not matter. You are welcome."

[&]quot;I think maybe I overreacted that night."

[&]quot;They should not have offered you the pills." My brain sputters into action as I try to process what he means. That I do not deserve to do drugs? That I am not cool enough? That they should not be wasted

on me? "Finn sometimes conveniently forgets that actions have consequences" (Everson, 2015: 143)

The quotation above shows that Isaac worries about Carla back then at the party. However, instead of understanding that he was just worried about her, she thought she was humiliated. She felt that she was just a burden to the crowds and did not deserve to be in the group. Even though Isaac was just concerned about Carla's condition back then, she catches the meaning wrongly.

Someone with low self-esteem has a high chance of failing the fifth stage of Psychosocial described by Erikson. Erikson stated that in the fifth stage, children should be more active and confident about themselves. However, people with low self-esteem always have self-talk but negatively. It makes it more challenging to succeed and pass through the fifth stage of psychosocial development. In Carla's case, she negatively self-talk about herself regarding the relationship with each other. She is just not excellent at expressing her feelings. "Art is an outlet. A way of expressing myself" (Everson, 2015: 24). Before, she was not bothered with relationships with each other because of her family circumstances.

"Nothing. It is just. I probably should not say this – I mean, we only just met – but you seem like a nice girl, and those guys sort of live in a dream world, their little untouchable bubble. They're in trouble sometimes. Do you want to get involved?"

Whoa, that's much information. Does she think I will not fit in with that crowd? Besides, Georgia was friendly. (Everson, 2015: 61)

The quotation above was from Lauren trying to warn Carla about Finn and his crowds. Instead of getting the point "They're in trouble sometimes," she thought Lauren would humiliate her, saying that she will not fit in Finn's crowds.

This situation shows how low Carla's self-esteem was. She felt that her friend's advice is just to humiliate her, talk like she will not fit in, not cool enough to enter the crowds, or just a study whore who did not deserve to join Finn's groups. Even though the advice is from someone that has known Finn much longer than Carla.

3.1.3 A Cupidity Girl

The symptoms of Carla being Cupidity narrated by herself from the first day at the school. The term cupidity itself comes from Cupid, which refers to love and stupidity. Another term is a Simp or a lovebird. However, because Carla is stupid because of love, cupidity is the right way to describe Carla.

I do not know why I am getting this attention. I am not complaining. Quite the opposite, but it puts me on edge. I am torn between two worlds. Lauren could be a great friend, so why do I want to jump ship and swim as fast as I can to Finn's island? It is more than a physical attraction. It is his confidence, knowing that people accept and respect you. (Everson, 2015: 42)

The quotation above shows Carla's getting flustered after getting attention from Finn. It was the starting point for Carla to fall in love with Finn. From the first day of school, Finn was the very first person to talk to Carla. She found that Finn was attractive and had a beautiful face. More than that, she was jealous of Finn, "I envy Finn. He seems free. I would like to be assertive like him."

(Everson, 2015: 41). The term free Carla stated was to refer to Finn's behavior, like being late in the class, chatting in the class, and whatever he does that sounds like he was totally out of the school's law.

[&]quot;they're pretty, I guess. Like you."

[&]quot;Oh, please." I roll my eyes but cannot help feeling flattered.

[&]quot;I mean it."

[&]quot;Well, thanks. Casanova."

"You are welcome, Francesca."

"In the story. Casanovas is in love with Francesca. Not that I am saying I am well, you know what I mean."

I narrowed my eyes on him. It is kind of nice to see him squirm with his guard down. (Everson, 2015: 87)

The quotation above shows that it is not entirely Carla's problem that she was Cupid. The conversation above shows how smooth Finn Masterson is teasing Carla in the class. Carla's feelings toward Finn grew more prominent and then became real cupidity as the story went on.

Carla's cupidity has the most significant part in changing Carla's life. It was the main culprit behind the reason why she chose the wrong choices in her life.

"Come on, tiger; it will be fun. Trust me." Finn squeezes my arms in support.

"I..... err...." I pause again. They must think I have gone a bit slow. Breathe. Speak "all right-"

"No, mate." Isaac takes the pill from Greg's hand, looking intensely at Finn. "Not if she Does not want to."

Finn Snatches the pill from Isaac's hand, and for a millisecond, I think he will force me to take it. It is right there, in front of my face, heading for my mouth, and then it is gone, bypassing mine and Finn's. (Everson, 2015: 123)

The quotation above shows the worst effect of cupidity when strong enough to influence someone's choices. In this case, Carla was about to try to take drugs from Finn's crowds. She was at Fat Mike party with Finn, Isaac, and their crowds. "Course, aside from the alcohol abuse, drug-taking, casual sex, I will be a regular little Virgin Mary." (Everson,2015: 114). Before going to the party, Carla promised her father that she would avoid drugs and alcohol. However, she already drank a beer Finn gave her on their way to the Fat Mike party. Worse than that,

[&]quot;Francesca?"

Carla tried to swallow a drug just because Finn is beside her and keeps pushing her to try it once. Fortunately, Isaac was trying to help Carla back to reality. She almost violated her promise with her dad twice if it is not because of Isaac.

"More for me, then. I love double-dropping. Right, let's go dance, kids." He kisses me on the forehead, bounces up off the ground, and runs back to the house, back to the music, the crowd, and the fun. He Does not even help me up.

Maybe it was a goodbye; I failed the test. I am such a fool. Why did I not have the guts to do it, like everybody else? (Everson, 2015: 123)

The quotation above also shows that Carla justifies using drugs because everyone else is doing it. She thought that is a test to be accepted by Finn and his crowds. She thought it was over, the relationship, and the chance to approach Finn's circle by not taking the drugs they offer.

3.1.4 An Insensitive Girl

Carla used to be insensitive or dense when it came to Finn and his crowds.

She used to overthink any advice she got from her friends, Sienna, Isaac, and

Lauren, to humiliate her.

Lauren's waiting in the corridor, bags over her shoulder, and a sympathetic look on her face.

"what's up?" I ask. She eyes Georgia making her way down the corridor and out the door.

"Nothing. It is just, I probably should not say this – I mean, we only just met – but you seem like a nice girl, and those guys live in a dream world, their little untouchable bubble. They're in trouble sometimes. Do you want to get involved?"

Whoa, that's a lot of information. Does she think I will not fit in with that crowd? Besides, Georgia was friendly.

"It was only a few sketches. She did not invite me for car-jacking or anything. She was nice."

"I guess Georgia is OK, but...." Lauren shrugs

But what? Sienna rolls her eyes. "They're just a bit full of it. Come on, I am concave with hunger, so let's stray." (Everson, 2015: 61)

The quotation above is about Lauren's intention to warn Carla about Finn and his crowd. Their group was a source of trouble, and Lauren tries to warn Carla about it. However, because of Carla's insensitivity, instead of keeping it in mind, she thought it was just an insult to her, telling her that she did not fit in the group. The lack of experience in relationships before may be the cause why Carla had such a dense personality. Before, she was not bothered with relationships because of the expiry date (Everson, 2015: 18). However, after her mom catches her dream job, her family does not have to move again. The lack of experience in the relationship and her urgent desire to try something new and move out of her comfort zone created her dense personality.

Maybe I can at least find out what he thinks about Finn and me. "So, I never thanked you for walking me home from the party. Well, I did, but I do not think you heard. You were off back to Fat Mike's lightning."

"I was starting to come upon the pill. I did not- it Does not matter. You are welcome."

"I think maybe I overreacted that night."

"They should not have offered you the pills." My brain sputters into action as I try to process what he means. That I do not deserve to do drugs? That I am not cool enough? That they should not be wasted on me? "Finn sometimes conveniently forgets that actions have consequences" (Everson, 2015: 143)

Another quotation that shows Carla's insensitivity is shown above. Isaac is concerned about what might happen with Carla's mental health after the incident at the Fat Mike parties. However, Carla again takes Isaac's intention as a humiliating act to her by saying that. Her insensitivity is on another level of common sense.

I feel tingling. Is it that noticeable? "you think I am a dirty chemical head," I say "No, just. Why do you do it to yourself?"

I avoid the question. "you did not say that about Georgia or Greg or Fin when you introduced them. you said they were popular. You even said you liked them."

"Well, the do not get so"- Siena searches for the right word –

"oh great, not only did you think Finn was so out of my league it would never happen, but you also think I am a total weakling who Cannot handle the after-effect of a couple of nights out." (Everson, 2015:212)

Carla's insensitiveness also could be found in the quotation above. In the quote above, Carla had a conversation with Lauren and Sienna in her room. Carla invites Lauren and Sienna because she thinks she starts to distance between her and Lauren and Sienna. Lauren and Sienna talk about how Carla change; they warn her to distance herself from the Finn group. She got more losses than Finn's group. They tried to convince Carla that Finn was the source of her trouble. However, she takes it in the wrong way. She thought that everyone who tries to persuade her to stand away from Finn is an act of humiliating. Because of her insensitivity, Carla thought they just told her that the Finn group is not a place for a weakling and a lowly life like herself.

3.1.5 A Druggie Girl

From the first chapter, the narrator, Carla herself, describes that she was a druggie. "I wasn't always like this. I know what you are thinking: druggie, junkie, wrecked, trash bag" (Everson, 2015: 13). It was Carla's condition after being involved in Finn crowds. As Lauren said, Carla takes more damage than Finn's crowds (Everson, 2015: 212).

I lean over the line while he holds my hair back. His fingertips send a shiver down my spine.

[&]quot;Messed up as you. And we thought it was just a crush. We did not think you would end up going out with him."

Sudden death can occur on the first use of cocaine.

I exhale, put the note to my nose and breathe in, trying to suck up the powder. It is at this moment that I realize I have not even asked if it is coke. *It could be any freaking thing. MDMA? Mephedrone? Ketamine?* I did some research online... it is surprising what people will put up their noses. Anyway, it is too late now. I have agreed to do it. The little white line vanishes like a drift up a Hoover. Zoom, suck, gone. (Everson, 2015: 165)

The quotation above is the first time Carla tried drugs, and it is the first thing that turned her into a druggie. Carla was at Georgia's party, one of Finn's crowd. Finn then invites Carla into some odd room. In that room, Carla is encouraged by Finn to take strange powder that is cocaine.

As we walk away, Mike hands me a beer. It hisses as I open it. Finn offers his hands, and I go to take it, but in his palm, I feel something. He says nothing, kisses me on the cheek.

I wait until we are out of my way before putting the pill in my mouth, as subtle as I can, then knock it back with the beer. (Everson, 2015: 195)

In school on Monday, I can barely talk. The text in my books is a blurry word jumble. My head's a lonely thought graveyard, except for two that kick and scream to be heard:

How long until I can do drugs again?

Are you out of your mind? (Everson, 2015: 204)

She was on her way to get addicted to drugs because she was involved in Finn's crowds. However, from the second quotation above, Carla still had her common sense about drugs, some of her minds were addicted to drugs, but some rejected it.

The two quotations above are another proof that Carla is a druggie girl.

I find Lauren and Sienna in the standard room at lunchtime.

[&]quot;Hei," I sav

[&]quot;The ugly duckling returns," Sienna says, looking me up and down, "a beautiful swan. Nice ribs,"

I clutch my middle. I guess I have lost weight. I am dancing burns a lot of calories.

[&]quot;I am not here to fight. Thought wondered if you wanted t come over after school."

[&]quot;Finn bussy?"

"No... I just Look, do not make this hard. I am trying to never mind." I turn to leave.

"Yeah, we'd love to come over," Lauren says. "Wouldn't we?" (Everson, 2015:210)

The quotation above shows that Carla gradually lost her weight until Lauren and Sienna noticed it. In that quotation, taking drugs and dancing every night affects her weight, which made her friends easily recognize it.

3.2 Carla's Identity confusion

As the story went on, Carla is trying to change her life, rebirth into a new being, experiencing new things, becoming popular, and it was this time for her to shine. Currently, she was experiencing a psychological moratorium. According to Erikson, a psychological moratorium is when teens stop the commitment to identity while exploring the option of identities. The characteristics of a psychological moratorium are anxiety, dissatisfaction with school, daydream, etc. Just like Carla, who was anxious about what people might see about her. She was dissatisfied with her school life. Hence, she chose to change her life, be known by her new school, and leave nerdy life.

However, life did not always work as Carla wants. She loses the grip and finds her morale continuously degenerating. Her grades in school dropped, she lost a significant portion of the weight, lost her lover, and most importantly, fell to drugs. As the stories went on, she finally felt there is something that is missing in her life. She begins questioning whether this is what she wants. She questions who she is. According to Erikson (1994), the most prominent symptom of identity confusion is asking "who am I?".

Here the researcher also finds several symptoms that are related to Carla's identity confusion.

3.2.1 Carla Is Not Sure About What She Wants

As Erikson stated in psychosocial development, in the fifth stage, identity vs. role confusion, they will encounter essence if they pass this stage. In contrast, if they fail to find their identity at this stage, they will experience identity confusion. In this case, Carla was experiencing identity confusion because she was not sure about what she wanted—being a druggie, alcoholic, and hanging around popular crowds. Carla thought, is that really what she wants?

God, shut up, brain. Everything is normal.

Finns got hold of my hand, tight, reassuring me. I shiver, freeing, no longer wearing my beer coat. He wraps his jacket around my shoulders and whispers, "I love you, tiger." I look at him, but. I have a *terrible* feeling. It might just be paranoia setting in, but something is not correct—the world askew. I Cannot see straight. People seem crooked. Like I can see the dark side of people.

Shut up, brain. Everything is normal.

I just rest my head on him, thinking how crazy my body feels, full of all these chemicals. I feel helpless. (Everson, 2015: 200)

My mouth's desert is dry. I sip some water, then take a long slug, draining the glass, but it feels foreign in my stomach, and I do not think it will be there for long—*vomit comet*.

"I will get us a water refill." He speaks.

I watch him walking away, rubbing his temples.

From the long quotation before, Carla finally realizes that something is not correct. It is contradictory to the goals that she made earlier. "Popularity, friends, grades, the good *life* as defined by a lifetime of watching John Hughes films and *clueless* on repeat. (Everson, 2015: 18). Instead of achieving those all, she got her grades down, and she was too awkward to have a conversation with her friend Lauren and Sienna.

The quotation above proves that she is confused, frightened, and anxious about what she is doing right now. She is now addicted to drugs. However, this is not what she wanted. The quotation above also shows she does not deny that she wants to be somebody. However, she feels it should not end like this. Drugs and alcohol made her plus point disappear.

Instead of getting the life goals that she wants, she now experienced anxiety and fear. "Will I feel this way forever, so out of control, so God-awful?" (Everson, 2015: 200). She was afraid that those awful feelings would last forever, and it was bothering her.

Georgia comes into the garden and sways unsteadily above me, a can of red bull in one hand and a spliff in the other. It seems contradictory to me, but she dances to the beat of her drum. Her red lipstick has rearranged itself into a map of Australia, smearing and colonizing the skin above and below her lips, but she still pulls it off. Do not-give-a-fuck-chick.

"Have a toke," Georgia says, offering me the spliff, smoked almost to the roach. "You look like you could use it."

I cannot talk. I feel broken

"Thanks," I managed. My voice is someone else's. I am someone else. Is this what I wanted? I wanted to be someone. But this is someone? I do not like it. *Fuck, fuck, fuck.* I do not like it. Will I feel this way forever, so out of control, so God-awful? (Everson, 2015: 200)

The quotation above shows that Carla finally realized that what she is doing is wrong after a long time. Carla wanted to be somebody but not this way. It is out of the way to reach her dream. Carla change to someone that even she Does not know. This was the consequence of being involved with Finn. And now Carla starts to doubt her decision whether this is really what she wants, being somebody that involved by Finn. She is not sure about it.

I am having a schizo-out. All I want is for the weekend to come round again.

Next time I gobble down chemicals and my dopamine level plummet to a dopa-minus, I may change my answer, but now, it all feels like the past. It is fucked-up crazy shit.

What am I doing?

It is worth it, is not it? I believe it. Sort of. Goddamnit.

In school on Monday, I can barely talk. The text in my book is a blurry word jumble. My head's a lonely thought graveyard, except for two that kick and scream to be heard:

How long until I can do drugs again?

Are you out of your mind? (Everson, 2015: 204)

From the quotation above, there are contradictions about Carla's thoughts.

It is proof that she is questioning if it is what she truly wants. From the sentence

"It is worth it, is not it? I believe it. Sort of. *Goddamn*." She forces her thoughts to believe that being a druggie is worth it. She denies the after-effect that she experienced after consuming drugs.

I feel tears pressing like hot pokers. I cannot stop them. No control. My body was driven by someone else, someone evil, sadistic, and cruel.

Fast-flowing tears mingle with blood.

This is it, the end. I wish I wish I were dead. Do not think that. It'll pass. It has to. Do not think that.

Just make it stop. Let me feel normal again.

Shit. Shit. Shit. I think I am going to have a seizure or something—my heart's racing. I am so tired, but it is still hammering on without me, too fast, too much.

Sudden death. Heart attack. Cocaine. Paranoia. I got just to be paranoid. I am fine. Yeah, I am fine

I am telling myself I am fine. Oh, God. Talking to myself.

It is just paranoia. I mean. I am fine. The steam rises, and then and then. (Everson, 2015: 202)

Another proof that she is not sure about what she wants were quoted above. She experienced the after-effects of using drugs. She doubts that it is a good choice. She fell into drugs and experienced an after-effect because of it.

Carla's mind was divided into two; one is telling that this is not right. However, another one telling her she was fine, just an average effect of consuming drugs.

"I think you should go."

"I did not mean to upset you, but you've got to wake up. He is bad news."

I thought they were my friends.

Yet, I do not think I would be so mad and upset unless I were beginning to think they might be right.

I think about the changes I have made to fit in with Finn's lifestyle. It is what I have wanted, but somehow, I do not feel like myself anymore. And what has he sacrificed for this relationship? I Cannot think of a single thing." (Everson, 2015:213)

Another proof that she is not sure about what she wants was shown above. Here Carla had a conversation with Lauren and Sienna in Carla's room. They were trying to help Carla stop going around Finn's group. They warn Carla that Finn is corrupting her. They were trying to convince Carla that she is already popular in her ways. However, their opinion is just rejected by Carla. However, she again thought they were humiliating her, telling her that she was just a weakling. In the end, she starts to realize that what they say about Finn might be true. She is busy trying to fit with Finn's lifestyle, and in the end, she is lost her true self.

3.2.2 Change Sense of Life

Another identity confusion symptom that the researcher found through the story is Carla's changed sense of life. The first chapter of the novel shows that Carla's understanding of life was changed. Change the meaning of life because of huge things is the researcher's symptom through the story.

Right now, I am having a schizo-out. I feel like a giant slice of death that's been reheated in the microwave. It is OK; I am used to it. But,

fuck, I miss feeling human. How did it get this way? When did it start? Christ, I do not even know. How's it going to end? I am cold all the time. I find comfort in hidden places. The places no one knows I go. Like when brushing my teeth rhythmically. Balancing on the long side of the bath. Counting. One, two, brush, step. Stalk the knife-edge. It is so more than a sole's width. (Everson, 2015: 11)

From the quotation above, the sentence "it is OK I am used to it" clearly shows that Carla's sense of life was changed because huge things happen around them. Here Carla was experiencing terrible things that even made her not consider herself as a human anymore.

Carla changed her sense of life because of the drug, smoke, and alcohol life. At first, she was just an ordinary teenage girl that loved art. Carla was never once thinking of anything like suicide or dying. However, because of her experience when she was involved in Finn's crowd, she was changed.

I smoke. That helps. Speeding up death makes me feel more alive. Good health is just the slowest way to die. Smoke heats my lungs. It makes me notice them. I think of my lungs as great oak trees and cigarettes as the obnoxious kid with a stick, flailing wildly in the branches, sending birds shooting out in every direction. *Hmmm-haaaa*, breathe in, breathe out. Dying feels good.

I like it when the light particles of dead embers reject the ashtray and go fluttering, flying up like tiny ghosts of dead butterflies. Beautiful. Yeah, I like to provoke my lungs, get them to fight back. People work the same way. BOOM! Like a firecracker, you can set people off so easily. (Everson, 2015:11-12)

The quotation above shows that Carla thought that her life was meaningless. She no longer values her life. She loves the place that no one knows. It indicates that Carla's sense of life was changed because of drugs' terrible things. Before she fell into drug life, she made a goal that she needed to be someone this time. The term 'someone' that she uses refers to someone good at

grades and popular. However, because of her experience with drugs, she lost it all. She lost her steps, and she lost her chance to be popular. Instead, now her sense of life was changed. Carla becomes a girl that is near the dead.

3.2.3 Carla Cannot Answer Who is Her.

The most prominent symptom of identity confusion in the story is Carla cannot answer who she is. According to Erikson (1994), the big question of identity vs. role confusion is 'who am I.

I ask him if he thinks I am crazy. He asks me, "do you think you are crazy?" Instinctively I assume that no, I am not. But I am here, after all. By force or not, something brought me here, to this room, to this point in time where everything converges to a single point. At this moment, I am being urged to describe in no small detail every relevant and irrelevant moment of my existence thus far. All there is in the universe is this room where I have to explain myself. And the only words I can summon are not mine, but the ravings of some lunatic I have morphed into, and all I can think about is where I can get an impressive *chaise longue* for my room like this one am lying on.

I feel powerfully unknown. (Everson, 2015: 322)

Carla was being hospitalized in this part. The quotation above shows that Carla cannot answer who she is from the word "I feel powerfully unknown." Carla cannot tell that this is her. When the doctor said that she needed to explain herself, she chooses to use another person's words to describe herself instead of using her own words.

So, for today, who shall, I will be for the doctor? Shall I be a tree, a goat, a burlesque dancer, a cabbie, a sock? The invisible girl? *Someone?* Shall I tell him about the brothers? The butterflies? The sodium?

[&]quot;Are you happy?" he throws at me

[&]quot;No, I am happy."

[&]quot;Are you happy because you are happy or happy because the stereotype says you should be?"

"What stereotypes is that?"

"Young, healthy, able to feed and clothe yourself, a warm bed to sleep in at night." *Dull, Dull, Dull* (Everson, 2015: 323)

There is also another proof that she is just pretending to be someone instead of being herself. She is just doing that because of the doctor. She failed occurring an identity, and now she is experiencing identity confusion. According to Erikson (1967), adolescents' main task for their psychological development is to successfully solve the Identity vs. Role Confusion, build their unique identity, and find the exact environment to belong to and create meaningful relationships with others. However, Carla could not find her identity in this case and fell deep down to anxiety and mentally broken.

3.3 The Possible Factor That Cause Carla's Identity confusion

There are few factors that the researcher found through the stories that may be the cause of Carla's identity confusion. The families and peers that involved Carla during her school became the factor that caused Carla not To pass the identity vs. role confusion stage.

3.3.1 Carla's Family

Carla's family circumstances may be the most significant cause of Carla's cannot successfully pass through the identity vs. role confusion stage. Carla's family needs to move every two, one year, and even six months because her mom is chasing her dream job.

A year ago, I moved to London with my dad. My mum came too, but you wouldn't know it. She is never at home. She is the whole reason we moved here. Her career, her promotion, her success, *her* life. I would say I am the least successful of her projects. Everything she does is a project to be managed and evaluated. Ask her, 'on a

scale of one to ten, how satisfied are you with your daughter?' and she'll say 'one – not very,' I am sure. She gets *null points* from me for parenting skills. OK, maybe that's hard, but I wish she'd chill out. And if she did, perhaps she would be around more. (Everson, 2015: 13)

The quotation above shows that Carla's Mom is not a good role model for Carla. A role model is a person that could be used as a foundation for doing something by younger people. For adolescence, it is the parent that should be a role model for their children. However, in this case, Carla was missing her mom's presence. Carla's mom is never at home and just pushing her career and ignoring her child. Also, Carla's mom only goes her career until she gets her dream job that Carla's family needs to move every time Carla's mom's job changes.

I have moved houses loads of times before, but this is different. This new place will become old and home; Mum is not chasing anymore; she caught the butterfly. This is it, her dream job. The person-hours, late nights in the office paid off; the pay rise and title are hers: Science Correspondent for London's most prominent newspaper. Sometimes she even gets on the news. It sounds kind of flash, but I piece together my idea of Mum's lifestyle from the information and what I overhear when she gets home, usually around one a.m., she writes some seriously weird shit. 'Evidence for dark matter in high-energy gamma rays,' 'Is graphene a wonder-material?', 'Trees over 100 meters tall cannot grow leaves', 'Swiss cheese plants experience stress.' She is up and out the door again by seven a.m. Kisses her coffee cup goodbye more than Dad or me in the mornings. So, it is like *Happy Days* around my house. Absentee mum: Check. No Weetabix: check. Happy-fucking-days. (Everson, 2015: 14)

The quotation above proves that Carla's moved plenty of time before now staying in London. She was the definition of a workaholic. She loves her jobs better than Carla and her husband, as Carla described in the sentence "kisses her coffee cup goodbye more than Dad or me in the mornings." Even if this is for her family, Carla's mom needs to pay more attention to Carla. Kate, Carla's mom,

should be responsible to Carla by giving her attention, care, and love. Because as a teenage girl, usually, she would see her mom as her role model.

- 'You are not going.' Mum sinks a ship in my gut.
- 'Come on; I am old enough to stay out. On a Friday.'
- 'Carla, be sensible. You hardly know these people. They could be up to anything.'
- 'I know, if only I could get to know them better through some kind of social gathering, like a party, on a Friday night...'
- 'What's got into you?' she glares at me with these bulgy, fiery eyes.
- 'You have coursework. And exams.' Her face goes all birdlike and scary for a second, then relaxes.
- 'I got an A on my Biology test.' Three in a row. I opened it when I got home.
- 'Fine. Ask your dad.' (Everson, 2015: 113)

However, the parent is a parent, after all. Even when she looks like she has gotten more to the job than Carla, she was afraid of Carla. However, now, Carla has lost her faith in her mom. Carla suffers because of her mom, and Carla did not even bother thinking about her mom worries

I Cannot, I want to, but I Cannot.

'I am going to get a coffee.'

The Adonis Blue flies out of sight.

I hear crying.

It is Mum. Can you hear me?'

I can hear you, I say in my head, the words unable to escape to the audible world.

'I am sorry. Look at you.' The butterfly tickles my forehead. 'I am sorry.'

It is OK, Mum. The words echo, unreleased.

'I have screwed things up for you.'

No, I screwed things up for me.

'I failed Biology,' I croak. 'And Psychology' (Everson, 2015: 325)

The quotation above is proof that Carla's mom admires that it was her fault that Carla experienced terrible things. She is regretting that in the past, she did not give more attention to Carla. It is also proof that Carla's family is the reason for Carla's suffering.

3.3.2The desire to be Popular

The second factor that causes Carla to suffer identity confusion is her desire to be popular. Heaven, Ciarrochi, & Cekaviciute (2005) stated a connection between normal or famous peers and adolescent adaptation to the environment. It was usual for Carla to desire to be popular because it is part of her finding her identity.

She wanted to change herself to somebody that everyone knows, was popular, and good in grades. She thought that this time was for her to shine because she did not need to move again.

I have never really bothered with mates and social standings before. There was always an expiry date on them, with Mum on contract; a year here, six months three. We might as well have been Travellers or living on army bases. My world was constantly changing. But now? Now I am putting down roots and have all of London and the whole of the sixth form cram my entire filmic aspirations into friends, popularity, grades, and the good life defined by a lifetime of watching John Hughes films and *Clueless* on repeat.

I am freaking Molly Ringwald in *Pretty in Pink*, and it is my time to shine. (Everson, 2015: 18-19)

The quotation above was proof that she wants to change her life. After several times transferring from one school to another, now she will be staying in London. She was planning to get what she was missing this time because of her mom's job-friends, grades, and popularity. Carla already had the qualities, but she did not have the other two friends and popularity. So, this time, it is her time to search for the other two that were missing.

I do not know why I am getting this attention. I am not complaining. Quite the opposite, but it puts me on edge. I am torn between two worlds. Lauren could be a great friend, so why do I want to jump ship and swim as fast as I can to Finn's island? It is more than a

physical attraction; it is his confidence, knowing that people accept and respect you. (Everson, 2015: 42)

The quotation above shows that Carla was getting the attention of Finn Masterson, the one that Lauren and Sienna described as popular. He and his crowd were well known in that school. Carla thought that it was not a bad thing, getting attention from the famous person in school. She starts to believe to be closer to Finn, as she knows that Finn was famous, and her goal is also to be one of them, that is popular, well-known by the entire school, and being somebody.

In the corridor after class, I notice Finn standing with Georgia and Greg. He is everywhere, a constant thought in my head and all around the school, on the periphery of my vision. Like a sixth sense, I feel him near me all the time. He is talking animatedly but stops when he sees me. Smiles. Georgia catches the look, then kisses Greg and bounds up to Lauren, Sienna, and me. She latches on to my arm and pulls me forwards. I am ignoring the others.

'Walk with me to Psych?' Georgia asks. I do not think I have a choice.

'See you tomorrow,' I called the girl as she dragged me away. I feel bad for leaving them, but they have different classes now.

'Sit with Finn and me, OK?'

I feel a rush at this special treatment. Like finally, I am starting to be somebody. (Everson, 2015: 82-83)

The quotation above also shows proof that she desired to be popular in her new school. Georgia was one of Finn's crowd members. Carla thought that now she was finally acknowledged by Finn's crowd as she got the attention from Georgia. It made Carla happy because she felt it, the feeling of being popular. Becoming close to Finn's crowd is the meaning of popular.

Carla dating Finn and becomes close with Finn's crowds. However, the cost of being popular and dating with Finn is unimaginable. She is becoming a

drug addict, and her grades have dropped. It was because of her desire to be popular and well-known in the school.

3.3.3 Love

Research has shown that adolescents' identity development is related to their relationships with their peers. Good and supporting peers are related to the identity development of adolescence. It is because peers can help prevent the stagnation in the process of identity explorations (Rassart, Luyckx, Apers, Goossens, & Moons, 2012). Also, according to Pugh & Hart (1999), support from romantic and good relationships with peers are also related to adolescent identity development.

Toxic romantic relationships, peer rejection, peer pressure are associated with increased alcohol use, depression, and psychosocial problems (Hill, Bromell, Tyson, & Flint, 2007). Carla was miserable. After all, she forced herself to stand in Finn's crowd because she loved Finn.

'You are amazing, and you do not even know it.'
Isaac hesitates, summoning courage, but he has come this far; there's no stopping him now. I Can feel his heart, his breath across my cheek. The tingling there.

'Something inside you is breaking,' he says. 'I can see you trying to patch it with Finn, the drugs, all of it. But I know, I *know*, it will not work. That stuff, it is just a crutch, a cloak, a hiding place. It is not *real*. You start to believe you need it all to be you. You do not know, Carla. You do not need all that. You are all ready. I mean, just the way you, everything about you is already perfect. You are funny, really quick, did you know that? You are hands-down the best drawer I have ever met, and I think you are exceptional. I Cannot stop thinking about you.' (Everson, 2015: 218)

From the quotation above, Isaac is trying to make everything clear. He was trying to help Carla to stop going to the party. He knew that Carla was just trying

her best to match her tempo with Finn and his crowds. Isaac was concerned about Carla from the first time she almost consumes drugs at Fat Mike parties.

However, because Carla's being a simp for Finn, she was thought that Isaac is just a hindrance and humiliating her when he tries to show his kindness to Carla every time she got wrecked because of matching Finn's tempos. Steinberg & Morris (2001) stated that peer groups significantly affect adolescent identity development because peers can adjust or remodel their identity to fit the peer group. As stated by Isaac in the quotation above, Carla was trying to match her tempo with Finn. However, it was not a good choice. Isaac thought that it would never go to work. Her love for Finn just blinds her. Carla felt that she, in this state, is her. However, Isaac saw through it, and he told Carla that it was never going to work. She just Does not know what good points that she had and is blinded by Finn's greed.

Finn shakes Isaac's shoulders. Trying to force a reaction. 'fuck's sake, Isaac. It is none of your bloody business,' he says, ramming his brother backward.

Isaac lunges at Finn, sending him crashing into me. I scraped my arm on the sandpaper surface of the brick wall and sank to the ground. Pinpricks of blood appear like a rash

'You are the one hurting me, Isaac! This is too much for me to handle!' I roar. I pull myself up and charge between them, brimming with weird energy. I just want to be calm again. Got to get out of this. Everything is OK. Do not panic. (Everson, 2015: 220)

However, again, she is a simp after all. She still had faith in Finn and ignored everything that Isaac said and said that Isaac was the one who was hurting her. It is because she loves Finn so much. Also, there is much proof that her affection towards Finn is also the most significant part that caused Carla to suffer identity confusion. There is a time that because of the affection towards Finn, she take the choice that leads her to experience identity confusion in the end.

'I asked if you wanted to come with us to see the Lovetts on Friday night?' Lauren says.

I really should start paying attention. 'Oh, yeah, sure. Who are the Lovetts?'

"they are a Motown revival band. Like the Supremes.' Sienna chips in, 'but do not let that put you off. It'll be good. The organizers do up the hall like a sixties dance, and there's even a tin-can diner outside. Everyone dresses up. I have got a black and white polka-dot dress and three red petticoats to go under it. It is going to be like, skinny, skinny, skinny' (Everson, 2015:107)

'Carla, there's a big party on Friday at Fat Mike's house. You know the hefty guy that looks like he'll burst out of his shirt like the Hulk?' I know who he means. 'Um, yeah, so you should come.' Finn swings around, so he's in front of me, walking backward.

'Yeah, I guess, maybe...'

Friday night. Damn it. FRIDAY night. The dance.

'Come!'

'I will have to ask my p- "And then I stop. Am I going to say: *I will have to ask my parents*? (Everson, 2015: 109)

From the two quotations above, Carla ended up choosing to come with Finn. It was her first time coming to Friday night parties, interpreted from her reaction when Finn invited. Besides, she was already into Finn before she got the chance to get closer to Finn when she was training with Finn in the park. She meets Finn there by accident and then becomes Finn's gym tutor in the park.

'You want one, Carla?' Greg holds a pill out on the palm of his hand. I feel all their eyes on me. The first day of school, again.

'I... um... I have never done one before.' Suddenly I do not feel drunk at all. I feel stone-cold sober, and scared. I am scared, all right. I am scared of what it might do to me. Scared of what I will do if I take it or what I will feel like. What if I am sick or something or die like that girl who drank too much water because she felt like she was dehydrated and oh God, I should say something.

'Come on, tiger; it'll be fun. Trust me' Finn squeezes my arms in support.

'I. err ...' I pause again. They must think I have gone a bit slow. Breathe. Speak. 'All right- '
(Everson, 2015: 123)

The quotation above also proves that Carla's affection towards Finn influenced Carla's decision-making. Before, she was against it because she knew that the effect of consuming drugs is unimaginable. However, because Finn supported her and tried to match the groups, she almost said she wanted to consume the drugs. So, it is proof that love and affection are also the biggest factors that caused Carla to suffer identity confusion. Love and affection influence Carla's decision-making and lead to identity confusion in the end.

'You do not have to.' Isaac says, I am about to say I think I will pass, but then they will probably never speak to me again. Maybe I should drop. Maybe I would feel fit in. I have never done anything remotely wild, and time is ticking down; the sixth form lasts forever after this is uni and then adulthood and the Big Bad World and jobs and mortgages and car insurance and council tax. Before that humdrum vanilla life arrives, here is a chance to prove I am more than a strait-laced, head-down study whore. I was surprised. I can be somebody. 'No, mate.' Isaac takes the pill from Greg's hand, looking intensely at Finn. 'Not if she Does not want to' (Everson, 2015: 123

At this time, Carla was saved by Isaac, Finn's brother. Throughout the story, he was the most caring person Carla have aside from Lauren and Sienna, her friends. There is much time Isaac trying to help Carla choose the right path because he knows the hidden beauty inside Carla. He is trying to help Carla realize it. However, sadly, because her love and affinity toward Finn are growing big, Carla ends up disliking Isaac because she thought that Isaac is just trying to pull her off from Finn and his crowds.

I bit my lip, breathing in, hoping to activate something within, the alcohol perhaps, anything for confidence. But it is time; it is going to happen, and when it is happening,

I risk a glance at Finn, hoping for further advice. He's wiping his nostrils

'Breath out first, then breathe in sharply through your nose,' He instructs.

OK. I can do this. I step away from the stall wall, and it is right in front of me, so silly, so small, so.

I lean over the line while he holds my hair back. His fingertips send a shiver down my spine.

Sudden death can occur on the first use of cocaine.

I exhale, put the note to my nose and breathe in, trying to suck up the powder. It is at this moment that I realize I have not even asked if it is coke. *It could be any freaking thing. MDMA? Mephedrone? Ketamine?* I did some research online. It is surprising what people will put up their noses. Anyway, too late now. I have agreed to do it. The little white line vanishes like dirt up a Hoover. Zoom, suck, gone. (Everson, 2015: 165)

The quotation above shows that it was the first time Carla took a drug and was responsible for Carla's suffering identity confusion later. Because of her affection and love for Finn and the desire to be well known and popular, she found in Finn's group. However, her love and affection towards Finn are too great that they made her being cupidity. She does everything just because she felt safe around Finn. She even violated her promise to her dad.

'OK,' I begin. 'Attachment is an emotional bond to another person,' I read from my crib sheet. 'Psychologist John Bowlby was the first attachment theorist. . .' Finn sits up. Edge closer. I try to focus. 'His psychological model. 'He kisses my neck. The words blur Connectedness. Support. Trust. I put the paper down to give Finn my attention

All I can think is, *He loves me. He loves me. He loves me.* (Everson, 219)

The quotation above shows how Carla thought about Finn. She believes that Finn loved her. They are going out after all, so it was normal for her to think like that. However, she Does not consider the cost that she took to be like that—druggies are not a small cost considering her age.

3.3.4 Carla's Insensitiveness

The researcher also found that Carla's insensitive personality is also the cause that made her suffering identity confusion. In addition, there are several events that the researcher found through the story considered as proof that her insensitivity made her suffering identity confusion.

Lauren's waiting in the corridor, bags over her shoulder, a sympathetic look on her face.

"what's up?" I ask. She eyes Georgia making her way down the corridor and out the door.

"Nothing. It is just, I probably should not say this – I mean, we only just met – but you seem like a nice girl, and those guys sort of live in a dream world, their little untouchable bubble. They're in trouble sometimes. Do you want to get involved?"

Whoa, that's a lot of information. Does she think I will not fit in with that crowd? Besides, Georgia was friendly.

"It was only a few sketches. She did not invite me for car-jacking or anything. She was nice."

"I guess Georgia is OK, but" Lauren shrugs

But what? Sienna rolls her eyes. "They're just a bit full of it. Come on, I am concave with hunger, so let's stray." (Everson 2015: 61)

As we can see in the quotation above, Lauren is trying to warn Carla about being involved with Finn's group. But as we can see, Carla thought Lauren just underestimated her, telling her that she does not fit Finn's group. This personality then leads her to be more influenced by Finn and slowly lose her trust in trying to warn her about being involved with Finn. Thus, not only Lauren and Sienna, but even Isaac is also experiencing Carla's insensitiveness.

Maybe I can at least find out what he thinks about Finn and me.

"So, I never thanked you for walking me home from the party. Well, I did, but I do not think you heard. You were off back to Fat Mike's lightning."

"I was starting to come upon the pill. I did not- it Does not matter. You are welcome."

"I think maybe I overreacted that night."

"They should not have offered you the pills." My brain sputters into action as I try to process what he means. That I do not deserve to do

drugs? That I am not cool enough? That they should not be wasted on me? "Finn sometimes conveniently forgets that actions have consequences" (Everson, 2015: 143)

The quotation above tell how Isaac is concerned about Carla's condition after Fat Mike's party incident. That time she was given the drugs. However, she still hesitated to accept the drug. Finn almost convinces Carla to take the drugs, but then Isaac stops it. He knows that Carla is new to drugs, and he knows that Carla is not really into drugs. She is just trying to be one of Finn's crowd. However, Carla thought it was different. Her insensitivity made her think that everyone trying to warn her about Finn's crowd is just underestimating her and an act of humiliation. So, instead of thinking twice about being involved in Finn's crowd, she was even more interested in Finn's crowd.

"I think you should go."

"I did not mean to upset you, but you've got to wake up. He's bad news."

I thought they were my friends.

Yet, I do not think I would be so mad and upset unless I were beginning to think they might be right.

I think about the changes I have made to fit in with Finn's lifestyle. It is what I have wanted, but somehow, I do not feel like myself anymore. And what has he sacrificed for this relationship? I Cannot think of a single thing." (Everson, 2015:213)

The quotation above shows that Carla starts to realize that what others said about Finn might be true. Carla notices herself changing 180 degrees and Does not feel like herself anymore. She began to fix her insensitiveness, but it was not enough. Her feeling towards Finn is too big and justify her acts that related to Finn. In the end, she wipes off those feeling and tells herself that Finn are right and I love him.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

Drop by Katie Everson talks about Carla's identity development. She was going through a hard life and experiencing a terrible life in the process of her identity development. Before she stayed in her new home in London, she needs to move every year or even six months because of her mom's job. Now she did not need to move again because her mom got her dream job. In school, she started to experience many new experiences. Friends, relationships, popularity, and grades were Carla's goals when she first enrolled at the school. However, things do not go the way Carla wants. She falls into a drug life, her grades drop, and she even lost her lover. She ends up experiencing identity confusion in the end.

There are two previous studies the researcher found that related to identity vs. role confusion. However, the researcher did not find the previous study that discusses *Drop* by Katie Everson using psychosocial development. None of the two previous studies had addressed the relationship between characterization and identity vs. role confusion. This study aimed to describe Carla's personality and the identity vs. role confusion stage that Carla experienced. The researcher used New Criticism and Psychosocial Development by Erikson to analyze this novel.

The result shows that Carla was described as someone that loves art, she was the type who had many ideas in her life, and she expressed them through art.

Carla was also described as love cupidity. Her love and affection were so great that her love and affection influence even her decisions. Carla was also described

as a teenager with low self-esteem. She did not have confidence in her ability, and she also has an insensitive personality. Whenever someone tries to warn her about being involved in Finn's crowd because they are concerned about Carla, she thinks they humiliate and underestimate her. She was a druggie girl because she was involved in Finn's crowd, and because of this, Carla was losing everything, and in the end, she was experiencing identity confusion.

The other result shows Carla is acquiring identity while in the identity vs. role confusion stage. There are several symptoms that Carla experienced. The first is Carla questioning if this is what she wants. From the first day she moved to London, she wanted to be somebody popular in her new school, and because of it, she became involved with Finn's crowd. However, after being involved in the Finn crowd, she questions whether this is somebody she wants? Being a druggie and falling grade made her rethink whether this is what she wanted. The second symptom is a change in the sense of life after being involved with Finn and being a druggie until she was hospitalized. Her sense of life has changed. She is now anxious and finds her comfort place when there is no one there. It was very different from her previous goal of being popular. The last is she Does not know who she is. After being hospitalized because of drugs and Finn left her, Carla lost herself. She Cannot answer who she is when the psychiatrist asks her about herself. Anything she said is just the word that she copies from another person then morphs it into one.

The last results showed that there are several factors behind Carla's identity confusion. First is her family situation. Family is the most significant

reason Carla failed to acquire identity in the identity vs. role confusion stage.

Their family Does not care about Carla and just focuses on work, especially her mom. Thus, Carla's mom failed to be a role model for Carla, while adolescence needs to have a role model for their identity development. The second is her desire to be popular. The researcher found that Carla desired to be popular.

However, she ignored what it costs to become a popular teenager. The third is Carla's love and affection. Her love for Finn influenced her decision in her life. Because of that, she falls into drugs and, in the end, suffers from identity confusion. The last is Carla's insensitiveness. Because of her insensitive personality, she failed to get a warning from her friends.

This study reveals several factors that can lead someone to fail to acquire identity in the identity vs. role confusion stage. Thus, it was important for parents to help their children pass through the identity vs. role confusion stage, acquire identity, and help their identity development.

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