

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

In this chapter the writer presents the conclusion of the study regarding the answering of the research questions. The writer also provides some suggestions considering the importance of the study and further attempts that are possibly taken by other writers to continue the study.

5.1. Conclusion

In the conclusion, the writer briefly answers the research questions formulated in the previous chapter. The research questions are (1) what are external conflicts depicted in this story? (2) what are the causes of the conflicts? (3) what are the solutions to the conflicts? The answers to the research questions are summarized in the table below.

Table 5.1

Summarize of the Answers to the Research Questions

Characters	The External Conflicts	The Causes	The Solutions
Jean Valjean vs Bishop Myriel	- Valjean stole The Bishop's candlesticks.	- Valjean thought about the money he would get if he sold those candlesticks.	- The Bishop forgave Valjean and saved Valjean's life by saying that those silvers were the gifts for Valjean.
Jean Valjean vs Fantine	- Valjean lied about bringing Cosette to Fantine.	- Valjean got an accident in the middle of his way fetching Cosette. In the other's hand, he did not want to see Fantine sad.	- Valjean admitted his lying to Fantine forced by Javert's coming. This scene made Fantine died.

Jean Valjean vs Cosette	- Valjean started to act strangely that made Cosette angry and sad.	- He hid his identity as an ex-convict from Cosette.	- Valjean left Cosette and lived separately from her.
Jean Valjean vs Marius	- Valjean hate Marius	- Valjean was jealous of Marius because Marius fell in love with Cosette. He was afraid that Marius would take Cosette from his side.	- He sacrificed his feeling to see Cosette happy with Marius.
Jean Valjean vs Thénardier	- Valjean was competing with Thénardier to win the foster rights of Cosette.	- Valjean wanted to take Cosette from Thénardier as Fantine wished.	- Valjean gave money to Thénardier and then Thénardier gave Cosette to Valjean.
	- Thénardier trapped Valjean after recognizing Cosette.	- Thénardier wanted to take Cosette back from Valjean.	- Valjean escaped.
Jean Valjean vs Javert	- Javert kept chasing Valjean.	- Javert wanted to arrest Valjean to re-imprison him because Valjean was Javert ex-prisoner.	- Valjean always ran away but in the end, Valjean surrendered himself to Javert.
	- Valjean had an opportunity to kill Javert.	- Javert betrayed his barricade by joining the opponent's barricade.	- Valjean released Javert and kept Javert alive.

The table shows that there are eight main character's external conflicts depicted in the story; Valjean's stealing Bishop's candlesticks, Valjean's lying to Fantine about Cosette's existence, Valjean's love to Cosette, Valjean's hatred to Marius, Valjean's fighting with Thénardier, Thénardier's trap, Javert's

recognizing Valjean as one of his ex-convict, and Valjean's opportunity to kill Javert.

The second conclusion is concerned with the causes of the external conflicts faced by Jean Valjean. There are eight causes leading the conflicts to happen; Valjean's thought about selling Bishop's candlesticks, Valjean's accident, Valjean's hiding his identity as an ex-prisoner from Cosette, Valjean's jealousy to Marius, Valjean's willingness to take Cosette from Thénardier, Thénardier's willingness to take Cosette back. Javert's recognizing Valjean as his ex-convict, and Javert's betrayal to his barricade.

The writer lastly concludes the solutions for the external conflicts. There are eight solutions taken to overcome the eight external conflicts; Bishop Myriel forgave Valjean by lying to the police that those candlesticks had been given to Valjean, Valjean admitted his lying to Fantine forced by Javert's coming and in the end Fantine passed away, Valjean decided to stay apart from Cosette so that Cosette could forget him and lived happily with Marius, Valjean sacrificed himself to give Cosette to Marius, Valjean gave money to Thénardier so that he could take Cosette, Valjean escaped, Valjean ran away from Javert but in the end he surrendered himself to Javert, and Valjean forgave Javert by letting him go even when Valjean had an opportunity to kill Javert.

The conflicts among Jean Valjean, Fantine, Cosette, and Thénardier can be considered as minor conflicts in which Hugo uses those conflicts to depict the harsh condition of poverty at that time. Fantine tried to survive and fulfill Cosette's needs and Thénardier ran everything to get money. They are the portrayals of the hard condition. Jean Valjean, Fantine, Cosette, and Thénardier

are connected to one another. The problems they deal with are related. However the actions and resolutions taken from these conflicts do not seem to be directly related to each other.

Meanwhile, the conflicts among Jean Valjean, Bishop Myriel, Marius, and Javert are related. Almost all over the plot in this story is under influences Bishop Myriel's, Marius', and Javert's actions. The forgiveness given by Bishop Myriel and the kindness taught by him were remembered by Valjean in his whole life. Valjean applied his lesson from Bishop Myriel to solve his problem with Marius and Javert. His sacrifices to give his only daughter, Cosette to Marius showed how great his heart was. The forgiveness he gave to Javert as Bishop did to him brings Valjean to a freedom.

5.2. Suggestions

5.2.1. Suggestion for the Readers of the Novel

After doing the research, the writer hopes that the readers of the novel have more capability in understanding the plot through knowing the external conflicts. One conflict may result in different ways for different types of people in different places. One thing to note to be able to manage is forgiveness. Besides being the theme of the novel, through forgiveness, people will live freely without any burden and love each other without looking back at the mistakes which will yield into a better life.

5.2.2. Suggestion for Teaching Literature

The writer suggests that in teaching literature, it would be better if the teacher asked the students to analyze in such a way through objective approach so that the students would feel the way the story goes or the way the characters feel. The teacher may ask more to the students to relate the story to the reality. By doing this the students will be likely to have deeper understanding rather than asking students to do common reading comprehension questions about a story.

5.2.3. Suggestion for Further Study

The writer realizes that in this study the writer only limits her analysis into the emergence of external conflicts of the main character, the causes, and the resolutions taken. The writer hopes and suggests that it is more likely for the other researchers to broaden the scope of the study regarding this Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables* into analysis through intrinsic elements, or the analysis from Javert's point of view, or the analysis of the influences of the conflicts toward the plot.

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