CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

In this chapter, I would like to give my personal opinion about my findings concerning the non-observances in Revenge TV Series that cause conflicts. In order to make a conversation run smoothly, one should observe the rule of conversation. The failure to observe it will cause a conflict between the speaker and the hearer. In Revenge TV Series, there are a lot of conflicts which are caused by the failure to observe the maxims. From analyzing 26 data in total, I find 22 data of flouting the maxim and 4 data of violating the maxim. However, I find none of suspending, opting out of, and infringing the maxim.

Based on the findings, the biggest number of data is the flouting of the maxim; thus, there are a lot of implicatures which the speakers wish the hearers to look for. Yet, the speakers all have different reasons to imply their meaning in their utterances. In my opinion, besides the characteristics of the characters, I can say that a certain situation causes someone to flout a certain maxim.

This biggest number data of flouting the maxim also gives an effect to the audience. Since the speaker often flouts the maxim, the audience has to really pay attention to the dialogues from the beginning until the end besides the context of this TV series. If they miss some important parts of the stories, they may not catch the implicature of the speaker's utterance. Hence, the audience
will not understand the causes of the conflict to occurs, which then makes this TV series boring.

The characteristics of the character can also become one of the factors of the failure of observing the maxims. For instance, the main character, Emily, is smart and she does not trust other people easily. It makes her more aware of people who try to manipulate her. With her knowledge, she can corner people who try to deceive her, but not directly. Another example is Charlotte, who is a little childish and careless. She cannot be responsible for anything she does; consequently, she tends to look for excuses so as not be blamed. Hence, she often fails to observe the maxim by lying or changing the topic.

The other type of the non-observance is violating the maxim. There are 4 out of 26 data found or 15 %, so I conclude that in this TV series the characters only have a slight intention to mislead. Frank and Charlotte are the characters who violate the maxim. I believe it to happen because the situation forces them to do it. They are being cornered by the other party and both of them want to protect themselves from being blamed on something that they have actually done. Frank pretends that he does not understand the reason why Conrad is mad with him, while Charlotte lies about having taken drugs. As I have mentioned earlier, the audience cannot afford to miss the episodes; or else they may not know if the speaker lies or tells the truth.

In my analysis, I find some utterances of suspending, opting out of, and infringing the maxim but they do not end up with conflicts. Therefore, they do not become the data of my research. In this television series, there are indeed some scenes in which the speaker is drunk, but I do not find anything from their utterances which lead to conflicts. I do not find any conflicts caused by taboo
words or the ethical reasons which cause them to fail in cooperating the maxims.

There are four types of maxim that are flouted, namely flouting the maxim of quality, quantity, relation, and manner. In my analysis, from those four types, the most data found is flouting the maxim of manner, namely thirteen data. The second most data is flouting the maxim of relation, which is five, and followed by two data of flouting the maxim of quality, and one data of flouting the maxim of quantity.

According to the number of data found above, it can be concluded that the characters in this TV series are likely to talk indirectly or unclearly. It all depends on the situation at that time. For instance, Conrad wants to fire his confidant, Frank. Yet, the fact is Frank has been working for Conrad for quite a long time, and he should be grateful to Frank. Because of that, Conrad does not want to say his intention directly. The other example is Marion, who wants to ask for Victoria’s help. However, she was very mean to Victoria in the past; moreover, they have not been talking for 35 years. Therefore, she conveys her intention indirectly.

The second most data found is flouting the maxim of relation. The main reason for this is because they want to avoid a topic. Referring to Charlotte and Emily as examples, both of them want to avoid the question and change the topic. Charlotte is afraid of her mother when her mother asks her about her taking drugs, while Emily is also afraid that Daniel will find out her secret.

I only find two data which flout the maxim of quality uttered by Conrad and Emily. Conrad says, ‘no’ when Frank asks him if he fires him, when both Conrad and Frank know that the truth is the opposite. Emily says, ‘Oh I believe that’ with a sarcastic tone and she roles her eyes. From her body language, we can see that Emily actually does not believe Tyler’s story. In this case, Tyler catches
Emily’s implicature which makes him really mad because he feels insulted. From those cases, I conclude that when someone flouts the maxim of quality, they expect the hearer to catch their implied meaning. Usually, when the hearer can catch the implicature, a conflict arises.

Since the genre of this TV series is drama, conflicts are indeed the main issue. I find verbal conflicts rather than physical conflicts because this series revolves around revenge. The verbal conflicts caused by the non-observances of the maxims make this TV series really interesting.

(1,008 words)