

Social Magic under the Education of Origin Families—Taking Flipped as an Example

姜 润

[齐鲁工业大学 (山东省科学院) 济南 250353]

Abstract: The novel *Flipped* is mainly about the growth experience of a girl Julie and a boy Bryce. In the end, both of them have a heart-pounding feeling for each other. The novel tells the story of first love, but it illustrates the true meaning of growth, and wears many aspects of growth and life with the clear line of emotion. The novel is unique in that it not only shows the young people's ignorant love, but also delicately shows their inner self-growth. However, it is not only a romantic story about a boy and a girl, but also has a close connection with society. From the perspective of the original family, this article analyzes the characters of the hero and heroine, and discusses the deep meaning revealed by the novel, in order to enable readers to think about the meaning of the original family, and to bring inspiration to children's education and self-growth. The purpose of this article is to analyze the characters of teenagers in *Flipped* and the emotional changes they experienced in the process of growing up, so as to reveal the important influence of family on the development of adolescents' growth, and the prominent role of education and communication on adolescents' self-growth.

Key words: original family; adolescent; education; self-growth

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1. Introduction

In contemporary American literature, *Flipped* is a highly acclaimed bestseller. It is a novel written in 2001 by the famous American children's author Wendelin Van Draanen, which brings people a nostalgic memory of growing up. Two young men and women grow up and influenced by two different family environments, but no matter what kind of family environment they grow up in, they need to feel the growth and change of themselves in the process of constant trial and loss. Whether it is the freedom and frankness of the girl Julie Baker, or the shyness and restraint of Bryce, the boys and girls with different personalities and growth environments are just like the leading role in the book. Characters show different education in the process of growth, and this kind of collision under the original family education is the source of motivation for the

growth of young people.

The leading role in *Flipped* is based on adolescents, so it is easy for young readers to resonate and get enlightenment during the reading process. Throughout the appreciation of this literary work, it is not difficult to find that the main focus of current research is the analysis of the image of the leading role, the analysis of the key element of "tree" in the work, and the cultivation of self-awareness. These studies have their own emphasis, but lack of sorting out this literary work from the perspective of how the education of the family of origin affects the teenagers. Therefore, this paper aims to analyze the teenage characters in the literary work *Flipped* and the emotional changes they experience in the process of growing up, so as to discuss the important influence of the family of origin on the growth of teenagers, and the prominent role of education on the self-growth of teenagers.

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作者简介: 姜润, 女, 汉族, 齐鲁工业大学 (山东省科学院) 外国语学院英语笔译专业在读硕士研究生。研究方向: 英语语言文学。

2.Social Magic

What is social magic? Sociologist Pierre Bourdieu believed that social magic is the mechanism and result of the interaction of social structure and mental structure, rather than the intentional action of any class or individual. We are all participants in a social magic, and we are autonomous participants who think we are honest (students make their own choices, teachers make free judgments). Honesty lies in the fact that we all accept the rules and standards of the game: as long as we accept the classification standards, the magic will go on. As the most basic unit of society and the initial place of individual socialization, family plays a vital role in everyone's growth and development process. (Fu Yingcen, 2021) The family of origin refers to the family in which one was born and grew up, and is the initial place for individuals to learn emotional experience, while influence refers to the ability to change the thoughts and actions of others in a way that is not noticed by others. ers to the ability to change others' thoughts and actions in a way that others are not aware of. The atmosphere of the family, the mode of getting along with the members and the way of communication will exert a subtle influence on the children, and this influence will accompany them all their life. In his book, *La Noblesse*, Bourdieu also said that our society does not select the talent, but the origin. (Pierre Bourdieu, 2004)

3.The relationship between education of origin family and society

Education is inseparable from society. Education is the education in the society, and the problems in education are undoubtedly problems occurring in a certain social background. Therefore, when we look at the topic of education with knowledge in the field of sociology, we will have different perspectives, and the phenomena (or problems) observed in this perspective can be said to be both educational and social. (Yu Hai, 2019) In our family education, our parents are the ones who influence us the most. Their behaviors, languages, attitudes and experiences have profound and subtle influences on our future development. Therefore the study of it from the perspective of educational sociology enriches the connotation of family education, as well as its denotation. (Yanjin Liu and Xuntao Yue, 2018) Extending from

this concept again, we study and discuss the influence of the family of origin on the developmental orbit, social relations and intimacy of individuals, hoping to study the source of individual development to better guide the education of family and society.

4. The influence of origin family education

The complex human side contained behind the work *Flipped* also shows the influence of the family of origin. The work originally stemmed from the Roskis' prejudice against the Bakers, who looked down on them and called them the laughing stock of the whole town. Although until the end, the Roski family understood the reasons for the Baker family's financial constraints and invited them to have dinner together, at the dinner table, Bryce's father still showed sarcasm towards the Baker family. "Throughout the meal, through the dialogue and expressions of the characters, the conflict between the two families, the conflict between adults and teenagers, the conflict between wives and husbands, fathers and daughters, and especially the conflict between the two teenage characters Julie and Bryce. There is no doubt that this series of conflicts and contradictions are caused by differences in way of thinking, life philosophy, family background, living habits, etc."

(Hao Juanjuan, 2013) "For teenagers who are growing up, the living environment that influences the formation of their personality should be their family first. Parents' culture, moral accomplishment and mutual relationship between family members, especially parents' attitude and requirements towards their children, directly affect their personality development. Family education is directly related to the future and destiny of young people's life, and plays an important role in the growth of young people."

(Zhang Chunqin, 2007) It is due to the differences in social class attributes attached to their original families that the two children have very different attitudes and ways of dealing with emotions and issues.

4.1 Character development

Family education in all aspects greatly affects the individual character development. The completely different family atmosphere of the hero and heroine in *Flipped* is an important factor leading to their personality differences. Julie is a kind, independent, romantic and good at discovering beauty. She dares to do something

different, and her father has influenced her the most in this respect. Julie's father would draw pictures in the yard and communicate with her deeply, knowing what was on her mind at each stage of growth. When Julie's beloved sycamore tree was cut down, her father painted a picture for Julie by himself. Whenever Julie's family showed up, the atmosphere was equal, caring, warm and loving. Julie's brothers loved music, and both parents respected them. Although they could hardly provide them with material advantages, they supported and helped their children in spirit and provided space for their development. When Julie participated in the "Science Fair" to do the subject of hatching chickens, his parents came with her to study it and give her support and guidance. So that Julie, who did not have much enthusiasm about the topic at first, became more and more interested, and therefore respected life, and finally won the first prize. Her parents have always treated her with respect, love and encouragement. This kind of warm family atmosphere gave Julie the courage to go her own way, and also created her optimistic and brave personality.

Bryce moved to a new residential area in the second grade of primary school and became Julie's neighbor. Facing Julie's enthusiastic help, Bryce showed strong resistance and aversion. It was because of the young Bryce sensitivities that his father was not friendly to Julie. But at that time he didn't know what was right and wrong, he just felt that what his father did was right. The family atmosphere of the Bryce family is not so harmonious. Dad talks about politics and economics at the dinner table, but no family member is actually interested in what he says. Bryce's father was always sarcastic about Julie and her family, behaving rudely at family dinners and mocking Julie's two brothers in the face afterwards. Bryce is dazed, indifferent and cowardly under the influence of his deformed worldview and values. He is not only mean to Julie's family, but also cynical to his elders, showing no respect and arrogance. When a person comes to the world, he first imitates his parents. Maybe even Bryce didn't realize it was his father who caused his prejudice against Julie.

It can be said that, in a way, the two leading roles are the epitome of their father. It can be seen that the

family environment, especially the values of parents, has a profound influence on the development of teenagers' emotional wisdom in the process of their growth. Because people are highly imitative in their teenage years, they are highly susceptible to environmental influences. In the process of growing up, adolescents learn by imitation at first, and parents are the people they have the most contact with. Parents' words, deeds, and personality factors will have the most direct impact on students. (Wenwu, 2013) The formation of adolescents' personality and the acquisition of social behaviors initially mainly come from the family.

4.2 Intimate relationship

Family education will indirectly affect the intimacy of individuals in the future. In the book, on a sunny noon, Julie, a second-grade elementary school student, saw a new neighbor moved to her community. The child's curiosity made her stare at the vehicle carrying the neighbor's moving items with her own eyes. It was this look that made the little girl Julie's heart beat, because she saw Bryce, a boy with big blue eyes, and it was at this moment of "seeing" that the gate of Julie's first love was overwhelmed. Julie's flipped passion is captured in one sentence: "The first day I met Bryce Loski, I flipped. It was those eyes, something in those dazzling eyes." (Wendelin Van Draanen, 2001)

Family education plays a huge role in shaping young people's values. In Julie's first love for Bryce, her father taught her that "some people are greater than the sum of their parts and others are not." (Wendelin Van Draanen, 2001) This is a kind of value, of course, little Julie does not have such a value, it is the father who is admonishing Julie with his own life experience. As a child, Julie had always believed that Bryce was a person whose whole was greater than the sum of its parts and was worth pursuing. As Julie grew up, as well as the performance of Bryce's feelings towards Julie, Julie no longer simply and narrowly pretended to be Bryce in her heart. She gradually realized the richer connotation of affection, family, achievement and emotion, and began to pour her energy into more aspects. She began asking herself, "Is Bryce really the whole greater than the sum of her parts?" Reason told her that Bryce was very different from herself, and for herself,

she could not be said to be a person whose whole is greater than the sum of its parts. As a result, she began to let go of her feelings for Bryce.

Family education helps young people establish correct values step by step. Bryce also grew up under the guidance of his family and elders. Julie had a lot of contact with Bryce's grandfather, and often worked with him to clean the courtyard, clean up the sundries, remove the yellow weeds, especially the pruning work of the bushes. Julie can be said to be a good hand. Bryce's grandfather cooperated perfectly, trimming the disorganized trees to their proper appearance. During labor, my grandfather observed Julie carefully, thinking that Julie has a heart of gold, treats people with sincerity, and has the beauty of human nature. Grandpa patiently told Bryce what he had observed. There are some people in the world who are beautiful on the outside but evil on the inside, but when you meet a girl with a beautiful human body, everything turns into nothing, and Julie is such a girl. Bryce remembered every word of his grandfather in his heart and carefully observed Julie, he felt Julie's unique personality charm, she has a rainbow-like gorgeous human beauty, Julie finally made Bryce heart. Bryce used his actions to tell Julie that he was serious about her. He came to Julie's yard and planted a sycamore tree, Julie's favorite tree. "Before we met, we were each on a journey of life, not to reach a destination, but to find each other," Julie tells Bryce.

In the process of growing up, everyone will experience many novelties and surprises, explore life experience in novelty and surprises, gain maturity, and show the beauty of human nature. The pursuit of beauty in human nature is the inexhaustible driving force for people to know and develop themselves; understand and transform the world. In the book *Flipped*, readers will see that the growth of human nature requires the giving of external conditions. For the children who are still living in the family at the student stage, their healthy growth not only needs the careful cultivation of parents, but also need children to sincerely listen to the teachings of elders.

4.3 Social relations

Family education affects the way and behavior of individuals in social relationships and social interactions. The family of origin is where everyone first learns and

grows in life, where we learn different ways of expressing emotions, behavioral patterns, attachment styles, and intimacy. Parents' living habits, the way of treating people and their attitudes are also inherited to a large extent from their children, which makes them directly related to whether they are friendly or decent when dealing with people in society. (Li Silei, 2020) The story of this novel is rich in connotation and full of warm and positive energy. The revelation of family education reflected by it on the growth of teenagers, the beauty of human nature, female consciousness and other social aspects deeply affects readers, giving it a wide range of social value.

Under the influence of family education, the growth of Julie and Bryce has significance reference for changing the rational thinking and healthy growth of the current emotional and impulsive teenagers. Julie in Draanen's works is full of bright spots of humanity. In the face of love, she can coexist sensibility and rationality. She dares to pursue her love, but not blindly worship, but constantly examine her own feelings, maintain her self-esteem, and constantly think and reflect on herself. She is positive and infects those around her with her optimistic spirit. Although Bryce formed an indecisive, cowardly and hesitant personality under the influence of his family environment and his father, he eventually grew into a daring person under the guidance of his wise grandfather.

Correct family environment and educational methods are conducive to promoting a healthy and civilized social atmosphere. Julie's parents' care for her family, her father's careful care for her mentally handicapped younger brother, and Julie's kindness and love for her family, highlights the family sense of responsibility and the blood is thicker than water of affection, promote the harmonious social fashion, foil the beauty of Julie and her family lofty, at the same time passed desirable to readers humanistic care and warmth of the society's energy.

The development of Julie's independence and self-awareness has pondering value for the development of modern women. As a candid, mature teenager, Julie believed three things: Trees stood for holiness; The eggs laid by your own chickens are healthy; She could kiss Bryce one day. (Xu Ye, 2017) She embodies the resistance spirit of insisting on her own opinions.

In addition, Julie has an independent quality, which is reflected in the ability of thinking and economics. She has the ability to make her dreams come true. Julie has a particularly strong self-esteem and will not pursue love at the expense of self-esteem. Such rebellious spirit, independent quality and brave love view make Julie become the representative of American female image. The female consciousness reflected in this work also calls for the awakening of the majority of female compatriots in society.

5.The conclusion

Through the analysis of the contemporary American novel *Flipped*, we can understand that the family of origin has a profound influence on the formation of adolescents' personality, thinking, emotional perception and behavior. Parents' way of thinking and problem-solving methods also influence children imperceptibly. Although the family of origin has a great influence on teenagers' personality, thought and emotional perception, it can be changed through education and interaction with others. The love and respect of Julie's parents for her is the source of Julie's strength to grow up. And Bryce also gradually opened up his heart in the process of communicating with his grandfather, and carried out self-reflection and self-awareness. Therefore, in real life, parents should improve their own quality and update their educational concepts. Parents should also grow themselves while educating their children, and strive to create a positive, healthy and relaxed

family atmosphere, so as to contribute to the healthy and coordinated development of both parents and children.

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