

Rebecca Graham  
Mrs. Boyd  
Literature Circle Conflict Assignment  
20 November 2008

Comment [I1]: GRADE of 42/45

### Quotations

Comment [I2]: Score of 17/20

#### 1. Page 178 paragraphs 4-19

“Derek, have you realized who this is?” says Erica pleasantly. This is Rebecca Bloomwood, one of our customers. I think you spoke to her the other day. Remember?”...Good,” says Derek Smeath. “Then I’ll expect you on Monday.” “Fine,” I sat, and smile even more confidently at him. “Looking forward to it already!”

Rebecca Bloomwood has an internal and an external conflict with her business manager Derek Smeath. She has an overdraft, but refuses to face the problem. In this quotation, Becky is trying to be smooth and mingle, but instead she runs into her business manager. She is avoiding Derek because she has no way of paying off her debt. Becky has made up silly excuses such as breaking her leg, glandular fever, and even hanging up the phone on him. Becky also has gone as far as throwing her bills and red letters over the bridge, and hiding them in her drawer. Derek is frustrated with Becky and has a problem with her way of handling situations. Becky is struggling within herself, trying to figure out how to fix her money problems.

Comment [I3]: Explain both levels of the conflict, specifically the two forces in conflict in each.

#### 1. Page 117, 118 paragraphs 8

“Yes?” I say absently. “Rebecca Bloomwood here.” I nearly add, “Of Bloomwood stores,” but maybe that’s a tad premature. “Ms.Bloomwood, this is Derek Smeath from Endwich Bank.” What? I’m so shocked, I drop the phone onto my desk with a clatter and have to scramble around to pick it up...”I’ve made a note of our conversation, Ms.Bloomwood, and I’ll be expecting the arrival of a thousand pounds into your account on Monday 26 March.”

Rebecca Bloomwood has finally got caught by Derek Smeath. She is now in **conflict with herself**. To get herself out of this sticky situation, she makes up lies. She made up a story about how her aunt died and left her a thousand pounds. Now she is in a bigger conflict with herself for lying. For Rebecca Bloomwood, money and conflict go hand in hand.

**Comment [14]:** Explain her internal conflict in more detail.

**Vocabulary**

**Comment [15]:** Score of 10/10

2. Page 182 Paragraph 8

“Dear Mr.Smeath, I was a little surprised by your recent **implication** that I have insufficient funds to cover my overdraft.

-Implication- something implied or suggested; naturally understood

The principal made an **implication** that the football team **had stole** the other team’s mascot.

**Comment [16]:** Verb?

2. Page 35 Paragraph 14

“Suze!” I wail in **dismay**.

-Dismay- sudden or complete loss of courage

I was **dismayed** by the F I got on my test.

2. Page 168 Paragraph 6

Fund managers understand the balance sheets and market momentum driving **volatile** stocks.

-Volatile- tending to violence; explosive

The bully at school was **volatile** and quickly angered.

Rebecca Bloomwood and Derek Smeath would eat Thanksgiving dinner together.

Comment [17]: Score of 15/15

Give thanks for: Rebecca Bloomwood is thankful for a kind, considerate, lineate, and wonderful business manager, who does not give strict consequences for her bad spending decisions. Derek Smeath is thankful for customers that pay their bills on time and do not have an overdraft.

Discussion during meal: They are discussing Rebecca's financial situation right now. This would have been the discussion if she would have shown up to her business meeting. Rebecca Bloomwood would have gone to the meeting and choose option two (go to meeting and lie).

Derek Smeath: Hello Ms.Bloomwood! Your fifteen minutes late, I didn't think you would show.

Ms.Bloomwood: Sorry, I was at the store buying this beautiful flower arrangement.

Derek: (shocked and amused look takes over his face)

Ms.Bloomwood: For my aunt, she died. I was going to put them on her grave. Errm..There red. Red was her favorite color. She once had this beautiful red sweater, I went to wash it for her, but it shrunk on accident.

Derek: (cutting her off) I see. Well, let's get straight down to why we arranged this dinner, to talk about your financial standings.

Ms.Bloomwood: Right. Sorry. My financial standings.

Derek: Your current financial stands at a balance of...

Ms.Bloomwood: (interrupting) Do we have to talk numbers before we eat? This is going to be a wonderful meal and I don't want to ruin it by talking about business first. You know, this is all homemade. I bought a book about cooking Thanksgiving dinner.

Smeath: See this is exactly what I am talking about Ms.Bloomwood. There was no need to buy a book. A book is just another frivolous item that you do not need to spend your money on!

Ms.Bloomwood: You're Right Again. I just wanted this dinner to be nice, since I was meeting you for the first time.

Smeath: Well I see. Okay back to your financial standings. It is currently at a balance of...

Ms.Bloomwood: (interrupting again) Would you like a fresh roll? There straight out of the oven.

Smeath: No (harshly at first) Thank you. Your current balance is (speaking very quickly) over 1000 quid.

Ms.Bloomwood: Gee, is that all? I imagined way more. That's no problem at all. My aunt's inheritance should come any day now.

Smeath: Well See Ms.Bloomwood, you told me any day now three weeks ago. Now that is a problem. I need that money now or I will have no choice but to...

Ms.Bloomwood: Mr.Smeath, you will get that money as soon as it comes in the mail. I assure you, there is no problem.

Smeath: That's good to hear, because until I get the money I am going to have to freeze the account, and stop any of your interactions through the bank.

(There is a Blackout, except for one single light on Rebecca Bloomwood. She is clutching her fork and has a look of shock and sadness on her face. She is frozen. Sad, dreary funeral music comes on, the light fades.