

RESEARCH ARTICLE

DISCUSSION OF EDDIE'S TEMPER IN MITCH ALBOM'S NOVEL "THE FIVE PEOPLE YOU MEET IN HEAVEN"

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Abstract

In this paper, one of Mitch Albom's novels "The Five People You Meet in Heaven" was chosen to be study about Eddie's anger. The purpose of this study is to know the cause of Eddie's anger and the ways to express his anger and to know the effect of Eddie's temper towards his father .Based on the result of this study, it was found that Eddie got angry because his father has caused a lot of hurt in his childhood days .While he was serving in the war, he was wounded that leads to his physical disability .His father left him untreated. This increased his temper more. He feels that all his goals and wishes have been shattered because of his father's negligence towards his life. The way he express his anger for the first time is he did not work and would spend his days at home, staring out the window. After he never spoke to his father again.

Keywords: Anger (temper), Eddie, Mitch Albom, home, Father

Introduction

The novel "The five people you meet in heaven" by Mitch Albom, deals with Eddie's temper on his father. Eddie is the main character of the novel, where he had a very uncomfortable relationship with his father .The novel also speaks about his painful days in the warfield where he got physically injured. The main reason of Eddie's anger was his father's irresponsibility that causes more sufferings in his life.

Reason behind Eddie's rage on his father

Eddie hated his father because his father did not spend much time with him. One day, his father took Eddie to the pier and he left Eddie in the care of an animal trainer. Often his father would come home drunk late at night and he beat Eddie and joe. Eddie feels that his father had destroyed him in three ways:

1. Neglegence
2. Silence

3. Violence

Even after his father's death, Eddie was angry with him for being cheated at Ruby

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pier Amusements Park. Eddie himself took care of his mother. Eddie felt that because of his father all his goals are shattered and he also felt that he never able to become anything he wanted to become in life and also his life had no purpose. After Eddie was released from the hospital, he was very much worrying for his injury. He did not work and he spent his days inside the home, staring out the window. These things made Eddie to hate his father much. Eddie said to ruby,

“I hated him,”he mumbled.

The old woman nodded.

“He was hell on me as a kid.And he was worse

When I get older”.(Albom,2003,p.149)

Eddie forgiving his father

Eddie also died accidentally in the amusement part. In the heaven, Eddie met a woman outside the dinner. There, he saw also his father. The woman took Eddie away and told her story how she met her husband, Emile, their courtship and how he built an amusement park for her. The woman is named Ruby,”Ruby piers” for namesake. The Baker, who lives in the ground apartments, came to Eddie and told him that he doubts that something has happened to Eddie’s father.

Ruby told the story to Eddie how the pier caught fire, how her husband Emile got injured and how they moved far away from

Ruby pier. Ruby told Eddie that she came there to tell him why his father died. Then, Eddie recalled the death of his father and the upcoming events. After his father’s death, Eddie and his wife Marguerite moved back to the apartment building where he grew up. He helped his mother and continues his father’s job at ruby pier. Ruby shows Eddie a father fell into the ocean to save Mickey Shea. Though, Eddie’s father planned to kill Mickey, Eddie’s father jumped into the ocean and saved his life when he fell into the ocean.Now, Eddie learns that his father died because of loyalty and helping tendency. Eddie learns the lesson to get out of anger and he forgave his father. Eddie told him that he has forgiven his father by saying “it is fixed”.

Ruby said softly

“Holding anger is a poison. It eats you from inside. We think that hating is a weapon that attacks the person who harmed us. But hatred is a curved blade. And the harm we do, we do to

Ourselves”.(Albom,2003,P.149)

Conclusion

Therefore, we learnt about Eddie’s relationship with his father, how he spent his painful childhood days inside the home alone that caused Eddie to give out of his goal and he was frustrated and became very sad with his Father. After Ruby told the incident what Eddie’s father he forgave his father and said that his father died of loyalty to his friend Mickey shea. Eddie learnt the

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lesson from Ruby to give out off the anger on his father and forgave his father.

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