

3. The Revelation of Truth Through Three Main Characters

I will divide this chapter into three sub chapters. The first sub chapter contains the description of the illusions of Hickey, Larry Slade, and Don Parritt. The second sub chapter contains Hickey's self-revelation of truth as well as Hickey's revelation of truth of Larry and Parritt. The third sub chapter contains the result of Hickey's self-revelation of truth, as well as Hickey's revelation of truth of Larry Slade and Don Parritt.

3.1. The Illusions of the Three Main Characters

The three main characters, namely Hickey, Larry Slade, and Don Parritt have their own illusions. Hickey's Illusions are that he could change his bad habits, that he killed his wife because he loved her, and that he could persuade his friends to face reality. Larry Slade's illusions are that he is not concern about the Movement anymore, Larry's denial of having illusions, and that he is only an observer. Don Parritt's illusions are that his non-involvement in his mother's arrest, and that Larry Slade has a special relationship with his mother

3.1.1. Hickey's Illusions

Hickey is a traveling salesman. He is also an old friend of Harry Hope. He is a generous man. He comes to the bar twice a year regularly to get drunk with his friends and to blow in all his money. Hickey is a kidder too, as Rocky remembers him. One of Hickey's jokes is that he left his wife in the hay with the iceman. Hickey has illusions. Hickey's illusions are that he could change his bad habits, that he killed his wife because he loved her, and that Hickey could persuade his derelict friends to face reality.

3.1.1.1. Hickey's Illusion That He Could Change His Bad Habits

Hickey's first illusion is that he could change his bad habits. Hickey tells Larry and the other derelicts that when Hickey was young he did not feel comfortable with his life. Besides, he had some bad habits.

HICKEY.home was like jail, and so was school, and so was that damned hick town. The only place I liked was the pool rooms, where I could smoke Sweet Caporals, and mop a couple of beers, thinking I was a hell-on-wheels sport. We had one hooker shop in town, and, of course, I liked that, too... Everyone got wise to me. They all said I was a no-good tramp...I hated everybody in the place. That is, except Evelyn. I loved Evelyn...And Evelyn loved me.” (128).

From Hickey’s statement above, I know that when Hickey was young, he had some bad habits. He had shown that he liked being in pool rooms to smoke and drink. He also liked being in hooker shop, the place where we can find prostitutes. Hickey did not like the people in town because they told him that he was a useless bum. However, he loved Evelyn and vice versa.

As Hickey continues his story, Hickey tells the derelicts about Evelyn’s illusion. Evelyn said to him, “I know I can make you happy, Teddy, and once you’re happy you won’t want to do any of the bad things you’ve done anymore.” (129). Evelyn’s statement shows that she was sure that she could make Hickey happy. If Hickey were happy, then Hickey would quit his bad habits. Hickey responded Evelyn’s belief by saying, “Of course, I won’t, Evelyn.” Hickey then says that that he really intended to change, as he tells his friends, “I meant it, too. I believed it.” From Hickey’s statement, I conclude that Evelyn really loved Hickey and he really wanted to change.

Hickey says that when he was away, Evelyn would not hear the news about him for a long time. However, Evelyn still acted as a faithful and a perfect wife.

HICKEY. She’d have been waiting there alone, with the neighbors shaking their heads and feeling sorry for her out loud. That was before she got me to move to the outskirts where there weren’t any next-door neighbor. And then the door would open and in I’d stumble-looking like what I’ve said-into her home, where she kept everything so spotless and clean. And I’d sworn it would never happen again,..” (131).

From Hickey’s statement, I know that while Hickey was away, Evelyn was waiting for him alone. The neighbors felt sorry for her. Therefore, Evelyn and Hickey moved to a place where no neighbors around. When Hickey came home from his trip, Evelyn knew

that while Hickey was away, Hickey did his bad habits again. Therefore, Hickey swore to Evelyn that he would not do that again.

Aside from Hickey's illusion Hickey has a struggle within him because of his wrongdoing and Evelyn's forgiveness. Hickey says, "...when I'd admit things and ask for forgiveness, she'd make excuses for me and defend me against myself. She'd kiss me and say she knew I didn't mean it and I wouldn't do it again. So I'd promise I wouldn'tthough I knew darn well-" (Cerf, 1967, p.128). What Hickey has said above shows that every time Hickey made mistakes, Evelyn forgave him. Evelyn always made Hickey promise that he would not do it anymore. However, inside of him, Hickey knew that he would do it again. Therefore, I conclude that Hickey has a struggle within himself because he wanted to quit his bad habit, but he knew he could not.

3.1.1.2. Hickey's Illusion That He Killed His Wife Because He Loved Her

Hickey's second illusion is that he killed his wife because he loved her. Hickey delivers this statement, according to Rosamond Gilder, because Hickey is forced to explain the cause of his own reform in order to prove he is right (Cargill, 1961, p. 204). It is Larry Slade, the observer of the surrounding, who wants Hickey to explain this.

LARRY. (Sharply) Wait! (Insitently-with a sneer) I think it would help us poor pipe-dreaming sinners along the sawdust trail of salvation if you told us now what it was happened to you that converted you to this great peace you've found." (Cerf, 1967, p. 85).

At this point, Larry really means what he says because he realizes that Hickey is not joking about the iceman and his wife anymore. Larry then guesses, "Did this great revelation of the evil habit of dreaming about tomorrow come to you after you found your wife was sick of you?" (85). Hickey answers Larry's question by saying, "I admit I asked for it by always pulling that iceman gag in the old days" (86). Hickey admits that he does not tell the joke about his wife and the iceman any longer like he always did. However, Hickey, surely does not want everybody to think that his wife, Evelyn has been tired of him. That is why he continues, "But you're getting the wrong idea about poor Evelyn, and I've got to stop that." (86). Hickey then explains what has happened to his wife. He says, "I'm sorry to tell you my dearly beloved wife is dead." (86). Hickey adds that it was a bullet through the head that killed Evelyn. Since Larry guesses that Evelyn

has committed suicide, Hickey clarifies that his wife is killed (114). Hickey explains more obviously that it was he, who killed Evelyn, as he says, 'I had to kill her'(125). From Hickey's confession above, it is clear that Hickey kills his wife. Hickey continues,

HICKEY. I've made up my mind the only way I can clear things up for you, so you'll realize how contented and carefree you ought to feel, now I've made you get rid of your pipe dreams, is to show you what a pipe dream did to me and Evelyn. I'm certain if I tell you about it from the beginning, you'll appreciate what I've done for you and why I did it,... (126).

In order that his friends do not get the wrong idea about the murder, Hickey feels that he need to explain everything from the beginning. Hickey wants to show his friends what an illusion can do to Hickey and his wife. Only then, Hickey thinks that his friends will appreciate his effort, especially the fact that he kills his wife because he loves her.

Hickey then tells his friends what had happened before he went to the bar.

HICKEY. And as the time got nearer to when I was due to come here for my drunk around Harry's birthday, I got nearly crazy. I kept swearing to her every night that this time I really wouldn't until I'd made it a real final test to myself-and to her." (133).

Anyway, Evelyn believed him and went to bed. Hickey goes on with his story.

HICKEY. That night I'd driven myself crazy trying to figure some way out of her..And then I remembered I'd given her a gun for protection while I was away and it was in the bureau drawer. She'd never feel any pain, never wake up from her dream. So I-..So I killed her. And then I saw I'd always known that was the only possible way to give her peace and free from the misery of loving me. I saw it meant peace for me, too, knowing she was at peace. (133-134).

From Hickey's soliloquy, I conclude that Hickey thought that he had given her a peace by killing her, for she did not have to suffer for what Hickey had done wrong and she did not have to forgive him any longer. By knowing that Evelyn was at peace, Hickey was

releaved, too. Because Hickey feel that he has given her peace, Hickey thinks that he had proven his friends that he had killed Evelyn because he loved her.

3.1.1.3. Hickey's Illusion That He Could Persuade His Friends to Face Reality

Before Hickey shows up to meet his friends in the bar, Hickey has met Cora, one of the female characters inhabiting Harry Hope's bar, on the street. When he met Cora, he said that he would save his friends. At that moment, he was only kidding. However, when he finally shows up, he has changed. He is now sober. He has quit drinking. He says, "...I'm off the stuff. For keeps." (48). Moreover, Hickey explains the reason why he quits drinking.

HICKEY. ...Well, I finally had the guts to face myself and throw overboard the damned lying pipe dream that'd been making me miserable...-and then all at once I found I was at peace with myself and I didn't need booze anymore." (49).

From Hickey's statement above, I conclude that Hickey does not need to drink anymore because he is brave enough to face the truth about himself now. Hickey is brave enough to see who he really is because he has thrown away his illusions that made him live in misery. Hickey, in his opinion, is free now.

Hickey is serious about saving his friends from their illusions (Floyd, 1979, p. 263). Hickey determines that he should encourage his friend to get rid of their illusions and to face reality, as he says to them, "I meant to save you from pipe dream." Hickey then gives his opinion concerning illusions, "I know now from my experience, they're the thing that really poison and ruin a guy's life and keep him from finding any peace." (Cerf, 1967, p. 50). Hickey repeats, "...I know now from my experience what a lying pipe dream can do to you-..." (52). Thus, Hickey wants to save his friends because Hickey thinks that illusions are dangerous. Illusions could ruin someone's life. Moreover, by living in illusions, according to Hickey, a man cannot have peace in his life.

Hickey wants to make Larry face the reality about himself. Hickey says to Larry, "You've got to think of yourself. I couldn't give you my peace. You've got to find your own. All I can do is help you,..." (65). It is clear that Hickey wants to make Larry face the reality about himself. However, Hickey cannot give the same kind of peace that he is

having now to Larry. With the help from Hickey, hopefully, in Hickey's opinion, Larry will find his own kind of peace because Larry has faced the truth about himself.

In order to make Larry face the reality about himself, Hickey tells him what will happen after Larry face the reality about himself. Hickey says, "You'll be grateful to me when all at once you find you're able to admit, without feeling ashamed, that all the grandstand foolosopher bunk and the waiting for the Big Sleep stuff is a pipe dream." (67). From Hickey's statement above, I conclude Hickey is sure that he can make Larry face the truth about himself. After facing the reality about himself, Larry, in Hickey's opinion, will confess without feeling ashamed that his grandstand of philosophical detachment is an illusion. At that moment, Hickey, as J. Dennis Rich points out, forces Larry to admit his 'coward's lie' (Floyd, 1979, p. 264). In Hickey's opinion, Larry will admit his illusion by saying, "I'm just an old man who is scared of life, but even more scared of dying. So I'm keeping drunk and hanging on to life at any price, and what of it?" Thus, after Larry admits his lie, in Hickey's opinion, Larry will not be afraid of life or death anymore. Only then, in Hickey's opinion, Larry will know the real meaning of peace (67).

Hickey also wants Larry to help Parritt. After Hickey meets Parritt, Hickey suspects that Parritt has a problem. Hickey says to Larry, "I think there is one possible way out you can help him to take." (68). Hickey states also the reason why he wants Larry to help Parritt. Hickey says, "He'll keep after you until he makes you help him. Because he has to be punished, so he can forgive himself. He's lost his guts. He can't manage it alone, and you're the only one he can turn to." (68). In Hickey's opinion, Larry has to help Parritt. Hickey thinks that Parritt feels guilty of something, and Parritt wants to be punished, in order to free him from his guilt. However, Hickey sees that Parritt has lost his courage to take the punishment by himself. Therefore, somebody has to decide the kind of punishment for Parritt. Moreover, Hickey wants Larry to help Parritt because, as Hickey sees, Parritt does not have any friends to turn to, or more precisely, to decide the kind of punishment, besides Larry. Besides, in Hickey's opinion, by helping Parritt, Parritt will reveal the truth about Larry in the end (69).

Hickey has suspected before that Parritt has a problem. Hickey says to Larry, "...That isn't what's got him stopped. It's what behind that. And it's a woman. I

recognize the symptoms.” (69). From Hickey’s statement above, I conclude that in Hickey’s opinion, Parritt has a problem about a woman. He is sure of that because he has seen the same symptoms. Hickey then comes to Parritt’s room in order to help him. From Parritt’s story to Larry, we are able to know that Hickey sympathizes and encourages Parritt to face the reality about himself. Hickey says to Parritt, ‘I know how it is, Son, but you can’t hide from yourself, not even here on the bottom of the sea. You’ve got to face the truth and then do what must be done for your own peace and the happiness of all concerned.’ (71). From Hickey’s statement to Parritt, I conclude that Hickey really urges Parritt to face the truth about himself. Furthermore, Hickey says, ‘I think you can rely on his help in the end. ’In my opinion, Hickey holds in his mind that Larry’s willingness to help Parritt determines whether Parritt will face the truth about himself or not.

3.1.2. Larry Slade’s Illusions

Helen Muchnic writes that Larry Slade is, as the stage directions mentioned, the only occupant of the room who is not asleep. He remains terribly wide-awake throughout the play. He is the one who speaks sardonically with a comical intensity. He considers himself aloof from all human airs, being in the grandstand of philosophical detachment. (Gassner, 1964, p. 102). He claims that he does not have illusions. However, I find out that Larry too, has illusions. His first illusion is that he does not concern about the Movement anymore. His second illusion is that he has no illusions. His third illusion is that he is merely an observer of the people and the happenings in the bar.

3.1.2.1. Larry’s Illusion That He Is Not Concern About the Movement Anymore

Larry’s first illusion is that he does not concern about the Movement anymore. Larry is trying hard to say that he does not concern about the Movement and the people in it. As Larry and Rocky are having a conversation while waiting for Hickey, Larry delivers his statement of having no concern about the Movement anymore.

ROCKY. De old anarchist wise guy dat knows all de answers! Dat’s you, huh?

LARRY. (Frowns) Forget the anarchist part of it. I’m through with the Movement long since. I saw men didn’t want to be saved from themselves, for that would mean they’d have to give up greed, and

they'll never pay the price for liberty.” (12)

The word ‘anarchist’ for Larry is identical with the Movement so that he feels offended. In my opinion, the stage direction suggests that Larry detests of being associated with the Movement. The fact that Larry has seen in the Movement makes him feel he cannot believe in it anymore so that he decided to quit from it. In other words, Larry quits the Movement because he sees that actually, the Movement is useless. The people joining the Movement are going to be saved from themselves, somehow. However, there are some consequences for the people in it. The people joining the Movement have to give up greed. So to speak, by joining the Movement, they lose their chance to be wealthy. Moreover, by joining the Movement, they cannot have their freedom.

Larry Slade, in another chance, adds another reasons why he had left the Movement. This time, Larry uses these reasons to strengthen his reason for quitting from the Movement. At that time, Don Parritt, asks Larry,” What made you leave the Movement, Larry?...” (21). Larry then answers as follows:

LARRY. I had a lot of good reason...For myself, I was forced to admit, at the end of thirty years’ devotion to the Cause, that I was never made for it. I was born condemned to be one of those who has to see all sides of a question. When you’re damned like that, the questions multiply for you until in the end it’s all question and no answer...As for my comrades in the Great Cause, I felt as Horace Walpole did about England, that he could love it if it weren’t the people in it. The material the ideal free society must be constructed from is men themselves and you can’t build a marble temple out of a mixture of mud and manure. (21-22).

From Larry’s statement above, I can conclude that Larry feels that after thirty years of involvement, he does not fit the Movement. There were some questions appeared inside him when he joined the Movement. However, when he is questioning something about the Movement, instead of getting the answers, another questions appeared in his mind. Therefore, there are no answers to the questions. Larry also feels that he cannot love the

Movement because of the people in it. He thinks that the Movement is lacking of qualified human resources.

Larry Slade reaffirms that since he left the Movement, he does not have any concern about its member anymore. For example Rocky tells Larry about Parritt, “..but he said he was a friend of yours.” Larry denies it by saying, “He’s a liar.” Larry adds, “I wouldn’t know him if he hadn’t told me who he was.” (16). It seems to me that Larry has forgotten that once he knew Parritt. Only by Parrit’s explanation then, Larry regains his past memories about Parritt. Rocky then asks something further about Parritt.

ROCKY. But den what kind of a sap is he to hang on to his right name?

LARRY. (Irritably) I’m telling you I don’t know anything and I don’t want to know. To hell with the Movement and all connected with it. I’m out of it, and everything else, and damned glad to be.”(16).

From Larry’s statement above, Larry clearly shows, as the stage direction suggests, that he is bothered by Rocky’s question as Rocky seems to dig more information about Parritt.. Larry is bothered because he has explained to Rocky that he does not concern about the Movement and its members anymore, in this case, Don Parritt. On the contrary,

However, Larry has a struggle within himself concerning Parritt as he continues his explanation about Parritt to Rocky.

LARRY. ..(He hesitates-then lowering his voice) You’ve read in the papers about that bombing on the Coast when several people got killed? Well, the one woman they phinned, Rosa Parritt, is his mother. They’ll be coming up for trial soon, and there’s no chance for them. She’ll get a life, I think. (16).

From Larry’s statement above, I conclude that Larry has a struggle within himself since he wants to say to Rocky that he does not know Parrit, but as the stage direction suggests, Larry hesitatingly tells him about Parritt’s mother.

. When Hickey finally shows up, Larry reaffirms once again that he does not have any concern with the members of the Movement anymore. By the time Hickey meets Parritt, Hickey tries to figure out Parritt’s purpose on meeting Larry. Hickey then says to Parritt, “..and I’ll be glad to do anything I can to help a friend of Larry’s.” (52). Larry replies Hickey directly, “Mind your own business, Hickey. He’s nothing to you-or to me

either.” (52). From Larry’s statements above, I can say that Larry is displeased for Hickey tries to get involved in Parritt’s problem. Therefore, Larry reminds Hickey that Parritt is nothing to Hickey and Larry, so that Hickey knows both he and Larry do not have to help Parritt to solve his problem. Larry’s statement, also serves as a confirmation that since Larry has left the Movement, he does not have any concern with its members, in this case, Don Parrit.

After the arrival of Hickey, Larry also states to Cora, one of the female characters of The Iceman Cometh, that he does not concern about Parritt. Cora notices Parritt leaving the bar. Therefore, Cora asks, ‘Say, Larry. Where’s dat young friend of yours disappeared to?’ (62). Larry answers, ‘I don’t care where he is, except I wish it was a thousand mile away....He’s a pest.’ (62). From Larry’s statement above, I can say Larry is uncomfortable because Cora mentions Parritt as his friend when she is asking the presence of Parritt. Larry calls Parritt as a pest because Parritt keeps on talking about his mother and Larry’s past life which bothers Larry very much, since he has left the Movement, he does not have any concern to Parritt’s mother any longer.

3.1.2.2. Larry’s Denial of Having Illusions

Larry’s second illusion is that he does not have illusion. His claim is revealed early in the beginning of the play, when he is having a conversation with Rocky, the bartender of Harry Hope’s bar. At that time, both of them, just like the others, are looking forward to the annual visit of Hickey, a generous salesman who will come to celebrate Harry Hope’s birthday by treating drink for the inhabitants of the bar. Larry and Rocky then talks about whether or not Larry has illusions.

ROCKY. I s’pose you don’t fall for no pipe dream?

LARRY. I don’t. No. Mine are all dead and buried behind me. What’s before me is the comforting fact that death is a long fine sleep, and I’m damned tired, and it can’t come too soon for me. (Cerf, 1967, p. 12).

Larry repeats his statement once again to another character, Don Parritt. In a further conversation, Parritt also questions Larry whether or not he has illusions. Parritt, with curious look on Larry, asks, ‘What’s your pipe dream Larry?’ To Parritt’s question, Larry Slade then answers, ‘Oh, I’m the exception. I haven’t any left, thank God.’ (19).

From what Larry has said to both of the characters above, I can conclude that Larry feels sure enough that he does not have any illusions left, for his illusions are gone and forgotten. He is impatiently waiting for death to come to him now. Besides, I find out that Larry has mentioned the word 'exception'. The word 'exception' delivers by Larry functions to emphasize further about Larry's claim of having no illusions at all.

Larry Slade has his own reason to support his claim of having no illusions left. He claims that he does not have any illusion left anymore because he had left the Movement. Because he had left the Movement, he does nothing else. For instance, Parritt is asking about Larry's activities since he left the Movement.

PARRITT. What have you been doing since you left-the Coast, Larry?

LARRY. (Sardonically) Nothing I could help doing. If I don't believe in the Movement, I don't believe in anything else either, especially not the State. I've refused to become a useful member of its society. I've been a philosophical drunken bum, and I'm proud of it. (22).

As a certain kind of movement, the Movement has a certain ideology or belief. Although in The Iceman Cometh Eugene O'Neill gives only very little data about the ideology of belief of the Movement, however, I find out that this ideology affected Larry so much that when he decided to quit from it, he then feels that he does not have any believes on anything nor anyone anymore. When he does not have anything to belief anymore, he does not have any pipe dreams left. When he does not have any pipe dreams left anymore, this means he does not have any illusions left anymore. Therefore, he does not want to take part in what happens in the outside of Harry Hope's saloon. What he cares at present is just getting drunk on and on.

Aside from the fact that Larry denies of having illusions, he has a struggle within himself concerning his statement. His struggle within himself is clearly shown by his dialogue with Parritt. Parritt asks Larry, "What's your pipe dream, Larry?" Larry, instead of telling that he has illusions, says, "Oh, I'm the exception. I haven't any left, thank God." (19). I notice also about the stage direction that states 'hiding resentment' before Larry delivers his speech. The stage direction suggests that Larry actually denies his own statement. Thus, I conclude that Larry wants to say to Parritt that he does not have illusion, but he says it with a hiding resentment manner.

3.1.2.3. Larry's Illusion That He Is Only an Observer

Larry states his role concerning with what is happening around him. He says, "...I took a seat in the grandstand of philosophical detachment to fall asleep observing the cannibals do their death dance." (12). His statement means Larry places himself only as an observer to the people and the happenings in the bar. Because he puts himself as an observer, as J. Dennis Rich says, Larry is able to see with special insight into the dreams and illusions of others (Floyd, 1979, p. 268). For example, Larry shows that he is able to see with special insight into the dream and illusion of Harry Hope.

HOPE. (His face instantly becoming long and sentimental-mournfully)...I could almost see her in every room just as she used to be-and it's twenty years since she- (His throat and eyes filled up...)

LARRY. (In a sardonic whisper to Parritt) Isn't a pipe dreams of yesterday a touching thing? By all accounts, Bessie nagged the hell out of him. Larry's comment on what happens to Hope, serves as a prove that Larry understands the need for Hope to keep the illusion of yesterday. Keeping the illusions of yesterday is a crucial way for the derelicts, in this case, Harry Hope, to survive, and to anticipate the illusions of tomorrow is as well. Like what J. Dennis Rich points out that the derelicts at Harry Hope's bar actually have one thing in common, namely they have difficulty in facing the ever-present uncertainty so that they retreat from the flow of the present and seek to escape time by withdrawing into the pipe dream of the past by anticipating illusions of the future. Thus, the individuals at Harry Hope's bar survive by eluding the emptiness of reality (Floyd, 1979, p. 261-262). However, in Harry's case, Larry does not do anything to make Harry come to his senses.

As Rich also points out, the characters in The Iceman Cometh have difficulty in facing the ever-present uncertainty so that they retreat from the flow of the present and seek to escape time by anticipating illusions of the future (261-262). Jimmy shows Dennis' point. Jimmy, who was a correspondent for some English paper during the Boer War, speaks aloud to himself about his illusion.

JIMMY. No more of this sitting around and loafing. Time I took hold of myself. I must have my shoes soled and healed and shined first thing tomorrow

morning. A general spruce up. I want to have a well groomed appearance when I....(Cerf, 1967, p. 33)

Hearing Jimmy's exclamation Larry does not do anything but whisper to Parritt, "The tomorrow movement is a sad and beautiful thing, too!" (33). From Larry's comment on Jimmy, I conclude that Larry once again places himself as an observer. Larry's comment on Jimmy also shows that Larry sees that illusions are needed to drive them away from the emptiness of reality.

Larry shows another evidence that he places himself as an observer to Parritt. Parritt declares his hatred towards the ladies inhabiting Harry Hope's bar.

PARRITT. If I know this dump was a hooker hangout, I'd never have come here.

LARRY. (Watching him) You seem down on the ladies.

PARRITT. (Vindictively) I hate every bitch that ever lived! They are all alike! You can understand how I feel can't you, when it was getting mixed up with a tart that made me have a fight with Mother? (Then with a resentful sneer) But what the hell does it matter to you? You're in the grandstand. You're through with life.

LARRY. (Sharply) I'm glad you remember it. I don't want to know a damned thing about your business. (44).

Larry notices that Parritt hates the ladies. Larry knows also from Parritt's explanation that Parritt hates the ladies because they remind him of the cause of his fight with his mother. In my opinion, Parritt's resentful sneer shows that Parritt actually hopes Larry to be on his side. However, Larry tries strictly, as the stage direction suggests, avoiding being involved in Parritt's problem.

As I have mentioned before, Larry is able to see with special insight into the dreams and illusions of others (Floyd, 1979, p. 268). However, Rich says that in order to avoid involvement in life, and to escape himself from life, he practices 'the wrong kind of pity' as Hickey calls it, to everyone in the bar (268). For example, Larry gives his pity to Hugo. When Larry is having a conversation with Rocky, Larry then, accidentally wakes up one of the characters, Hugo. Hugo then says something that will make Rocky and

Larry angry with him. However, instead of being angry with Hugo, Larry gives him a regard of pity.

LARRY. (Regarding Hugo with pity) No. No one takes him seriously. That's his epitaph. Not even the comrades any more. If I've been through with the Movement long since, it's been through with him, and thanks to whiskey, he's the only one doesn't know it." (Cerf, 1967, p. 12).

From Larry's statement above, I can conclude Larry tries to understand Hugo's suffering. Larry also knows that by drinking whiskey, Hugo can forget his past in the Movement.

Once again, Larry shows his pity to Hugo. This time, Hickey has arrived, and Rocky and Chuck come into the bar, carrying the basket of wine.

HUGO. (With his silly giggle) Ve vill trink wine beneath the villow tree.

HICKEY. (Grins at him) That's the spirit, Brother-and let the lousy slaves drink vinegar

HUGO. (Mutters) Gottamned liar!

LARRY. (Gives Hugo a pitying glance-in a low tone of anger) Leave Hugo be, He rotted ten years in prison for his faith. He's earned his dream. Have you no decency or pity? (67}.

When Hickey comes with a bottle of champagne, Hugo is overjoyed. Hickey comments on Hugo that makes Hugo displeased. Hearing Hickey's comment, Larry gives Hugo a pity and tells Hickey to leave Hugo alone, telling Hickey that Hugo has been imprisoned for ten years because of his faith. Larry's low tone of anger, as the stage direction suggests, shows that Larry understands Hugo's despair. Because of Larry's statement, Hickey gives a response.

HICKEY. Hello, what's this? I thought you were in the grandstand..Of course I have pity..it isn't the my old kind of pity-the kind yours is..The kind that leaves the poor slob worse off because it makes him feel guiltier than ever-the kind that makes his lying hopes nag at him and reproach him until he's a rotten skunk in his own eyes"(67).

From Hickey's statement, I conclude that he spots that Larry denies his own choice to be the observer of the surrounding. Moreover, I see that there is a difference concerning the

concept of pity between Larry and Hickey. Therefore, I conclude that Larry has a struggle against Hickey because Larry wants Hickey to leave Hugo alone, but Hickey thinks Larry should not do that by giving Hugo the wrong kind of pity.

Larry also pities another character, Willie Oban. As Willie explains, he is the son, but unfortunately not the heir of Bill Oban, the king the Bucket Shop. Bill Oban was deposed by the revolution and then was sent into exile (26). Willie is also very poor now because all that is left in him is just his clothes he is wearing. Willie is now sleeping and dreaming about his father. Larry, as the stage direction suggest, watches Willie who is shaking in his sleep like an old dog, saying, "There's the consolation that he hasn't far to go!" (14). Once again, Larry shows that he has pity on Willie. By the time Willie awakes, he pleads to Rocky for another drink. Larry then tells Rocky to let Willie take another drink because Larry thinks that another drink is all right for Willie. Larry says with a pitying glance, "Leave him be, the poor devil. A half-pint of that dynamite in one swig will fix him for a while..." (15). Once again, Larry shows he understands Willie's need to drink to get away from his unpleasant past.

Despite of the fact that Larry gives his pity to Willie, Larry is having a struggle within himself concerning it. Larry wants to give pity to Willie, but he has had enough with pity. Therefore, when he gives pity to Willie, at the same time, he says, "But to hell with pity! It does no good. I'm through with it!"

Don Parritt, aside from the fact that Larry tries hard to stay away from Parritt's problem, shares Larry's pity too.

PARRITT. I don't feel any too damned good. I was knocked off my base by that business on the Coast, and since then it's been no fun dodging around the country, thinking every guy you see might be a dick."

LARRY. (Sympathetically) No. It wouldn't be. But you are safe here. The cops ignore this dump." (19).

From what Parritt has said above, I know that Parritt has used up all his money to fund his activity in the Movement. He is displeased by the fact that he has to run away all the time in order to escape himself from the authorities. In responding to Parritt's complaint, Larry assures Parritt that the police will not inspect the bar where he stays because to them the bar is so unimportant that they will not pay attention to its existence. Larry's

remark on Parritt's struggle since the police arrested the members of the Movement shows that Larry sympathizes on Parritt's struggle. It also shows that Larry is having a struggle within himself because he wants to stay as an observer only, but as the stage direction suggests, he cannot help sympathizing Parritt's struggle.

3.1.3. Don Parritt's Illusions

Don Parritt is the only son of Rosa Parritt. Rosa Parritt is the leader of the Movement. Once, this movement was responsible for the bombing on the Coast. Several people had been killed. The police then arrested the members along with Rosa Parritt. Rosa Parritt is going to be trialed soon and she would be sentenced to be imprisoned for a lifetime. This little piece of the Movement can be found in Larry's conversation with Rocky in chapter I (16). Like Larry, Don Parritt too, has illusions. He says that he is innocent of his mother's arrest. Furthermore, he holds in his mind that Larry Slade has a special relationship with his mother.

3.1.3.1. Don Parritt's Illusion of His Non-Involvement in His Mother's Arrest

Don Parritt, in his conversation with Larry, says to Larry that Parritt is not involved in the arrest of Rosa Parritt, the leader of the Movement who happens to be Don Parritt's mother.

LARRY. How is it they didn't pick you up when they got your mother and the rest?"

PARRITT. I wasn't around...Anyway, they'd grab anyone important, so I suppose they didn't think of me until afterward. (20).

In this dialogue, Parritt explains to Larry where he was when the police arrested the members of the Movement. In my opinion, Parritt implicitly wants to say to Larry that he is not involved in the arrest of Rosa, especially when the arrest happened, he was not there. Furthermore, since the police had arrested the leader, Parritt thinks that they would not need to find him anymore.

Larry Slade, concerning the arrest of Rosa Parritt, suspects that there must be someone inside the Movement who betrayed the members. Aside from how Larry feels right now about the Movement, he is sure that this person had become a spy for the police to give

information about the Movement. Larry says, "...but I'd swear there couldn't be a yellow stool pigeon among them." At this point, Parritt wants Larry to know that Parritt is not involved. Therefore, Parritt agrees quickly to what Larry has just said by saying, "Sure. I'd have sworn that too, Larry." Furthermore, when Larry is condemning the spy by saying, "I hope his soul rots in hell, whoever it is!" Parritt once again agrees him and says, "Yes, so do I." (20-21). Parritt's last statement, in my opinion, functions to emphasize Parritt's non-involvement of the arrest of Rosa Parritt. However, Parritt implicitly shows otherwise. This is shown when Larry says, "...someone inside the Movement must have sold them out and tipped them off." (20). Parritt, hearing Larry's suspicion, responds with, as the stage direction suggest, a turn to look Larry in the eyes slowly, by saying, "Yes, I guess that must be true, Larry." By looking at the stage direction, I conclude that Don Parritt has a struggle within himself about his mother's arrest. In other words, I conclude that Parritt wants to say that he was not involved in his mother's arrest, but the stage direction shows implicitly the other way around.

Parritt gives other evidences that show his non-involvement. For example, when Hugo, who also happens to be an ex-member of the Movement, wakes up from his alcoholic drowsiness, and as the stage direction suggests, exclaims automatically in his tone of denunciation, without knowing that Parritt is present at that time by saying, "Gottammed stool pigeon!" (24). Hearing Hugo's exclamation, as if Parritt was the spy to the Movement, he is offended and says, "What? Who do you mean?" Parritt then continues furiously, "You lousy bum, you can't call me that!" In my opinion, Parritt feels that he has the right to be angry with Hugo, for at his former conversation with Larry, he had indirectly said that he is not involved in his mother's arrest.

Parritt states implicitly his non-involvement once again. For example, in his conversation with Willie, Willie wants Parritt to buy him a drink. However, Parritt refuses to do so for he does not have enough money. Willie then accuses Parritt to be a liar since by the way he looks, Parritt is not yet a poor boy, or even broke. Moreover, Willie says that the people there will wonder how he gets the money. Parritt feels accused by Willie's statement. He then replies, "What do you mean how I got it ?..." (27). In my opinion, Parritt has the right to be angry with Willie, because when this conversation happens, Larry is present also among them. As I have mentioned before, Parritt has stated

his non-involvement to Larry. When Willie is questioning how Parritt gets the money, Parritt is afraid that Larry would think the money he has got is dirty money. In other words, Parritt is afraid that Larry would jump into a conclusion that the money he has got is connected to the arrest of Rosa Parritt. If Larry considers that the money is connected to the arrest of Rosa Parritt, then Larry would know that Parritt is involved in the arrest of Rosa Parritt.

Parritt has another excuse to say that he is not involved in his mother's arrest. He says to Larry, "We had a fight just before that business happened..." Furthermore, he says, "She bawled me out because I was going around with tarts." (23). From what Parritt has said above, I know that before his mother was arrested, Parritt had a fight with his mother. His mother accused him of being with prostitutes often. Because of this, Parritt was angry with her mother and then left her and the Movement. I conclude that Parritt considers himself uninvolved, because he had left as the result of his fight with his mother. This is his alibi.

3.1.3.2. Don Parritt's Illusion That Larry Slade Has a Special Relationship with His Mother

Don Parritt has an illusion that Larry Slade has a special relationship with his mother. He needs Larry's assurance that Larry would admit his illusion. In order to make sure that Larry Slade once had a relationship with Parritt's mother, Parritt then what Larry used to do when Parritt was a child.

PARRITT ..I've never forgotten you, Larry. You were the only friend of Mother's who ever paid attention to me, or knew I was alive...You used to take me on your knee and tell me stories and crack jokes and make me laugh.You'd ask me questions and take what I said seriously (20).

Then Parritt adds, "I guess I got to feel in the years you lived with us that you'd taken the place of my Old Man." (20). From Parritt's statement above, I conclude that Parritt thinks that Larry once had a close relationship with his mother.

The next way of getting Larry's assurance is by telling stories about Rosa Parritt, as Larry wonders how Parritt could find him. To Larry's wonder, Parritt answers, "I

found out through Mother.” (21). Parritt tells Larry how he had found Larry’s letters for his mother. Parritt says, “..she’d kept all your letters and I found where she’d hidden them in the flat. I sneaked up there one night after she was arrested.” (21). Furthermore he says,

PARRITT. It’s funny Mother kept in touch with you so long. When she’s finished with anyone, she’s finished. She’s always been proud of that. And you know how she feels about the Movement. Like a revivalist preacher about religion. Anyone who loses faith in it is more than dead to her..Yet she seems to forgive you.” (21).

In this paragraph, it is clearly shown that Parritt suspects Larry must have had a special relationship with his mother since his mother seems to forgive Larry even though Larry has quit the Movement.

Parritt has another way to get Larry’s assurance that Larry and his mother were in love. Parritt says, ‘She really loved you. You loved her, too, didn’t you?’ (72). Parritt’s question to Larry, in my opinion, serves as an assurance that Larry loved his mother too. Parritt wants Larry to know that his mother actually loves Larry. Parritt then goes on saying, ‘Do you know Larry, you’re the one of them all she cared most about ?..I’m sure she must have loved you, Larry...(72). By this time, Parritt wants to say that his mother was still in love with Larry for Larry was the only one she cared the most.

3.2. The Ways Hickey Reveal the Truth

Hickey uses several ways to reveal the truth about himself, Larry Slade, and Don Parritt. Hickey thinks that his illusions as well as Larry Slade and Don Parritt make their lives unpeacefull. In order to reveal the truth firstly Hickey does his own self-revelation. Secondly, he reveals Larry Slade’s truth. Thirdly, he reveals Don Parritt’s truth.

3.2.1. Hickey’s Self-Revelation of Truth

Before Hickey asks the derelicts to get rid of their illusions, Hickey shows to them that he himself has changed.

HICKEY. (Hearty) Drink hearty, boys and girls!
(They all drink, but HICKEY drinks only his chaser.)

HOPE. Bejees, is that a new stunt, drinking your chaser first?

HICKEY. ...I'm off the stuff for keeps...I have changed. I mean about booze. I don't need it anymore (48).

From Hickey's statement above, I know that Hickey drinks only his chaser. It means that Hickey drinks only a mild drink, such as beer, but not hard liquor. Besides, he also tells the reason why he has given up drinking.

HICKEY. ...The only reason I've quit is-Well, I finally had the guts to face myself and throw overboard the damned lying pipe dream that'd been making me miserable, and do what I had to do for the happiness of all concerned-and then all at once I found I was at peace with myself and I didn't need booze anymore (49).

In my opinion, Hickey has changed because he does not want to have illusions anymore since illusions make him miserable. By having no illusions, he finds peacefulness.

As I have stated above, one of his illusions is that he could change his bad habits, such as getting drunk and visiting hooker shops. One of the places that he can get drunk and find prostitutes there is Harry Hope's saloon. Despite of Hickey's bad habits, his wife, Evelyn, kept on forgiving him.

HICKEY. No one could convince her I was no good. Evelyn was stubborn as hell once she'd made up her mind. Even when I'd admit things and ask for her forgiveness, she'd make excuses for me and defend me against myself. She'd kiss me and say she knew I didn't mean it and I wouldn't do it again. So I'd promise I wouldn't. I'd have to promise, she was so sweet and good,..."(128).

Hickey had admitted to Evelyn that he had some flaws. Hickey had also asked for her forgiveness. In return, Hickey did not get forgiveness only, but Evelyn also made him promise that he would not do such bad things again. Since Evelyn loved him very much, in Hickey's opinion, he was forced to belief that he could change. Thus, Hickey promised he would change because he loved Evelyn very much.

The fact that his wife kept on forgiving him made him uneasy. This is shown by Hickey's statement, "...That's what made it so hard. That's what made me

such a rotten skunk. Her always forgiving me.” (130). Moreover, Hickey states his feeling because his wife kept on forgiving him.

HICKEY. Christ, can you imagine what a guilty skunk she made me feel! If she'd only admitted once she didn't believe any more in her pipe dream that some day I'd behave! But she never would. Evelyn was stubborn as hell. Once she set her heart on anything, you couldn't shake her faith that it had to come through-tomorrow! It was the same old story, over and over, for years and years. It kept piling up, inside her and inside me. God, can you picture all I made her suffer, and the guilt she made me feel, and how I hated myself! (132).

From Hickey's soliloquy above, I conclude that Hickey's wife was a very persistent person. Because of her persistence, Hickey was having a struggle within himself. He was in a struggle within himself because his wife believed that someday he would change, but he knew, inside him, that he could not.

Hickey started to hate Evelyn because of Evelyn's persistence. Hickey even felt that she humiliated him.

HICKEY. Christ, I loved her so, but I began to hate that pipe dream! I began to be afraid I was going bughouse, because sometimes I couldn't forgive her for forgiving me. I even caught myself hating her for making me hate myself so much. There's a limit to the guilt you can feel and the forgiveness and the pity you can take! You have to begin blaming someone else too. I got so sometimes when she'd kissed me it was like she did it on purpose to humiliate me as if she'd spit in my face. (133).

From Hickey's statement above, I conclude that he is in a struggle within himself because he really wanted to change, but he could not. He even felt that Evelyn's forgiveness made him hate himself. Moreover, he started to hate Evelyn because he felt that her forgiveness was a kind of way to humiliate him.

As I have also mentioned above, Hickey thinks that he kills his wife because he loved her. However, after he killed her, Hickey delivers his speech that I find in contrast with this illusion.

HICKEY. I remember I stood by the bed and suddenly I had to laugh...I remember I heard myself speaking to her, as if it was something I'd always wanted to say: "Well, you know what you can do with your pipe dream now, you damned bitch!" (134).

From Hickey's statement above, I conclude that he is in a struggle within himself because he states that he killed his wife because he loved her, but after he killed his wife, laughed.

3.2.2. Hickey's Revelation of Larry Slade's Truth

Hickey wants to make Larry face the reality about himself. Hickey says to Larry, "You've got to think of yourself. I couldn't give you my peace. You've got to find your own. All I can do is help you,..." (65). It is clear that Hickey wants to make Larry face the reality about himself. However, Hickey cannot give the same kind of peace that he is having now to Larry. With the help from Hickey, hopefully, in Hickey's opinion, Larry will find his own kind of peace because Larry has faced the truth about himself.

In order to make Larry face the reality about himself, Hickey tells him what will happen after Larry face the reality about himself. Hickey says, "You'll be grateful to me when all at once you find you're able to admit, without feeling ashamed, that all the grandstand foolosopher bunk and the waiting for the Big Sleep stuff is a pipe dream." (67). From Hickey's statement above, I conclude Hickey is sure that he can make Larry face the truth about himself. After facing the reality about himself, Larry, in Hickey's opinion, will confess without feeling ashamed that his grandstand of philosophical detachment is an illusion. At that moment, Hickey, as J. Dennis Rich points out, forces Larry to admit his 'coward's lie' (Floyd, 1979, p. 264). In Hickey's opinion, Larry will admit his illusion by saying, "I'm just an old man who is scared of life, but even more scared of dying. So I'm keeping drunk and hanging on to life at any price, and what of it?" Thus, after Larry admits his lie, in Hickey's opinion, Larry will not be afraid of life or death anymore. Only then, in Hickey's opinion, Larry will know the real meaning of peace (67).

As I have explained before, Hickey wants to save Larry. Hickey says to Larry, "I'll try and make an honest man of you, too." Larry, as the stage direction suggests, is stung by Hickey's proclamation while saying, "What the devil are you hinting at, anyway?"

(51). From Larry's statement above, I conclude that Hickey wants to make Larry to be an honest man, but Larry refuses.

Larry Slade has another struggle against Hickey. As I have mentioned before, Hickey wants to make Larry face the reality about himself. Hickey, with a grin on his face tells Larry, "Just stop lying to yourself-" (110). Hickey wants Larry to admit that when he says that he is through with life and that he awaits for death to come is just a coward's lie. Larry wants to deny this. However, instead of saying that Larry really means what he says about that, Larry answers, "I'm afraid to live, am I? - and even more afraid to die!...You think you'll make me admit that to myself?" Hearing Larry's exclamation, Hickey says, "But you just did admit it, didn't you?" (110). From their dialogue above, I conclude that Larry wants to say that he is not afraid to live and die, but Hickey says that Larry is afraid to live and die.

Hickey has a way to reveal Larry's truth. In order to reveal Larry's truth, Larry must solve Parritt's problem. Hickey says to Larry, "Yes, Larry, you've got to settle with him. I'm leaving you entirely in his hands. He'll do as good a job as I could at making you give up that old grandstand bluff." (111). From Hickey's statement above, I conclude that in Hickey's opinion, by helping Parritt, Larry would realize that his grandstand of philosophical detachment is just an illusion.

3.2.3. Hickey's Revelation of Don Parritt's Truth

Hickey's self-revelation makes Parritt confused about what he must do to make up for his mistakes towards his mother. Therefore, he urges Larry to decide what kind of punishment he should take.

PARRITT. Hickey's got me all balled up. Thinking of what he must have done has got me so I don't know anymore what I did or why. I can't go on like this! I've got to know what I ought to do-

LARRY. (In a stiffed tone) God damned you! Are you trying to make me your executioner?

PARRITT. (Starts frightenedly) Execution? Then do you think-?

LARRY. I don't think anything! (121)

From Parritt and Larry's conversation above, I conclude that Parritt's confession is driven from Hickey's reason of murdering his wife. Hickey's reason for murdering his wife makes Parritt confuse about what he did to his mother and the reason why he did it. Because he is now confused, he hopes that Larry would help him decide what he must do. However, Larry, as the stage direction suggests, stiffly refuses to give the punishment for Parritt for what he has done wrong. Besides, Parritt has a struggle against Larry because Parritt wants Larry to give the punishment for his wrongdoing, but Larry refuses.

Because Hickey confesses that he killed his wife, Parritt is driven into his own confession concerning his mother's arrest. He says to Larry, "I may as well confess, Larry. There's no use lying anymore. You know, anyway, I didn't give a damn about the money. It was because I hated her." (134). From Parritt's confession above, I conclude that it is Hickey's confession that makes Parritt reveals his wrong doing of selling the information about his mother to the police.

Parritt, seeing Hickey being taken by the police because of Hickey's confession of murdering his wife, says to Larry, "...he isn't the only one who needs peace, Larry." Parritt thinks that Hickey is lucky because the punishment for killing his wife is decided for him. Parritt wishes that somebody, in this case, Larry to decide the punishment for him because he had betrayed his mother. Therefore, Parritt says to Larry, "I wish it was decided for me." (137). Then, as the stage direction suggest, Parritt pauses as if he is waiting for comment from Larry, but at first, Larry ignores him.

Parritt sees that when Hickey is arrested by the police, Hickey pretends to be insane. Parritt then follows Hickey's step concerning his betrayal of his mother. Parritt says, "And I'm not putting any bluff, either, that I was crazy afterwards when I laughed to myself and thought, 'You know what you can do with your freedom pipe dream now, don't you, you damned bitch!'" . Hearing Parritt's exclamation, Larry, who has already been in a breaking point, as the stage direction suggests, commands Parritt, "Go! Get the hell out of life, God damn you, before I choke you up! Go up!" As Larry tell Parritt to go up, Parritt says, "Thanks Larry. I just want to be sure." (138). Parritt seems suddenly at peace with himself so that he can thank Larry gratefully. He has been very sure about the punishment he deserves to get for his betrayal of his mother. Then Parritt says, "Jesus, Larry, thanks. That's kind. I knew you were the only one who could understand my side

of it.” (138). Parritt, in my opinion that is in line with Rich’s opinion, is grateful because Larry has told him to take the punishment (Floyd, 1979, p. 270).

3.3. The Revelation of Truth

After Hickey reveals the truths about himself, then by using different ways, he reveals the truth about Larry Slade and Don Parritt. Then, each of them has to face the truth about themselves.

3.3.1. Hickey’s Truths

There are some truths about Hickey that are revealed because of his self-revelation of truth. Hickey’s truth that are finally revealed are that he kills his wife because he hates her, and that he fails to make his friends accept themselves as they are.

3.3.1.1. Hickey’s Reason to Kill His Wife Is Because He Hates Her

As I have explained before, in order to convince that Hickey is in peace, he had to tell the story about Evelyn and him. As Hickey has said, every time Hickey made mistakes, Evelyn would forgive him. Hickey knew that he could not change. Hickey says, “There is a limit to the guilt you can feel and the forgiveness and the pity you can take.” (Cerf, 1967, p. 133). This means although Evelyn was always ready to forgive him all the time, Hickey felt that he could not accept her forgiveness anymore. Hickey, in my opinion that is in line with Rosamond Gilder, finds such love intolerable (Cargill, 1961, p. 205).

As I have mentioned above, Hickey sets his mind up to kill Evelyn. By the time he killed Evelyn, Hickey says, “I remember I stood by the bed and suddenly I heard myself speaking to her, as if it was something I’d always wanted to say: ‘Well, you know what you can do with your pipe dream now, you damned bitch!’” (Cerf, 1967, p. 134). Hickey then stops in horrified, as if shocked out of a nightmare, as if he could not believe he heard what he had just said (134). From Hickey’s statement above, and as the stage direction suggests, I conclude, as Rich does, that Hickey appears to discover that he has killed Evelyn because he could not forgive her forgiveness (Floyd, 1979, p. 266). By this time, Hickey realizes his statement that he loves his wife is an illusion. Rich states that in

the end, Hickey, confronted with the fact of his hatred of Evelyn, crumbles (Floyd, 1979:266). Hickey realizes that he killed his wife, Evelyn, because he hates her. Rich goes on that Hickey evades the truth he has spilled out, takes another illusion, and claims to be insane when he is about to be arrested by the police (266), by saying to Hope, "You saw I was insane, didn't you?" (Cerf, 1967, p.135).

3.3.1.2. Hickey's Failure to Make His Friends Accept Themselves As They Are

Hickey has made all the derelicts to face the truth about themselves. However, Hope says that after facing the truth, he can no longer get drunk. The others, who have followed Hickey's advice, feel the same way as Hope does. Hickey replies Hope with a resentful exasperation tone, "For God's sake, Harry, are you still harping on that damned nonsense? You've kept it up all afternoon and night! And you've got everybody else singing the same crazy tune! I've had about I can stand-..." (123). Hickey goes on, "I was hoping by the time I got back, you'd like you ought to be! I thought you were deliberately holding back, while I was around, because you didn't want to give me the satisfaction of showing me I'd had the right dope. And I did have !..." (124). Exasperatedly, Hickey says, "But I've explained that a million times. And you've all done what you needed to do. By rights, you should be contented now, without a single damned hope or lying dream left to torment you! But here you are, acting like a lot of stiff-cheating the undertaker!" (124). Hickey goes on, "Don't you know you're free now to be yourself, without having to feel remorse or guilt, or lie to yourself about reforming tomorrow? Can't you see there's tomorrow now?" (124). In Hickey's mind, Hope should feel contented, and get rid of his illusion about tomorrow. However, Hope comes back to his old drinking habit and so do the others. Hickey sees this as his failure to make his friends to face the reality about themselves. Thus, Hickey realizes that his effort in making his friends face reality is an illusion. Moreover, Hickey, as Rich points out, fails to realize that when reality fails, men must live by their dreams. Hickey has not understood the simple fact that when people find reality uncomfortable, they adjust illusion to fit their need (Floyd, 1979, p. 266).

3.3.2. Larry Slade's Truths

Although Larry Slade at first says that he does not have illusions, Hickey makes Larry Slade's truths revealed. Larry Slade's truths are that he punishes Don Parritt because Don Parritt has betrayed his mother and that he admits that he has given the wrong kind of pity to Don Parritt.

3.3.2.1. Larry Slade's Punishment For Don Parritt Because He has Betrayed His Mother

Parritt thinks that he should be punished for betraying his mother (Cerf, 1967, p. 137). Because he cannot decide what kind of punishment he deserves by himself, he asks Larry to decide it for him. However, Larry ignores him. Because Larry ignores him, Parritt then burst out, "Jesus, Larry, can't you say something?" Parritt continues, "And I'm not putting any bluff either, that I was crazy afterwards when I laughed to myself and thought, 'You know what you can do with your freedom pipe dream now, don't you, you damned old bitch!'" Larry, hearing Parritt's statement above, as the stage direction suggests, snaps on Parritt, with a quivering and condemning command on his voice and says, "Go! Get the hell out of life, God damn you, before I choke it out of you! Go up-!" (138). Larry's command shows that he implicitly tell Parrit to commit suicide. This means Larry is no longer observing only in his grandstand of philosophical detachment, but is also taking action by giving the punishment to Parritt. My conclusion about Larry's truth is in line with Rich's statement that says that in the action of The Iceman Cometh, Larry is both a commentator and a participant (Floyd, 1979, p. 268).

3.3.2.2. Larry's Admittance That He Has Given the Wrong Kind of Pity to Don Parritt

After Larry tells Parrit to go up, meaning to say, to order Parritt commit suicide for Parritt's betrayal to his mother, Larry, as the stage direction suggests, is arguing himself, tortured, in a shaken whisper and says, "It's the only way out for him. For the peace of all concerned, as Hickey said!" (143). Larry feels that by telling Parrit implicitly to commit suicide, as Hickey said, Larry would be in peace, because Parritt would bother Larry no more.

The stage direction suggests that as Larry half rises from his chair, from outside the window comes the sound of something hurtling down, followed by a muffled, crunched thud. Hearing this, Larry gasps and drops back on his chair, shuddering, hiding his face in his hands. (143). Then, Larry, as the stage direction suggests, in a whisper of horrified pity says, ‘Poor devil. God rest his soul in peace.’ Then Larry opens his eyes with a bitter self-derision and says, ‘Ah, the damned pity- the wrong kind, as Hickey said! Be God, there’s no hope! I’ll never be a success in the grandstand-or anywhere else.’ Larry knows that Parritt has taken his command to commit suicide. Because Parritt has committed suicide, Larry pities him. However, Larry realizes that he has given the wrong kind of pity as Hickey said before. Because Larry realizes that he gives the wrong kind of pity to Parritt, I conclude, as Rich does, Larry realizes also that his posture of watching the world while waiting for death in ‘the grandstand of philosophical detachment’ is a pipe dream (Floyd, 1979, p. 264). Then with a bitter sincerity in his tone, Larry says, ‘May that day come soon!’ He pauses, started, surprised at himself and grins in a sardonic tone, ‘Be God, I’m the only real convert to death Hickey made here. From the bottom of my coward’s heart I mean that now!’ (Cerf, 1967, p. 144). From Larry’s statement above, I conclude that Larry realizes he has taken Hickey’s place for Parritt to face the truth about himself. Because Larry has realized his role for Parritt, Larry, as the stage direction suggests, seeing the others get drunk together again, stares them obliviously (144). In my opinion, after Larry has realized that he has taken Hickey’s place for Parritt to face the truth about himself, as also Rich concludes, Larry chooses to live without consolation (Floyd, 1979, p. 268).

3.3.3. Don Parritt’s Truths

Don Parritt, urged by Hickey’s self-revelation, finally reveals the truths about himself. His truths that are revealed are that he confesses that he is responsible for his mother’s arrest and that he accept the fact that Larry Slade has no relationship with his mother.

3.3.3.1. Don Parritt's Confession That He Is Responsible for His Mother's Arrest

As Hickey confesses his murder of his wife, Evelyn, Parritt confesses that he had betrayed his mother. As Larry tell Parritt to go up, Parritt says, "Thanks Larry. I just want to be sure." (Cerf, 1967, p. 138). Parritt seems suddenly at peace with himself so that he can thank Larry gratefully. He has been very sure about the punishment he deserves to get for his betrayal of his mother. Then Parritt says, "Jesus, Larry, thanks. That's kind. I knew you were the only one who could understand my side of it." (138). Parritt, in my opinion that is in line with Rich's opinion, is grateful because Larry has told him to take the punishment (Floyd, 1979, p. 270). By telling Parritt to take the punishment, in Parritt's opinion, Larry has become his friend, because Larry understands the guilt that Parritt feels and the punishment he should get (267).

3.3.3.2. Don Parritt's Acceptance That Larry Has No Relationship with His Mother

As I have mentioned previously, Don Parritt has an illusion that Larry Slade has a special relationship with his mother.

PARRITT. It's funny Mother kept in touch with you so long. When she's finished with anyone, she's finished. She's always been proud of that. And you know how she feels about the Movement. Like a revivalist preacher about religion. Anyone who loses faith in it is more than dead to her..Yet she seems to forgive you." (Cerf, 1967, p. 21).

He even tries to convince Larry by stating that Larry could be his father. Don Parritt says, "Do you know, Larry, I once had a sneaking suspicion that maybe if the truth was known, you were my father." (90) However, Larry refuses Parritt's assumption. Larry says, "You damned fool! Who put that insane idea in you head? You know it's a lie! Anyone in the Coast crowd could tell you I never laid eyes on your mother till after you were born." (90). Don Parritt accepts what Larry has just said by saying, "...I know you're right, though, because I asked her." (91).

Hickey thinks that living in illusions does not make him happy. Therefore, he decides to get rid of his illusions with his own way and to accept the truth about himself. He then starts to persuade Larry Slade and Don Parritt to do the same by revealing the

truth about himself. Although Hickey is able to make Larry Slade and Don Parritt reveal the truths about themselves, accepting the truths is unbearable.