It has always been there and always will be

Have you ever experience a depression or sadness? How a person can pass through those experiences? It is hard. However, all the human need to accept and move forward to continue their live. They need to consider that sadness and death are a nature of life and, no one can avoid it. Otherwise they will spend the rest of their life uselessly. In the story “Trilobites”, the main character, Colly cannot accept his depression. The main theme of this story is to live means to ‘accept’ depression, sadness, and death by shows that Colly cannot move forward compares to other character.

First of all, a person who not accept something cannot live in the present. He will keep thinking only about the past and believing that it is better than the present. According to “Trilobites”, Colly always recalls memories about his past. There are many times that Colly recalls his past after has seen something that can relate to it. Pancake (2014) states that “I see a concrete patch in the street. It's shaped like Florida, and I recollect what I wrote in Ginny's yearbook: “We will live on mangoes and love.” ” (p.26). He can recall his memory with whatever he sees even it is just a concrete patch. Furthermore, he believes that the life before he loses his important person and place is the best memory he has. Pancake (2014) states that “I swing the sack a little toward Ohio, and spray some blood on Trent's pants. “Sorry,” I say.” (p.29). Colly opposes to sell the farm because he does not want to lose the place of memories between him and his father. His mother decides to sell it to Trent so, Colly makes a small revenge on Trent. It also causes him to always put up a conversation topics about his good old memories. Colly states that “Can't recall the name Pop gave it.” (Pancake, 2014, p.32). After he states that sentence, he and his mother begin a conversation about his father, Pop. He does not want to talk about anything in the present. This causes him to stay alone and, he only talk to his mother and his friend, Jim. The author shows how Colly cannot join the society and, it causes his life to become worse.

Moreover, Colly lives in his memory while Ginny does not. Their life can be compared to each other because both of them have similar losses in the past. Pancake (2014) states that “I remember Pop's dead eyes looking at me. They were real dry, and that took something out of me.” (p.26). Colly’s father died. His father’s death also causes his mother to sell the farm he loves. He loses his precious person and place. Colly’s mother states about Ginny’s mother that “Shot her in Chicago. Shot hisself too.” (Pancake, 2014, p.32). Ginny loses her mother and Colly loses his father. In the story, Colly and Ginny have a completely different life and personality even both of them have these similar past. This is because they have different point of views on their past and memory. Ginny is a sociable and cheerful person which can go along well with the society. She may think that she can learn from her past and, it makes her to grow up as a good adult. This means that she can accept her sadness from her mother’s death. Colly states to Ginny that “You never talk about your momma.” (Pancake, 2014, p.34). She prefers to not recall anything about her mother’s death because she knows that it already passed and has no mean to keep thinking about it. The author shows that Colly has an opposite point of view on the past from Ginny. He cannot accept his sadness and cannot move forward. This makes Ginny’s life better than his.

In addition, Trilobite can be a symbol of the way that Colly actually wants his life to be. According to “Trilobites”, Pancake (2014) states that “I can't even find a trilobite.” (p.31). Colly searches for a Trilobite for a long time but, he could not find it. Trilobite is a kind of a fossil. It is mostly found in Cambrian rock. It is there since hundreds of millions years ago. (Stammers, 1998, para.5). A depression between soils forms a rock. The Trilobite inside the rock also receives lots of depression over the time. It can accept that depression and becomes a part of the world. Colly receives a depression from the surrounding as same as a Trilobite such as the death of his father, the loss of the farm he loves. Especially, he feels useless because he cannot be a good farmer. He cannot understand that they are a normal thing that can happen to every living thing in the world. At the last paragraph of the story, Pancake (2014) states that “I walk, but I'm not scared. I feel my fear moving away in rings through time for a million years.” (p.35). Colly finally realizes that every humans should accept the depression and sadness they face as a Trilobite. The author shows that when Colly decides to accept it and becomes a part of the world, he discovers his new goal. His life is not useless anymore.

To conclude, main theme of “Trilobites” is to live means to ‘accept’ depression, sadness, and death by shows how Colly’s life becomes worse because he cannot accept the depression. Pancake also shows a big difference between Colly and Ginny’s life that causes different point of views on their past. Moreover, he shows that Colly knows that accept the sadness and depression as the Trilobite can make his life better. He realizes that he cannot avoid it. It is a part of a cycle of life and death. How do you think, if all the humans in the world live in their memories likes Colly, will they find the real happiness?

References

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