

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **CONCLUSION**

After reading and analysing the protagonist of the novel, I see how the author, Joanne Greenberg, gives a clear portrayal of the protagonist in every chapter of the novel, from what the protagonist experiences and feels in every situation that she must face. It is how Joanne Greenberg portrays the protagonist, Deborah that makes this novel worth reading and analysing. Joanne Greenberg obviously has successfully depicted the protagonist since it is a semi-autobiographical account of the author's experiences in a mental hospital during her own about with the illness. In this case, she has helped me to analyse the protagonist's portrayal with clear descriptions of the characteristics and the changes along with the events happening to the protagonist throughout the novel.

She describes Deborah as a 16 year-old Jewish girl suffering from mental illness. Her illness is the result of her traumatic experience during her childhood, her Jewish family background and how she finds it difficult to make friends as the result of being Jewish. It may be a rare occurrence for a person to experience such a combination of problems, but Greenberg has successfully managed to portray the challenges Deborah has to suffer and her struggles against these difficulties and reach

a conclusive portrayal of Deborah in the end as a persistent, optimistic and friendly person.

I discover that Deborah is portrayed firstly as a sensitive person, especially to lies. Her sensitivity makes her think that she lives in a horrifying world, so she creates her imaginary world called the Kingdom of Yr, a place for Deborah's mind to escape from the deception of the world. Her characteristic evolves to an introvert person and she prefers to communicate with the gods of Yr which is her own creation on her mind, because she doesn't have any friends. I notice that most of the problems that Deborah faces are rooted in her fear of the world, her fear of deception and loneliness which caused her to have an introvert character. Besides the characteristics mentioned above, Greenberg also depicts Deborah as a highly intelligent person. Although she wants to show that even though Deborah is a mental illness patient, she has a brilliant brain.

I conclude that Deborah is a dynamic character because there are some changes of her characteristic in the novel, from sensitive to lies which makes her retreat into the Kingdom of Yr and being controlled by her own mind creation characters, or an introvert person that makes her difficult to find friends and later on changes into a friendly person who has many friends in the hospital, and one of her closest friend's name is Carla.

I am astonished with Deborah's persistence to leave her imaginary world and lives a normal life and faces the real world bravely despite being a mental illness patient for the rest of her life

I discover that from the portrayal of Deborah in the novel, Joanne Greenberg is trying to convey her insight as positive reference and helping the

readers to learn further to understand about the hardship of life. She also wants to show that the real world with various activities, nations and backgrounds, can be a horrifying place or a beautiful place, depending on our point of view. Nothing is perfect in this world, just like the title of the novel I Never Promised You a Rose Garden, as for Deborah when she learns to accept the reality, she has to learn to accept that the real world can not always give her the good things. There must also be the bad things, but that is what life is all about.

After analysing this literary work, from the portrayal of Deborah, I learn a lot about how to appreciate the reality of life. Friendship is so precious that it can change one's life. I also learn that one cannot face life alone, as human beings we need to love and to be loved by someone, as I discover how Deborah's relationship with Carla surprisingly helps Deborah to be a strong person to face the reality.

Greenberg has managed to present her purpose in portraying the protagonist well, as the presentation of Deborah has given me as the readers' positive insights about positive thinking, strength and most of all, about the reality of life.