

**SOURCES AND MANAGEMENT OF CONFLICTS:
ANALYZING THE MAIN CHARACTER'S PERSONAL
PROBLEM IN STEPHENIE MEYER'S *MIDNIGHT SUN***

THESIS

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM MALANG
2024**

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THESIS

Presented to
Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of *Sarjana Sastra* (S.S.)

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2024**

STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

I state that the thesis entitled “**Sources and Management of Conflicts: Analyzing the Main Character’s Personal Problem in Stephenie Meyer’s *Midnight Sun***” is my original work. I do not include any materials previously written or published by another person, except those cited as references and written in the bibliography. Hereby, if there is any objection or claim, I am the only person who is responsible for that.

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APPROVAL SHEET

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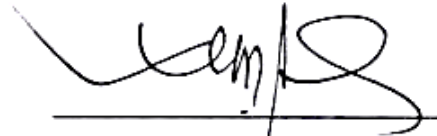
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MOTTO

فَإِنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا

إِنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا

Maka, sesungguhnya beserta kesulitan ada kemudahan.

Sesungguhnya beserta kesulitan ada kemudahan.

“해가 뜨기 전 새벽이 가장 어두우니까”

Fajar malam sebelum matahari terbit adalah yang paling gelap.

DEDICATION

With his outpouring of affection and support, I present my thesis to:

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M. Yusri Maulana and Achmad Ilham Al Faraby

My excellent guidance Advisor, Dr. Siti Masitoh, M. Hum.

All my friends are always spreading positive things

All lovers of fiction and the *Twilight* series

And for myself, Dinda Kharisma Lutfiana

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Salawat and *salam* were continuously poured out on prophet Muhammad SAW, and peace and blessings be upon him, along with his family, friends, and followers, until the end of time. The thesis entitled Sources and Management of Conflicts: Analyzing the Main Character’s Personal Problem in Stephenie Meyer’s *Midnight Sun* was asked to meet one of the requirements for achieving a degree of *Sarjana Sastra* (S.S.) in the Department of English Literature, Faculty of Humanity, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang.

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The researcher realized that the compilation of this thesis still contained many things that could have been improved. Hence, the researcher expects constructive criticism and advice from various parties to advance this thesis. In conclusion, the researcher hopes this thesis may benefit the writer, the family, and the wider community.

ABSTRACT

Lutfiana, Dinda Kharisma (2024) Sources and Management of Conflicts: Analyzing the Main Character's Personal Problem in Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*. Undergraduate Thesis. Department of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University Malang. Advisor: Dr. Siti Masitoh, M. Hum.

Keyword: *sources of conflict, conflicts management strategies, Midnight Sun, Edward Cullen*

Conflict, often viewed as unfavorable, can be a tool for improving competence and skill in various areas of life, including communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving. The study was intended to describe the source of conflict and how Edward Cullen overcame it in the Stephenie Meyer *Midnight Sun*. The study used the concept of conflict as proposed by Deetz and Stevenson, and used an objective approach to literature. The researcher formulated two research questions: 1) What are the sources of Edward Cullen's conflicts described in Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*? 2) How does Edward Cullen overcome his conflicts described in Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*? The study was a literary criticism because it analyzes and interprets literature. Data was collected by identifying and classifying relevant quotations from the *Midnight Sun*. The data was analyzed by describing and explaining quotes based on the concept of conflict proposed by Deetz and Stevenson. Analysis shows that 1) Edward Cullen experiences all the sources of conflict mentioned by Deetz and Stevenson, including differing opinions, incompatible roles, incompatible goals, and limited resources. 2) Edward Cullen has chosen various ways to overcome its conflict, including avoidance, pacification, competition, compromise, and creative integration, as Deetz and Stevenson explain.

مستخلص البحث

لطفيانا، ديندا حارسما (٢٠٢٤) إمصادر إدارة الصّراع: تحليل مُشكّلة شَخْصِيَّة بَطْل الرّوَايَةِ في رواية *Midnight Sun* لسْتيفاني ماير. رسالة تخرج، قسم اللغة الإنجليزية وآدابها، كلية العلوم الإنسانية، جامعة مولانا مالك إبراهيم الحكومية الإسلامية مالنج، المشرفة: الدكتورة سبتي ماسيطة، ماجستير أدب.

كلمات مفتاحه: مصدر الصراع، استراتيجيات إدارة الصراع، *Midnight Sun*، إدوارد كالفن.

الصراع، الذي يُنظرُ إليه غالبًا على أنه غير موافٍ، يمكن أن يكون أداة لتحسين الكفاءة والمهارة في مجالات مختلفة من الحياة، بما في ذلك التواصل والتفكير النقدي وحل المشكلات. هدفت هذه الدراسة إلى وصف مصدر الصّراع وكيفية تَغَلُّب إدوارد كالفن عليه في رواية *Midnight Sun* لسْتيفاني ماير. استخدمت الدراسة مفهوم الصّراع الذي اقترحه ديتز وستيفنسون، وأتبعَتْ منهجًا موضوعيًا تجاه الأدب. صاغ الباحثُ سؤالين بحثيين: (1) ما هي مصادرُ صراعاتِ إدوارد كالفن الموصوفة في رواية *Midnight Sun* لسْتيفاني ماير؟ (2) كيف يتغلبُ إدوارد كالفن على صراعاته الموصوفة في رواية *Midnight Sun* لسْتيفاني ماير؟ تُعدُّ هذه الدراسة نقدًا أدبيًا لأنها تحلّل وتُفسّر الأعمال الأدبية. جُمعت البيانات من خلال تحديد وفرز الاقتباسات ذات الصلة من رواية *Midnight Sun* حُلِّلت البيانات من خلال وصف وشرح الاقتباسات بناءً على مفهوم الصّراع الذي اقترحه ديتز وستيفنسون. يُظهر التحليلُ أنّ إدوارد كالفن يواجه جميع مصادر الصّراع التي ذكرها ديتز وستيفنسون، بما في ذلك اختلاف الآراء والأدوار المتضاربة والأهداف المتضاربة والموارد المحدودة. (2) اختارَ إدوارد كالفن طرقًا مختلفة لمعالجة صراعاته، بما في ذلك الابتعاد والتسكين والمنافسة والتسوية والدمج الإبداعي، كما شرح ديتز وستيفنسون.

ABSTRAK

Lutfiana, Dinda Kharisma (2024) Sumber dan Manajemen Konflik: Menganalisis Masalah Pribadi Tokoh Utama dalam *Midnight Sun* karya Stephenie Meyer. Skripsi. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Ilmu Humaniora, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Pembimbing: Dr. Siti Masitoh, M. Hum.

Kata Kunci: sumber konflik, strategi pengelolaan konflik, *Midnight Sun*, Edward Cullen.

Konflik, seringkali dipandang tidak menguntungkan, dapat menjadi alat untuk meningkatkan kompetensi dan keterampilan dalam berbagai bidang kehidupan, termasuk komunikasi, berpikir kritis, dan pemecahan masalah. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan sumber konflik dan bagaimana Edward Cullen mengatasinya dalam *Midnight Sun* karya Stephenie Meyer. Penelitian ini menggunakan konsep konflik yang diajukan oleh Deetz dan Stevenson serta menggunakan pendekatan objektif terhadap literatur. Peneliti merumuskan dua pertanyaan penelitian: 1) Apa sumber konflik Edward Cullen yang digambarkan dalam *Midnight Sun* karya Stephenie Meyer? 2) Bagaimana Edward Cullen mengatasi konfliknya yang digambarkan dalam *Midnight Sun* karya Stephenie Meyer? Penelitian ini merupakan kritik sastra karena menganalisis dan menginterpretasikan karya sastra. Data dikumpulkan dengan mengidentifikasi dan mengklasifikasikan kutipan relevan dari *Midnight Sun*. Data dianalisis dengan mendeskripsikan dan menjelaskan kutipan berdasarkan konsep konflik yang diajukan oleh Deetz dan Stevenson. Analisis menunjukkan bahwa 1) Edward Cullen mengalami semua sumber konflik yang disebutkan oleh Deetz dan Stevenson, termasuk perbedaan pendapat, peran yang tidak sesuai, tujuan yang tidak sesuai, dan sumber daya yang terbatas. 2) Edward Cullen telah memilih berbagai cara untuk mengatasi konfliknya, termasuk penghindaran, pemuasan, kompetisi, kompromi, dan integrasi kreatif, seperti yang dijelaskan oleh Deetz dan Stevenson.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter elaborates the background of the study, the problems of the study, the significance of the study, the scope and limitation, and definitions of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

Conflict is a universal human experience we all face daily, including outside the workplace (Furlong, 2005). In everyday life, we can encounter conflict in a variety of forms, ranging from political differences, widespread racial tendencies, fears that trigger tension, rejection of certain gender groups, religious extremism, and inter-ethnic separation, as well as prejudice and reluctance to accept differences in various forms, all of which pose a threat to peace in the family environment, provoke tension in society, and disrupt the performance of organizations (The Arbinger Institute, 2022).

The problematic issue during the 2024 general election process is one recent dispute that has grabbed Indonesian interest. Political parties and their supporters frequently conflict owing to fierce competitiveness. The pre-election process includes political tensions, claims of fraud, and arguments on social media. Electoral battles may be fraught with harsh rhetoric and significant divisions. However, this period may also be an opportunity to enhance democratic institutions. Understanding the nature and causes of conflict allows people to manage better,

prevent, and settle disputes. It can result in a more calm and pleasant environment for everybody involved. Furthermore, Mayer (2015) believes conflict can improve competence and skills in various life areas, including communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving.

As previously said, conflict is a multifaceted phenomenon that shapes the reality of human life. Their existence has caught the attention of artists, especially novelists, who have used it as a motif in literary works. One example is Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*. This novel, which tells the vampire-human love story from the viewpoint of Edward Cullen, the vampire, can be read as a side work to the first *Twilight* series. This novel portrays forbidden love between vampires and humans through the eyes of Edward Cullen, a vampire. Various challenges, including the dangers of the vampire world and the battle between desire and morality, test their love.

The study of conflict in literature is critical for comprehending the various components of a story and its relevance to real life. Conflict, as an essential feature of literature (Taylor, 1981), fulfils several functions. It functions as a "story maker", creating suspense for readers. This tension propels the plot while eliciting emotions (Bolea, 2020). Beyond mere dramatization (Paris, 1978), conflict analysis enables scholars to investigate characters' psychological and emotional difficulties. These difficulties are frequently the primary driving forces behind narratives and serve as the work's central themes. The researcher who understands conflict can assist readers in understanding the intricacies of human nature, relationships, and societal dynamics reflected in literature (Nur & Yusuf, 2023).

Furthermore, conflict studies can help readers understand how people deal with life's obstacles (Paris, 1978). This can improve their reading experience and encourage critical thinking on complex problems (Pettegree, 2023). Finally, researching conflict in literature has a double benefit. It supports scholars in comprehending the complexities of literary works and their application to real life. It improves and expands readers' reading experiences while encouraging critical thinking about various life situations.

Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun* presents an excellent choice for examining conflict analysis. It reflects on the personal problem that Edward Cullen faces, the main character, both out of himself and out. This broader perspective, related to Edward Cullen's point of view, presents a dramatic contrast to the *Twilight* series. *Midnight Sun* provides a deeper understanding of the conflict, motivation, and logic of Edward Cullen behind his actions. This better insight enabled academics to make more nuances and thoroughness of the conflicts they faced.

Furthermore, *Twilight* and *Midnight Sun* can provide a convincing opportunity to reach many readers of this study. Millions of readers around the world have enjoyed these works, and the film adaptation has attained tremendous success. *Twilight* and *Midnight Sun* provide more than a representation. They provide important insights into the complexity of conflict, showing how differences and inconsistencies can cause tension and even tragedy. However, it points out how these obstacles can motivate personal growth and explore fresh solutions. By looking closely at *Midnight Sun*, this research can be an excellent tool for

understanding and thinking about conflict in our lives, with the potential to contribute significantly to that area.

The researcher selected ten journal articles as previous studies. The first five journals focused analyzed conflict in the literature using Deetz and Stevenson's concept of conflict. Putra et al. (2022) researched the type and source of conflict encountered by the main character in the Dolittle film in their research titled *External Conflict Management in Dolittle Movie*. Yasari et al. (2019) researched Condon's 2017 film Beauty and the Beast to determine the types of conflicts experienced by the main character, the sources of the main character's conflict, and how the main character resolves conflict. Maku et al. (2022), in their research titled *An Analysis of the Main Character's Conflict in the Movie Act of Vengeance*, focus on explaining the various types of conflict faced by the main character in the film *Act of Vengeance* and analyzing how the main character resolved the conflict in the film.

In *Conflict of Observations in the Sun Is Also a Star Novel*, Dewi et al. (2021) examine the use of conflict control to solve problems and discover that the characters deal with conflict through compromise and denial. Finally, Janggur (2022), in their research entitled *An Analysis Conflict of the Main Character in Brave the Wild Wind Novel*, aims to identify the various types of conflicts experienced by the main character and the source.

Furthermore, the researcher used five previous studies in journal articles closely related to the novel. Olive (2022) examined Meyer's portrayal of gendered violence in her works, including *Twilight* and *Midnight Sun*, in *Textual Instability*

Around Gendered and Sexual Violence in Stephenie Meyer's Twilight and Midnight Sun. Karmila et al. (2021) explored the relationship between analyzing internal and external conflicts in novels such as *Twilight Saga: New Moon* and character development, focusing on students. Subur and Indrawan (2020) used a library research approach to investigate the psychology of the main character in *Twilight*.

Moving on to film adaptations, Millenia and Agustina (2023) identified the inherent components of the *Twilight* film *Eclipse*, including the narrative, characters, and moral message in *Analysis Intrinsic Elements in the Twilight Movie: Eclipse*. Last, Hairi (2019) used discourse analysis to explore the moral principles implicit in the *Twilight* film script in *The Portrait of Character Building in Twilight Film Script Through Ethical Values*. Combining these studies with conflict analysis research gave the researcher a more comprehensive grasp of Stephenie Meyer's work. It laid the groundwork for diving into Edward Cullen's issues in *Midnight Sun*.

Previous studies have profoundly explored the conflicts in the novels and aspects of Stephanie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*. However, no comprehensive study has specifically analyzed Stephanie Meyer's *Midnight Sun* from the perspective of Edward Cullen's character in the face of the conflicts and resolutions it faces.

The study uses Deetz and Stevenson's concept of conflict to give a new perspective on Edward Cullen's conflict in Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*. This framework offers a comprehensive approach to researching resources and managing conflict, allowing for a deeper understanding of the motivations, thinking processes, and challenges Edward Cullen faces. Applying this framework in the

context of Edward Cullen's character and the novel itself is a new contribution to literature study.

B. The Problems of Study

Based on the background of the study that has been elaborated, the researcher formulates the research questions as follows:

1. What are the sources of Edward Cullen's conflicts described in Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*?
2. How does Edward Cullen overcome his conflicts described in Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*?

C. Significance of the Study

This research is expected to have theoretical and practical significance. Theoretically, the research is expected to help readers comprehend how literary criticism conducts itself, particularly the application of Deetz and Stevenson's concept of conflict. Furthermore, the work laid the path for further research into the application of conflict theory in literary analysis.

In terms of practicality, it is intended that this research would provide knowledge of the conflicts in literary works, mainly according to Deetz and Stevenson, for others interested in researching the same issue. This research helps us grasp the complexities of conflict. Understanding this conflict's complexities allows us to comprehend better the conflicts we may face daily. Furthermore, the

researcher expects this research to help them better grasp conflict theory and literary interpretation.

D. Scope and Limitation

The focus of this research on Edward Cullen in Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun* explicitly explores the sources of the conflict and the way he overcame it. The concept of Deetz and Stevenson (1986) about the conflict in the book *Managing Interpersonal Communication* was used as a framework analysis to address the sources of the conflict for Edward Cullen and his strategies for overcoming the conflict. This study limits the exploration of *Midnight Sun* and does not compare it with the others in *Twilight Saga*. Moreover, this study focused on the novel's main character, Edward Cullen.

E. Definition of Key Terms

1. Conflict is a problem caused by a misalignment of requirements, goals, or resource constraints (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986).
2. Conflict management is a strategy for controlling and directing conflict to achieve a beneficial conclusion (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986).

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter provides an in-depth exploration of the approach and theory used in this research. This research applies the objective approach and the concept of conflict proposed by Deetz and Stevenson in the book *Managing Interpersonal Communication* (1986).

A. Objective Approach

Abrams & Harpham (2015) define the objective approach as a method of studying literary works that focuses on the text itself without considering “external” factors such as author biography, social context, or reader interpretation. The objective approach to literature views a literary work as an autonomous entity, free from any connection with the author, reader, or outside world. This means that this approach treats a literary work as a self-contained entity, having its own existence and meaning separate from its author or from the reader’s perspective. This approach allows for a more detailed examination of the intrinsic elements within a literary work. It enables researcher to uncover hidden meanings within the text and understand how a literary work stands on its own as a complex piece of art. This approach focuses on the work itself as an “independent object” or “a world of its own” (Abrams & Harpham, 2015).

The objective approach in literary criticism focuses on the analysis of the literary work itself without being influenced by the effect it has on the reader. This

approach evaluates the work based on its internal features, such as form, literary devices, and content. The aim is to uncover the intrinsic meaning of the literary work, regardless of the individual reader's response. When analyzing a literary work, the objective approach focuses on how specific emotional effects are achieved through the structure and writing techniques rather than on the emotional impact on the reader. This approach seeks to understand how the author uses language, style, and structure to create particular effects within the literary work. Thus, objective literary criticism provides a more in-depth and comprehensive analysis of a literary work than criticism that solely focuses on the effect it has on the reader. This approach allows readers to better understand a literary work and appreciate its complexity and beauty.

M. H. Abrams's seminal work, *The Mirror and the Lamp: Romantic Theory and the Critical Tradition* (1971), sheds light on applying the objective approach to interpreting Romantic literature. Imagine dissecting a romantic poem through this lens:

First, investigate the internal elements of poetry and their complicated relationships. With its organization, rhythms, and seal, the structure becomes a key player in the sense and impact. Then, shift focus to the poet's choice of words- articulation, metaphor, symbolism- all carefully made to excite emotions and uncover hidden layers of meaning. Characters became alive under our supervision with their motivation and interactions in the plot. How has all of this contributed to the overall news. Finally, draw on the main themes and concepts, examining how they weave with all the other elements to form a cohesive whole.

The objective approach isolates the work, setting aside the author's biography, historical context, and the intended audience. It is as if examining a self-contained world, a complete object with its internal logic and structure, waiting to be deciphered solely through the clues it presents within its boundaries.

The researcher used an objective approach, focusing on the text itself. This method examines literature as a complete, independent union of interconnected pieces. This is unlike any other technique of reading literature from the perspective of an audience, an artist, or the outside world. An objective approach allows the evaluation literature to use its internal standards without being influenced by extraneous influences. Thus, an objective approach can help to understand the literary work better as it is.

The objective method does not negate the author's objectives or the work's influence on readers. It is about better grasping the work, including its intrinsic structure and distinct aesthetic characteristics. Using the objective approach deliberately can provide valuable insights into the richness and complexity of Romantic literature.

B. Deetz and Stevenson Concept of Conflict

Conflict is frequently considered unnatural and should be avoided in social situations; this opinion is false. Conflict is an unavoidable natural event in the interactions of individuals and groups. It is a mistake to think about conflict as something undesirable that should be avoided in order to have a peaceful relationship.

Conflict is an inevitable part of life for a variety of different seasons. Most of decisions, whether made alone or with other people, take place in areas of commerable uncertainty. From the individual's standpoint such uncertainty arises whenever becomes necessary to make decisions with mutually exclusive goals or needs. From the individual's standpoint such uncertainty arises whenever becomes necessary to make decisions with mutually exclusive goals or needs. ... The uncertainty and tension felt intrapersonally is multiplied by the number of people who are interpersonally in teracting. Contrary needs and goals should nearly always be expected, Luckily, most are not very important. (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986)

According to the quotations above, conflict is a problem caused by a misalignment of requirements, goals, or resource constraints (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986). This is because many decisions, whether undertaken individually or in collaboration with others, are unpredictable. This ambiguity fosters disagreement, need, purpose, and resource constraints, ultimately avoiding conflict.

Conflict is frequently avoided since it is disruptive and impedes the achievement of goals. The situation can be annoying and unpleasant. On the other hand, conflict causes us to reconsider the significance of a need or aim, as well as how to attain it. Conflict also causes people to reconsider conventional ways of accomplishing their aims. Conversion raises the question of whether the habits and techniques adopted are still productive and efficient. Dissatisfaction with obtained achievements might spur innovation and the pursuit of more inventive solutions. Thus, conflict is not only an impediment to overcome but also a valuable challenge to study and apply for the benefit of individuals and groups.

1. The Sources of Conflict

Conflict is an inescapable part of human life. The causes of the problem range from misunderstanding to a conflict for resources. Understanding these types of disputes is critical to finding the proper answer. In the book *Managing Interpersonal Communication*, Deetz and Stevenson suggest types of conflict

viewed from sources, differing opinions, incompatible roles, incompatible goals, and competition for limited resources (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986).

Effective dispute resolution necessitates effective identification of the underlying issue. Understanding the nature of the disagreement assists in selecting the appropriate resolution technique. Misjudging the sources of conflict only exacerbates the issue and creates new and unforeseen challenges. As a result, it is critical to remain vigilant for possible conflicts and work to overcome them. Thus, selecting the appropriate and effective technique can create mutually satisfactory answers.

a. Differing Opinions

Differing opinions are disagreements based on contrasting perspectives or information (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986). People might hold different viewpoints due to individual experiences, interpretations, or priorities. Additionally, one person might have access to information the other does not, or they might have expertise in different areas, leading to conflicting views based on their knowledge base. The key is that differing opinions stem from a need for shared information or perspective. This makes them potentially more accessible to manage than conflicts rooted in more profound value clashes, as finding common ground or sharing information can often overcome these disagreements.

b. Incompatible Roles

Incompatible roles are positions within a relationship or interaction that hinder effective communication and collaboration due to conflicting expectations or functionalities (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986). Unlike simple disagreements about

content, these conflicts stem from a deeper issue, positions within a relationship, or interactions that have conflicting expectations or functionalities. This misalignment manifests as seemingly content-based disagreements. Efforts to overcome these disagreements by providing more information often backfire, leading to frustration and a decline in goodwill. The core problem lies in the inability of individuals to fulfill their expected roles because the other person does not need to fulfill their complementary role. Resolving such conflicts requires directly or indirectly negotiating roles that work together, allowing for smooth interaction and progress. In essence, compatible roles are essential for effective teamwork and communication.

c. Incompatible Goals

Incompatible goals are situations or relationships that are mutually exclusive, making it impossible for all parties to achieve their desired outcomes simultaneously (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986). Unlike disagreements about content or misaligned roles, these conflicts arise from fundamentally opposing objectives. Prioritizing short-term victories often leads to irrational choices that leave everyone unhappy. Effective resolution lies in finding creative solutions or compromises that address everyone's needs. In essence, navigating incompatible goals requires open communication, empathy, and a willingness to find common ground.

d. Limited Resources

Limited resources are situations in which there needs to be more resources (tangible or intangible) to fulfill the needs or desires of all parties involved, leading to competition and potential conflict (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986). Imagine a single

slice of pie remaining on a plate, two eager eaters eyeing it with desire. This scenario embodies the essence of limited resources – a situation where there is simply not enough (tangible or intangible resources) to go around. Scarcity, whether real or perceived (like having cake as an alternative to the coveted pie slice), fuels this dynamic. Competition for these limited resources becomes inevitable, potentially igniting conflict as people vie to fulfill their needs or desires.

2. Conflict Management Strategies

Conflict management strategies are critical for overcoming conflict. There are numerous dispute resolution tactics accessible, each with unique strengths in various contexts. In the book *Managing Interpersonal Communication*, Deetz and Stevenson (1986) described conflict management as a strategy for controlling and directing conflict to achieve a beneficial conclusion. They divide conflict management strategy into five categories: avoidance, pacification, competition, insights, and creative choices (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986).

a. Avoidance

Avoidance is a conflict resolution strategy where people consciously or unconsciously choose to postpone, withdraw from, or disregard a potential or existing conflict (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986). People may postpone the issue, concede to the other's demands, or simply disappear. While avoidance can be a temporary solution to cool down during heated moments or find a better time to discuss, it has limitations. Overused or poorly timed avoidance can lead to unmet needs, misunderstandings, and a weakened relationship, especially when

overcoming conflicting goals, limited resources, or incompatible roles. Choosing avoidance strategically and developing other conflict-resolution skills are crucial to navigating disagreements effectively.

b. Pacification

Pacification is a conflict resolution strategy that creates a false sense of engagement by diverting attention away from the core issue (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986). Like a pacifier for a baby, it soothes the surface but avoids the root cause. This can be done by downplaying the issue or exaggerating its complexity, ultimately hindering problem-solving. While generally discouraged, pacification can be a strategic tool in specific situations. When emotions run high, or a delay is necessary, it can buy time or avoid sending the wrong message through complete avoidance. However, overuse or reliance on pacification breeds resentment and weakens relationships in the long run. Proper conflict resolution requires addressing the core issue directly.

c. Competition

Competition is a conflict resolution strategy where each person strives to win and achieve their desired outcome (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986). Fair competition means staying focused on the specific issue, attacking ideas, not people, respecting boundaries, and prioritizing the relationship over winning at all costs. However, competition can also damage relationships, especially in complex situations or those fueled by emotions. The focus on winning can lead people to overlook creative solutions or compromises. Additionally, competing parties might misperceive the situation as having limited options when other solutions exist.

Therefore, it is crucial to choose competition strategically and consider if other methods might be more suitable for resolving complex conflicts.

d. Compromise

Compromise is a conflict resolution strategy where each party concedes some of their desires to reach a mutually agreeable but potentially less satisfying solution (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986). Overemphasizing it can lead to accepting limitations and incompatibilities that might not be real. Rushing to compromise can shut down a productive conflict that sparks creativity. In disagreements about opinions, compromise can create a situation where all ideas hold equal weight, regardless of merit. It often aims to leave everyone okay but only partially satisfied. Constant compromising can breed dissatisfaction and apathy over time. The focus on finding common ground can stifle creative solutions and lead to a passive way of overcoming with conflict.

e. Creative Integration

Creative integration is a conflict resolution strategy that seeks to find a solution that meets the underlying needs and goals of all parties involved, even if it requires reframing the way the conflict is perceived (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986). It challenges the initial assumptions of the situation, revealing hidden potential for solutions. Instead of limitations, it sees conflicts as opportunities for creative problem-solving. However, it requires all parties to participate actively. The process involves uncovering everyone's underlying needs and goals, viewing them as a whole, and then brainstorming solutions beyond what was initially proposed. Finally, the most promising solution is chosen and implemented.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

This chapter explains the research methods used by researcher. It includes the research design, data source, data collection, and data analysis.

A. Research Design

The basis of the research is the field of literary criticism, which entails analyzing, interpreting, and evaluating literary works through reading, arguing, and reviewing the literature (Fard, 2016). This study, which focuses on Stephanie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*, is based on literary criticism because the researcher discusses the sources of conflict and the resolutions of conflict experienced by the characters in the novel. The researcher used the concept of conflict in the book *Managing Interpersonal Communication*, proposed by Deetz and Stevenson, to analyze the data. Then, the researcher applied the deep objective approach to analyze the conflict that Edward Cullen experienced in *Midnight Sun*. This approach emphasizes textual analysis objectively and sincerely without being affected by the researcher's interpretation or personal assumptions.

B. Data Source

The data used is from Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*, further from *Twilight* by the same writer. This work retells *Twilight* events from Edward Cullen's perspective rather than another typical Bella narration. The novel was

published in August 2020, 672 pages and over 30 chapters, by Little, Brown, and Company in New York, United States. The data are taken from all of the novel's words, dialogues, phrases, and sentences related to the topic. These can be discovered in narrations or dialogues as statements, actions, attitudes, behaviors, and thoughts relevant to theory.

C. Data Collection

To collect the data, the researcher follows a set of processes. The process involved close reading to understand the content of *Midnight Sun* deeply. Next, the text is highlighted and underlined to pinpoint information about the source of Edward Cullen's conflicts and how he overcame them. Finally, any data annotations present within *Midnight Sun* are also noted.

D. Data Analysis

After collecting data, the researcher analyzes the data according to the problem of the study. Using Deetz and Stevenson's concept of conflict (1986), the researcher classified the data into types of conflict based on source and the resolution that Edward Cullen faced in *Midnight Sun*. Second, the researcher interprets the data that have been classified by explaining it according to the theory used. Third, the researcher concludes the study by wrapping all the results in a short paragraph.

CHAPTER IV

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presents data analysis gathered to answer the research questions. The research is presented narratively using the concept of conflict in *Managing Interpersonal Communication* proposed by Deetz and Stevenson (1986). The researcher is trying to explain the source of any conflict between Edward Cullen and how he overcame the conflict, as described in *Midnight Sun* by Stephenie Meyer by an objective approach to literature.

A. The Sources of Edward Cullen's Conflicts

This study's data was compiled from Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun* to answer the first research question. The data is analyzed based on sentences that focus on the type of conflict from their sources, differing opinions, incompatible roles, incompatible goals, and limited resources experienced by Edward Cullen.

1. Differing Opinions

As explained in the previous chapter, differing opinions, according to Deetz and Stevenson (1986), are disagreements based on contrasting perspectives or information. In Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*, the conflict of differing opinions between Edward Cullen are:

The first difference of opinion Edward Cullen faces is with Ms. Cope, as shown in the following quotations:

"I was wondering if I could move from my Biology class to a senior-level science. Physics, perhaps?"

"It there a problem with Mr. Banner, Edward?"

“Not at all, it’s just that I’ve already studied this material....”

“In that accelerated school you all went to in Alaska. Right.” Her thin lips pursed as she considered this.

...

“Could I drop the class, then? I could use the period for independent study.”

“Drop Biology?” Her mouth fell open. ... “You won’t have enough credits to graduate.”

“I’ll catch up next year.”

“Maybe you should talk to your parents about that.” (Meyer, Chapter 1, para. 206).

The above data illustrates the dialogue between Edward Cullen and Ms. Cope, which illustrates a difference of opinion regarding Edward Cullen’s decision to cancel biology classes. Edward Cullen wants to cancel his biology class. However, Ms. Cope, as a receptionist at the Forks High School front office, questioned Edward Cullen’s decision and stressed the importance of fulfilling academic obligations, including filling out the credits needed for graduation. These different perspectives reflect two different perspectives. Edward Cullen has put his wishes above all to avoid Bella, while Ms. Cope focuses on Edward Cullen’s responsibility as a student. Edward Cullen’s conflict between his feelings for Bella and his responsibility as a student is one of the main conflicts in Stephenie Meyer’s *Midnight Sun*. His dialogue with Ms. Cope provides a concrete example of the minor conflict that reinforces the main conflict. This is illustrated by how Edward Cullen’s desire to stay away from Bella would clash with the expectations and social norms he would have to fulfil as a high school student.

Next, the following quotations point to differences of opinion Edward Cullen faced with Bella:

“You owe me an explanation,” she said in a small voice. What little color she had drained from her ivory skin.

It was very hard to keep my voice harsh. “I saved your life—I don’t owe you anything.”

She flinched—it stung like acid to watch my words hurt her.

“You promised,” she whispered.

*“Bella, you hit your head, you don’t know what you’re talking about.”
 Her chin came up then. “There’s nothing wrong with my head.”
 She was angry now, and that made it easier for me. I met her glare, arranging my
 face so it was colder, harder.
 “What do you want from me, Bella?”
 “I want to know the truth. I want to know why I’m lying for you.”
 What she wanted was only fair—it frustrated me to have to deny her. (Meyer,
 Chapter 3, para. 322).*

The data above explains Edward Cullen’s conflict of opinion with Bella. Bella believes Edward Cullen owes her an explanation for what happened to her. She also believes there’s an agreement between him and Edward Cullen. Edward Cullen rejected the deal and believed he didn’t have to explain anything to Bella. Edward Cullen also wanted to protect Bella by keeping her from the reality of herself as a vampire. The conflict between Bella’s need to know the truth and Edward Cullen’s desire to protect it is one of the inner conflicts of *Midnight Sun*. This conflict became a driving machine that fueled other conflicts and reinforced major conflicts in the novel.

Edward Cullen then differing opinions with members of the Cullen family, as the following quotations explain:

*... I was already planning to leave before this happened. I’ll go now...” If I believe that the girl will be safe, I amended in my head. If I believe that none of you will touch her. “The situation will resolve itself.”
 “No,” Esme murmured. “No, Edward.”
 I patted her hand. “It’s just a few years.”
 “Esme’s right, though,” Emmett said. “You can’t go anywhere. That would be the opposite of helpful. We have to know what people are thinking, now more than ever.”
 “Alice will catch anything major,” I disagreed.
 Carlisle shook his head. “I think Emmett is right, Edward. The girl will be more likely to talk if you disappear. It’s all of us leave, or none of us.”
 “She won’t say anything,” I insisted quickly. Rose was building up to the explosion, and I wanted this fact out there first.
 “You don’t know her mind,” Carlisle reminded me.
 “I know this much. Alice, back me up.”
 ...
 “We’ve left rumors behind us before,” I reminded her.
 “Just rumors and suspicions, Edward. Not eyewitnesses and evidence!”
 “Evidence!” I scoffed.
 But Jasper was nodding, his eyes hard.*

“Rose—” Carlisle began.

“Let me finish, Carlisle. It doesn’t have to be any big production. The girl hit her head today. So maybe that injury turns out to be more serious than it looked.” Rosalie shrugged. “Every mortal goes to sleep with the chance of never waking up. The others would expect us to clean up after ourselves. Technically, that would make it Edward’s job, but this is obviously beyond him. You know I’m capable of control. I would leave no evidence behind me.”

“Yes, Rosalie, we all know how proficient an assassin you are,” I snarled.

...

“It’s not personal, Carlisle,” Rosalie said through her teeth. “It’s to protect us all.” (Meyer, Chapter 4, para. 77)

The above data explains the conflict of opinion between Edward Cullen and his family, as his opinion on how to deal with Bella differs from that of other Cullen family members. These differences resulted in arguments and difficulties in reaching an agreement. Edward Cullen wanted to leave Forks to protect Bella, while Carlisle and Esme wanted Edward Cullen to stay behind to observe the situation and take care of Bella. Lastly, Rosalie wants to kill Bella about the incident to protect the Cullen family. This conflict is still closely linked to the leading conflict in Stephanie Meyer’s *Midnight Sun*. This conflict in the novel focuses on Edward Cullen’s main conflict, trying to balance his desire to protect Bella with hers to be with Bella, even though he knows that her presence puts her in grave danger. Differences of opinion between Edward Cullen and his family reflect the complexity and intensity of the conflict Edward Cullen faced. Thus, this conflict of opinion not only adds layers to the story but also deepens understanding of the dilemmas and tensions constantly faced by the main character, Edward Cullen.

Furthermore, differences in opinion between Edward Cullen and Emmet are evident in the following quotations:

... Of all the places in the world she could go, she ends up in a town where vampires make up a significant portion of the population.”

“Yeah, but we’re vegetarians. So isn’t that good luck, not bad?”

“With the way she smells? Definitely bad. And then, more bad luck, the way she smells to me.” I glowered at my hands, hating them again.

“Except that you have more self-control than just about anyone but Carlisle. Good luck again.”

“The van?”

“That was just an accident.”

“You should have seen it coming for her, Em, again and again. I swear, it was like she had some kind of magnetic pull.”

“But you were there. That was good luck.”

“Was it? Isn’t this the worst luck any human could ever possibly have—to have a vampire fall in love with them?” (Meyer, Chapter 7, para. 171).

The data above explains how Edward Cullen and Emmet had significant differences in opinion. Edward Cullen felt lured by Bella scent that attracted him as a vampire. Although she had strong self-control, Bella’s presence was a real challenge because she had to fight to keep from attacking her. Emmett saw Bella’s scent as a threat and a potential danger to Edward Cullen. She was concerned that Bella’s stench of Edward Cullen could endanger her safety and influence Edward Cullen’s vampire control over her. This conflict reflects the central theme in the novel, how the love between Bella and Edward Cullen must navigate the challenges and dangers that exist because of the nature of vampire Edward Cullen. Both Edward Cullen and Bella must face threats caused by their love, including Bella’s potential change to a vampire.

Next, differing opinions between Edward Cullen and Bella are describe in the following quotations:

“Holy crow!” she gasped.

I panicked. What had she seen? How had I frightened her?

Then she shouted, “Slow down!”

“What’s wrong?” I didn’t understand where her terror was coming from.

“You’re going a hundred miles an hour!” she yelled at me.

This little thing, just a bit of speed, had her shouting in fear?

I rolled my eyes. “Relax, Bella.”

“Are you trying to kill us?” she demanded, her voice high and tight.

“We’re not going to crash,” I promised her.

She sucked in a sharp breath, and then spoke in a slightly more level tone. “Why are you in such a hurry?”

“I always drive like this.” I met her gaze, amused by her shocked expression.

“Keep your eyes on the road!” she shouted.

"I've never been in an accident, Bella. I've never even gotten a ticket." ... "Built-in radar detector."

"Very funny," she said sarcastically, her voice still more frightened than angry.

"Charlie's a cop, remember? I was raised to abide by traffic laws. Besides, if you turn us into a Volvo pretzel around a tree trunk, you can probably just walk away."

"Probably," ... "But you can't." (Meyer, Chapter 10, para. 39)

The data above describes a difference of opinion between Edward Cullen and Bella as they drove. Edward Cullen, with his vampire abilities, reflexes and incredible speed, feels that driving at high speed is not a problem. His belief was based on his ability to control cars perfectly. She told Bella to relax and emphasize that she had never had an accident or even gotten a ticket. Edward Cullen underestimated the possible risk of high speed because he felt so confident about his abilities. However, for Bella, who is an ordinary human with no super-relax abilities, the driving experience with Edward Cullen was terrifying. The speed Edward Cullen sees as his own is a dangerous thing for Bella. This clash over safe driving boundaries is not just a small disagreement but a harbinger of the ultimate conflict in *Midnight Sun*, Edward Cullen and Bella's difficulty in uniting their different worlds. The differences in nature between vampires and humans will continue to challenge their relationships and become the source of future conflicts.

The following excerpts describe differences of opinion Edward Cullen faced with Bella:

"This is wrong."

...

"Don't you see, Bella? It's one thing for me to make myself miserable, but a wholly other thing for you to be so involved. I don't want to hear that you feel that way." It was the truth, it was a lie. The most selfish part of me was flying with the knowledge that she wanted me as I wanted her. "It's wrong. It's not safe. I'm dangerous, Bella—please, grasp that."

"No." Her lips pouted out stubbornly. "I'm serious." I was battling with myself so strongly—half desperate for her to accept my warnings, half-desperate to keep the warnings from escaping—that the words came through my teeth as a growl.

"So am I," she insisted.

“Never say that,” I hissed.

“I told you, it doesn’t matter what you are. It’s too late.” (Meyer, Chapter 10, para. 229)

The data presented explains how Edward Cullen deals with a conflict of opinion with Bella. Edward Cullen was eager to protect Bella from the possible dangers of her relationship with a vampire. She feels Bella does not need to fully understand the risks involved. Bella, on the other hand, insisted that she was unconcerned about the danger and that Edward Cullen was protective and lacked confidence. This analysis concludes that the conflict between Edward Cullen and Bella’s differing views about the danger and safety of their relationship is at the root of the major conflict in the *Midnight Sun*. These differences reflect a discrepancy in their nature as both vampires and humans and become a source of tension and obstacles that they must face for the narrative.

Edward Cullen and the Cullen family members have the opinions differences in the following quotations:

How could he? That selfish jackass! How could he do this to us? Rosalie’s piercing mental shriek broke through my humor.

“Easy, Rose,” I heard Emmett whisper from across the cafeteria. His arm was around her shoulders, holding her tight into his side—restraining her.

Sorry, Edward, Alice thought guiltily. She could tell Bella knew too much from your conversation... and, well, it would have been worse if I hadn’t told her the truth right away. Trust me on that.

I winced at the mental picture that followed, at what would have happened if I’d admitted to Rosalie that Bella knew I was a vampire when we were at home, where Rosalie didn’t have a façade to keep up. I’d have to hide my Aston Martin somewhere out of state if she didn’t calm down by the time school was over. The sight of my favorite car, mangled and burning, was upsetting—though I knew I’d earned the retribution.

Jasper was not much happier. (Meyer, Chapter 11, para. 232)

Through the above data, we can see how Edward Cullen got into a disagreement with other members of the Cullen family on how to deal with Bella and keep their secrets. Edward Cullen, who wanted to protect Bella in his way,

triggered tensions and anxieties among his family. Rosalie, one of the Cullen family members, disagreed with the way Edward Cullen involved Bella in their lives as a vampire. On the other hand, Alice, despite her guilt, believed that telling Bella the truth about Edward Cullen was the right thing to do. Alice believes her actions saved Bella from a much worse situation. The Cullens' internal conflict regarding Edward Cullen and Bella's relationship was the aftermath of a main conflict of the *Midnight Sun*. The incompatibility of vampire and human nature, as well as the dangers posed by their relationships, created tensions and rifts in the Cullen family.

Next, the following excerpts highlight different of opinions between Edward Cullen and Rosalie:

Will you shut up! Rosalie's mental scream peaked, breaking into my absorption. I saw what she thought of this conversation, of exactly how much Bella already knew. I glanced back automatically to see Rosalie glowering furiously, but I realized I simply did not care. Let her destroy the car. It was just a toy. (Meyer, Chapter 11, para. 351).

A conflict of opinion between Edward Cullen and Rosalie reflects the main conflict in Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*. The main conflict in the novel focuses on Edward Cullen's dilemma in protecting Bella from the harm that her relationship with a vampire might bring. Edward Cullen wanted to keep Bella safe, carefully revealing her identity, but he was also trapped in his desire to stay close to Bella. Rosalie's gaze, concerned about the effect Bella has on learning their secrets, adds another dimension to this conflict. Rosalie's concerns illustrate the real risk and potential danger of Bella's relationship with the vampire world. It highlights how complex and dangerous the situation is, adding to the tension and drama in the story. The conflict of views between Edward Cullen and Rosalie regarding Edward Cullen and Bella's relationship is an essential part of the major conflict of *Midnight Sun*.

This conflict demonstrated the complexity of their relationships and the obstacles they had to face in a world full of danger and secrecy.

Further, differences of opinion between Edward Cullen and Bella can be seen in the following quotations:

... *“Is that something I might get to see?”*

For a moment, it was so clear in my head—Bella’s crumpled, bloodless body in my arms—as though I were the one who had seen the vision, rather than just watching it in Alice’s mind. ...

“Absolutely not,” I snarled at her.

“Too scary for me?” she asked, even-voiced. Her heart, however, was still moving in double time.

“If that were it, I would take you out tonight,” I retorted through my teeth. “You need a healthy dose of fear. Nothing could be more beneficial for you.”

“Then why?” she demanded, undeterred. I glared at her blackly, waiting for her to be afraid. I was afraid. Her eyes remained curious, impatient, nothing more. She waited for her answer, not giving in. (Meyer, Chapter 11, para. 386).

According to the data above, Edward Cullen has a conflicted opinion with Bella. Edward Cullen is trying to keep Bella from the dangerous reality of the vampire world. This was evident in his angry reaction when Bella asked if she might have seen Alice’s horrible vision of the future. Edward Cullen believes that this knowledge terrifies Bella and endangers her. On the other hand, a curious, independent Bella. His curiosity about the vampire world was not affected by Edward Cullen’s warnings. The clash of views between Edward Cullen and Bella regarding the vampire world is an important part of the major conflict of the *Midnight Sun*. This conflict demonstrated the complexity of their relationships and the obstacles they had to face in a world full of danger and secrecy.

Edward Cullen and Bella disagree on certain matters, as the following quotations show:

“What?” Bella demanded.

My eyes refocused on her face. She looked at Mike’s retreating back, and then at me again. “Newton’s getting on my nerves,” I admitted.

Her mouth fell open, and her smile disappeared. She must have forgotten that I'd had the power to watch through her calamitous last hour, or hoped that I hadn't used it. "You weren't listening again?"

"How's your head?" "You're unbelievable!" she said through her teeth, and then she turned away from me and stalked furiously toward the parking lot. Her skin flushed dark red—she was embarrassed. I kept pace with her, hoping that her anger would pass soon. She was usually quick to forgive me.

"You were the one who mentioned how I'd never seen you in Gym," I explained. "It made me curious." (Meyer, Chapter 12, para. 165).

The conflicting opinions between Edward Cullen and Bella are best understood through the data above. Edward Cullen felt that using his abilities to protect Bella was right because of his love and affection. Bella, however, was uncomfortable and disturbed by Edward Cullen's actions, which used his ability to read her thoughts. This differing opinion disappointed Bella and angered Bella because she felt her privacy was violated and Edward Cullen did not respect her boundaries. For Edward Cullen, it was a challenge to balance his vampire abilities with the need to respect privacy and Bella's boundaries. This conflict is the aftermath of the main *Midnight Sun* conflict, which is the difficulty Edward Cullen and Bella have in aligning their different worlds. The incompatibility of vampire and human nature, as well as the dangers posed by their relationships, created a strain and a rift in Edward Cullen and Bella's relationships.

The further conflict of differing opinions by Edward Cullen was with Rosalie, as shown in the following quotations:

"I'm sorry," I told her again. I could see that she was surprised by the lack of sarcasm in my voice, my quick capitulation. But she was too angry to accept apologies yet.

Are you happy now?

"No," I said, the ache in my voice giving proof to the denial.

Why did you do it, then? Why would you tell her? Just because she asked? The words themselves weren't so harsh—it was her mental tone that was edged with needle-sharp points. ...

...

"Why?" she demanded out loud when I still said nothing. She didn't want me to keep reading. "Why did you tell her?"

"I'm actually surprised you were able to," Emmett said before I could respond. "You rarely say the word, even with us. It's not your favorite." (Meyer, Chapter 12, para. 250).

The data presented explains how Edward Cullen and Rosalie had significant differences of opinion. They are engaged in a conflict over an altercation between Edward Cullen and Bella. Edward Cullen argues that Bella has the right to know his secrets. At the same time, Rosalie disagrees with Edward Cullen's decision and worries about her safety. Differences pitted him between a desire to be honest with Bella and concerns about her safety and the impact it had on the Cullen family. The conflict between Edward Cullen and Rosalie regarding Edward Cullen and Bella's relationship is an essential part of the major conflict of the *Midnight Sun*. This conflict demonstrates the complexity of Edward Cullen and Bella's relationships, as well as the effect on those around them. These conflicts also signalled the obstacles Edward Cullen and Bella had to face in their relationship and in protecting their secrets from the world.

The following excerpts describe the differences of opinion Edward Cullen faced with the Cullen family member, Emmet, Rosalie, and Jasper:

*Oops, Emmett thought.
I curled my hands into fists and concentrated on staying in my seat.
Sorry, I was trying not to think about that.
I glanced at the clock. Fifteen minutes before I could punch him in the face.
I didn't mean any harm. Hey, I took your side, right? Honestly, Jasper and Rose are just being silly, betting against Alice. It's the easiest wager I'll ever win.
A wager about this weekend, whether Bella would live or die. (Meyer, Chapter 13, para. 188).*

The data above describes a conflict of differing opinions between Edward Cullen and the Cullen family, especially with Emmett, Rosalie, and Jasper. This conflict involves betting on Bella's safety, where Edward Cullen resists it while Jasper and Rosalie view it as a way of overcoming their anxiety. An atmosphere of

tension occurs in their interactions, with Edward Cullen angry with Jasper and Rosalie's unserious attitude while Emmett tries to become the mediator. He tried to defend Edward Cullen and certify the bet by saying they only trusted Alice. This onslaught of conflict, with the main conflict in *Midnight Sun*, is to show Edward Cullen's problem to keep Bella from harm while also being exposed to pressure and opinions from his family. Conflict with his family reflects Edward Cullen's tension in balancing his responsibility as a vampire who wants to protect Bella from the desires and views of his loved ones.

Further, differing opinions between Edward Cullen and Alice are evident in the following quotations:

*Edward! Alice protested shrilly. I love her, Edward!
But she didn't love Bella the way I did. Her vision was preposterous. Wrong. She was blinded somehow, seeing impossibilities. Lies.*

...

Edward, we have to talk.

There was nothing for Alice and me to talk about. I shook my head ever so slightly, just once. Bella didn't see. Alice's thoughts were a command now. She shoved the picture I couldn't bear back into the forefront of my mind.

I love her, Edward. I won't let you just ignore this. We're leaving, and we're going to work this through. I'll give you till the end of the period. Make your excuses—oh! (Meyer, Chapter 14, para. 89).

The data above shows how Edward Cullen became involved in a conflict of dissent with Alice. Edward Cullen and Alice are arguing about Bella's situation because of Alice's vision. Edward Cullen argued that danger still lured Bella, but Alice's vision was irrelevant because the situation had changed. On the other hand, Alice insisted that her vision was accurate and that Bella was in danger. The conflict between Edward Cullen and Alice is the aftereffect of the major *Midnight Sun* conflict, which is the difficulty between Edward Cullen and Bella in aligning their different worlds. This conflict demonstrates the complexity of Edward Cullen and

Bella's relationships and the effect on those around them. It also signals the constant uncertainty and danger of their relationship.

The following excerpts also describe differences of opinion Edward Cullen faced with Alice:

*"NOW, ALICE," I BEGAN AS I SHUT MY DOOR.
She sighed. I'm sorry. I wish I didn't have to—
"It's not real," I interrupted, accelerating away from the parking lot.
...
"It can't still be valid. You didn't see it again, you just remembered it."
Alice shook her head slowly.
It's not just a memory, Edward. I see it now.
"We'll go somewhere else."
...
Her blood is so strong to you, Edward.
As you get closer to her...
"I'll go back to keeping my distance."
"I don't think that will work. It didn't before." (Meyer, Chapter 15, para, 1).*

The data above describes the conflict between Edward Cullen and Alice Cullen due to disagreements over the situation and Bella's safety. Edward Cullen questioned the accuracy of Alice's vision because of the changed circumstances. At the same time, Alice remained convinced that her vision was correct and Bella was in grave danger. Edward Cullen is frustrated that Alice does not trust him, and Alice feels anxious and desperate to find a solution for Bella's safety. This conflict connects to the central conflict in the Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*, Edward Cullen's attempt to protect Bella from the threats of the vampire world. The role of conflict between Edward Cullen and Alice in the whole narrative is to show how complex and stressful the characters face the situation. In conclusion, this conflict reinforces the novel's central theme, Edward Cullen's problem to protect Bella amid persistent threats and uncertainties.

Still Alice, Edward Cullen has the differences of opinion that are vividly described by the following quotations:

“What’s wrong? Why is she like that?”

“Because you’ve left. She’s not... doing well.” I hated it when Alice spoke like that, in her strange present-future tense, which made it sound like the tragedy was happening right now.

“Better than other options,” I said.

“Do you really think you could leave her like that? Do you think you wouldn’t come back to check? Do you think when you saw her that way, you would be able to keep from speaking?” (Meyer, Chapter 15, para, 30).

The data above describes a conflict of opinion between Edward Cullen and Alice Cullen regarding Edward Cullen’s decision to leave Bella. The quotations show how Edward Cullen and Alice differ in their views about how the decision will affect Bella and Edward Cullen themselves. Edward Cullen feels that leaving Bella is the best decision for her safety, even if it hurts. On the other hand, Alice argued that Edward Cullen’s departure would be a danger to Bella’s mental condition and that Edward Cullen would not be able to move away without returning or contacting Bella, even if it was risky. This conflict connects with the main conflict in Stephenie Meyer’s *Midnight Sun*, which is Edward Cullen’s problem to protect Bella from the dangers of the vampire world and himself, even if it means hurting her by going. The conflict between Edward Cullen and Alice about Edward Cullen’s decision to leave Bella reinforces the central theme of the *Midnight Sun*. This conflict highlights Edward Cullen’s problem to protect his loved ones from harm, even if it means facing deep pain and guilt. Differences of opinion with Alice reflected Edward Cullen’s internal challenges, adding depth to the narrative and enriching the reader’s understanding of Edward Cullen’s character’s emotional and moral complexity.

Further, disagreements between Edward Cullen and Siobhan are described through the following data:

Poor boy. I suppose Carlisle has imposed his odd habits on the lad. That's why his eyes are so strange. How tragic—to be deprived of the greatest joy of this life.

...

Poor boy.... How tragic—to be deprived of the greatest joy of this life.

... It was that phrase, the greatest joy of this life, that eventually led to my separation from Carlisle and Esme. In the pursuit of that promised joy, I took human life over and over again, thinking that, in the arrogant application of my gift, I could do more good than harm. (Meyer, Chapter 15, para, 248).

According to the above data, Edward Cullen disagreed with Siobhan, which caused internal confusion for him. These conflicts centred on differing views of vampire life, especially the drinking of human blood that Siobhan considers “the greatest happiness in life.” Edward Cullen, influenced by Carlisle and Esme, adopted a vegan vampire lifestyle that refused to feed on human blood, thus causing an internal problem within himself. Quotations from the data illustrate how Siobhan views Edward Cullen’s habit as tragic because she is “deprived of the greatest happiness in life.” This conflict connects with the central conflict in Stephenie Meyer’s *Midnight Sun*, which focuses on Edward Cullen’s problem to maintain his morality and humanity even though he is a vampire. It also underscores a central theme in the story of sacrifice and the fight against basic instincts for higher values.

The next excerpt describing the differences of opinion Edward Cullen faces is with Bella:

And did you tell Charlie what you were up to?” I asked the question without hope. She smiled, eyes straight ahead. “Nope.”

...

“But Jessica thinks we’re going to Seattle together?”

“No,” she said, complacent. “I told her you canceled on me—which is true.”

...

“No one knows you’re with me?” She flinched slightly at my tone, but then her chin came up and she forced a smile. “That depends. I assume you told Alice?” I had to take a deep breath to keep my voice even. “That’s very helpful, Bella.”

...

“Are you so depressed by Forks that it’s made you suicidal?”

...

“How can you not see how wrong I am?” I hissed, too angry to slow the words down into something comprehensible for her. Telling her never worked. I would have to show her. (Meyer, Chapter 16, para, 53).

The data above describes Edward Cullen’s conflict with Bella due to differing opinions. Edward Cullen, filled with his responsibility and love for Bella, wanted to protect her from the dangers ahead, both as a vampire and as another. On the other hand, Bella, whose love for Edward Cullen impelled her, was prone to ignore the danger in her desire to be with him. This conflict connects to the central conflict in Stephenie Meyer’s *Midnight Sun*, which is Edward Cullen’s problem to protect Bella from the hostile vampire world, even if it means going against the wishes of his own heart and Bella’s.

Edward Cullen and Bella also have differences of opinion that are evident in the following quotations:

“I don’t scare you?” I hadn’t scared her away.

She wanted to be here, with me. Her tone was teasing when she answered. “No more than usual.” (Meyer, Chapter 17, para, 75).

Her voice was low; a human would have had a hard time hearing her. “I was wishing I could believe that you were real. And I was wishing that I wasn’t afraid.”

A flash of pain stabbed through me. I’d been wrong. I had frightened her after all. Of course I had.

“I don’t want you to be afraid.” It was an apology and a lament.

I was surprised when she grinned almost impishly. “Well, that’s not exactly the fear I meant, though that’s certainly something to think about.”

How was she joking now? What could she mean? (Meyer, Chapter 17, para, 91).

According to the above data, the conflict between Edward Cullen and Bella Swan describes their views on Bella’s fears. Edward Cullen thought that Bella was afraid of him because he was a vampire. In contrast, Bella acknowledged that he was afraid of Edward Cullen, but not because of his vampire form, perhaps because of the intensity of their relationship and the uncertainty of their future. The conflict

between Edward Cullen and Bella Swan about Bella's fear reinforced the central theme of *Midnight Sun* on protection, love, and self-perception.

Next, the following excerpts highlight differences of opinion between Edward Cullen and Rosalie:

You want me to be nice to the human, she guessed.

"Yes. You don't have to like her, if you'd rather not. But she's part of my life, and that makes her part of your life, too. I know you didn't ask for this, and you don't want it."

No, I do not, she agreed.

...

I am sorry. I don't mean that to sound so cruel. I just can't... I can't watch her do this. "She's got a chance for everything, Edward," Rosalie whispered, her whole body rigid with intensity. "A whole life of possibilities ahead of her, and she's going to waste it all. Everything I lost. I can't bear to watch it."

...

"I'm not going to let that happen," I promised, matching her intensity.

...

This is a dangerous game you're playing, Edward.

"I'll find a way to survive. After she goes..." I flinched, my hand falling to my side.

...

I shook my head. "Someday she'll want more than I can give her." There was so much I couldn't give her. "You would have wanted more, wouldn't you? If you were in her position, and Emmett in mine?" (Meyer, Chapter 19, para, 25).

In the data above, Edward Cullen and Rosalie have different opinions on Edward Cullen's relationship with Bella. These conflicts have to do with their differing views about these relationships' effect on Bella and the values of human versus vampire life. Edward Cullen wanted to have a relationship with Bella because he loved her and wanted to protect and give her a happy life. He believes he can protect Bella from the dangers of the vampire world. Rosalie sees this relationship as a disadvantage to Bella because Bella will lose her everyday human life. She argued that being a vampire was a curse and that Bella should not miss out on a chance to live as an ordinary human being. A conflict of values and priorities between Edward Cullen and Rosalie is the aftermath of the ultimate conflict of

Midnight Sun, which is the difficulty Edward Cullen and Bella have in aligning their distinct worlds.

Differences of opinion between Edward Cullen and Carlisle can be seen in the following quotations.

“Have you always stayed with Carlisle, then?” she asked.

...

“Almost always,” I answered.

“Well,” I confessed, “I had a typical bout of rebellious adolescence—about ten years after I was born, created, whatever you want to call it. I wasn’t sold on his life of abstinence, and I resented him for curbing my appetite. So I went off on my own for a time.” (Meyer, Chapter 20, para, 85).

The data above describes the internal conflict Edward Cullen endured between following his vampire instinct and the hope that Carlisle is holding. While Carlisle advocated abstinence and the vegan vampire lifestyle, Edward Cullen felt the temptation to drink human blood. These differing principles triggered a conflict of purpose between Edward Cullen and Carlisle. Edward Cullen wanted freedom to quench his thirst, while Carlisle remained firm in unyielding principles and wanted Edward Cullen to live a peaceful vampire life. Edward Cullen’s internal conflicts over the desires and principles of the vampires’ lives are also the aftermath of the significant *Midnight Sun* conflict, the difficulties of Edward Cullen and Bella aligning their different worlds. Vampire Edward Cullen’s nature conflicts with Bella’s human nature, creating an inner dilemma and problem for Edward Cullen. Her desire to be with Bella was in danger of her vampire nature.

The following excerpts show how Edward Cullen and Rosalie had disagreements:

“You heard about the game, I guess.”

Just let me go, Edward. I could see in her mind that she had no destination in mind. She only wanted to be away from here. Emmett will stay. That's enough, isn't it?

"Please?"

She closed her eyes and inhaled deeply. I don't understand why this is so important to you.

"You are important to me, Rose," I said simply.

Everyone will have more fun without me. (Meyer, Chapter 21, para, 173).

The data above describes the conflict between Edward Cullen and Rosalie regarding the presence of Bella Swan. The conflict was evident in the strain felt as the Cullens played baseball together. Rosalie showed her dissatisfaction and disapproval of Bella's presence with a rigid demeanour and an inapproachable facial expression. Edward Cullen gave Rosalie a critical look, disapproving of her hostility to Bella. The conflict between Edward Cullen and Rosalie regarding Bella's presence is the aftereffect of a significant clash of *Midnight Sun*. This conflict is also an essential part of the weave of conflicts in *Midnight Sun*. It showed the complexity of Edward Cullen and Bella's relationship and the impact on the Cullen family.

Edward Cullen and Rosalie also disagreed on certain matters, as shown in the following quotations:

I could feel the palpable tension as Rosalie took her turn at bat. Though Bella was out of her line of sight while she faced Alice on the mound, Rosalie's shoulders seemed to curl inward, away from Bella. Her stance was stiff and her expression rigid with distaste.

I glared at her critically, and she curled her lip at me.

You wanted me here. (Meyer, Chapter 21, para, 455).

The distinct conflict of opinion between Edward Cullen and Rosalie is described in the data above. Rosalie demonstrated her disapproval of Bella's presence through her rigid posture and facial expressions of contempt. At the same time, Edward Cullen gave Rosalie a critical look, disapproving of her hostility

toward Bella. The veil of hostility between Edward Cullen and Rosalie, which is associated with Bella's presence, is an essential part of the intertwined conflict in *Midnight Sun*. It showed the complexity of Edward Cullen and Bella's relationship and the impact on the Cullen family.

The subsequent conflict of dissent by Edward Cullen was with Bella and Alice, as the following quotations:

"Dammit, Edward! Where are you taking me?" I pulled away from the confusing swirl of Alice's futures so that I could be present. Bella must be terrified.

"We have to get you away from here—far away—now," I explained

...

"I have to, Bella," I hissed. "Now please be quiet." I needed to see what Alice was seeing.

"I won't!" she shouted at me. "You have to take me back—Charlie will call the FBI! They'll be all over your family—Carlisle and Esme! They'll have to leave, to hide forever!"

...

"Edward." Alice was still calm, her tone so reasonable. "Let's just talk this through."

"You don't understand," I exploded. "He's a tracker, Alice, did you see that? He's a tracker!"

"Pull over, Edward," Alice said, as if I hadn't spoken. I glowered at her while urging the engine faster. That's not how tonight goes, she thought with perfect assurance.

"Do it, Edward." "Listen to me, Alice," I seethed, wishing I could put everything I knew directly into her head for once instead of the other way around. She didn't get it. "I saw his mind. Tracking is his passion, his obsession—and he wants her, Alice—her, specifically. He begins the hunt tonight." (Meyer, Chapter 22, para, 141).

The data presented above describes the distinct conflict of opinion between Edward Cullen, Bella, and Alice. Driven by his protective instinct, Edward Cullen believes bringing Bella to safety is the best solution. On the other hand, Bella is terrified of returning to her father, Charlie, but she refuses to leave forks. Meanwhile, Alice, who can see into the future, remains calm and suggests a discussion to find a solution together. The conflict of strategies regarding Bella's protection is an essential part of the inner conflict in *Midnight Sun*. Every character

has a strong argument, but they must find a way to work together and agree to protect Bella and everyone they love.

The following excerpts reveal differences in opinion Edward Cullen faced with Bella and Emmet:

“There are no options,” I snarled at Alice.

“I’m not leaving Charlie!” Bella yelled at me.

“We have to take her back,” Emmett interjected.

“No.”

Emmett looked at me in the rearview mirror. “He’s no match for us, Edward. He won’t be able to touch her.”

...

I wanted to rip my hair out in frustration. “You didn’t see—you don’t understand! Once he commits to a hunt, he’s unshakable. We’d have to kill him.”

...

“Does anyone want to hear my plan?”

“No,” I snapped, still glaring at Alice. She scowled back.

“Listen,” Bella continued. “You take me back—”

“No.”

“You take me back,” she insisted, her voice stronger and angrier now. “I tell my dad I want to go home to Phoenix. I pack my bags. We wait till this tracker is watching, and then we run. He’ll follow us and leave Charlie alone. Charlie won’t call the FBI on your family. Then you can take me any damned place you want.” (Meyer, Chapter 22, para, 183).

The above data discuss the conflict between Edward Cullen, Bella Swan, and Emmett Cullen in Stephenie Meyer’s *Midnight Sun*. This conflict is linked to one of the major conflicts, the threat of James, the tracker vampire targeting Bella. This conflict demonstrates differences in personality and the priorities of each character. Edward Cullen was driven by fear and wanting to protect Bella, Bella was driven by courage and the desire to protect others, and Emmett was driven by self-confidence and a desire to solve problems quickly. This conflict enriches the story by pointing out differences in character and increasing tensions. Furthermore, this conflict encouraged the plots because they had to unite to face the dangers.

The next time, Edward Cullen, Bella, Alice and Emmet had a conflict of opinion, as it stated in the following quotation:

"I think you should let me go alone.

...

"Bella, please just do this my way, just this once,"

...

"Listen, Charlie's not an imbecile. If you're not in town tomorrow, he's going to get suspicious."

...

"That's irrelevant," I said in a tone that was intended to sound final. "We'll make sure he's safe, and that's all that matters."

"Then what about this tracker?" she countered. "He saw the way you acted tonight. He's going to think you're with me, wherever you are."

All three of us froze, surprised by this direction. Even Alice. She'd been paying attention to other futures than this conversation.

Emmett embraced the logic immediately. "Edward, listen to her. I think she's right."

"Yes, she is," Alice agreed.

...

But what was the other option? Leave Bella? "I can't do that," (Meyer, Chapter 22, para. 253).

The above data discuss the further conflict between Edward Cullen, Bella, Alice, and Emmett in Stephanie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*. This conflict is still linked to the primary conflict, the threat of James, the tracker vampire targeting Bella. This conflict further amplifies the differences in personality and priorities between characters. Edward Cullen was focused on Bella's protection. Bella wanted to be independent and protect her father, Alice, and Emmett so that she could see potential danger and strategic considerations. These subsequent conflicts strengthen relationships with crucial conflicts. Dissent between characters adds depth to the story and increases tension. Furthermore, this conflict also prompted the plot because they had to unite to carry out the plan that would ultimately save Bella.

Differing opinions between Edward Cullen and Rosalie is clearly seen in the following dialogue:

I caught Rose's eye. "Get her upstairs and trade clothes."

...

Rosalie knew this, but her eyes flashed with disbelief.

Don't you see what she's done to us? She's ruined everything! And you want me to protect her?

She spit the rest of her answer aloud, resolved that Bella would hear it, too. "Why should I? What is she to me? Except a menace—a danger you've chosen to inflict on all of us!" (Meyer, Chapter 23, para. 213).

The conflicting opinions between Edward Cullen and Rosalie are perceived through the above data on how to deal with Bella, triggered tensions and elaborate efforts of Edward Cullen to protect them. Edward Cullen is bound by his promise to protect Bella, so much for keeping Bella safe and asking Rosalie for help. Rosalie disagreed with Edward Cullen's decision to protect Bella. She felt that Bella was the cause of her family's danger and refused to help Edward Cullen. The conflict between Edward Cullen and Rosalie adds to the complexity of the central conflict. This conflict enriched the story by demonstrating the fragmentation within the Cullen family and the emotions faced by the characters.

Edward Cullen and Bella have differences of opinion that are evident in the following quotations:

*... "I'm surprised," I said slowly. "I thought Florida... and your mother... well, I thought that's what you would want."
 "But you'd be stuck inside all day in Florida," she pointed out, not following. "You'd only be able to come out at night, just like a real vampire."
 The way she phrased it made me want to smile, but I also wanted very much not to smile.
 "I would stay in Forks, Bella. Or somewhere like it. Someplace where I couldn't hurt you anymore." (Meyer, Chapter 29, para. 202).*

This data describes a distinct conflict of opinion between Edward Cullen and Bella. Edward Cullen was driven by a desire to protect Bella. However, that would conflict with Bella's desire to stay close to Edward Cullen and continue their relationship. These different views create a dilemma for Edward Cullen, who wants to protect Bella without hurting her. Edward Cullen's internal conflicts were a crucial part of the central conflict. His desire to protect and love Bella created a

thrilling and encouraging dilemma. Edward Cullen has to find a way to protect Bella without sending her away.

The following excerpts highlight differences of opinion between Edward Cullen and Bella, as follows:

You're wrong. I'm going to die."
I couldn't maintain my composure. I heard the stress in my voice. "Really, Bella. You'll be out of here in a few days. Two weeks at most."
She stared back at me dejectedly. "I may not die now... but I'm going to die sometime. Every minute of the day, I get closer. And I'm going to get old." (Meyer, Chapter 29, para. 308).

This data describes a situation where Edward Cullen faces a conflict of opinion with Bella about his death and future. With conviction, Edward Cullen convinced Bella that she would recover and live a long life. Bella, on the other hand, has a morbid fear of death and ageing. Although she healed physically from his wounds, anxiety about the future still haunted him. Edward Cullen wanted to comfort Bella and give her hope, but he also could not take away the fear instilled in him. This conflict between hope and fear reflects one of the significant conflicts in the novel, the battle between love and danger. Bella and Edward Cullen were in a situation where their love for each other brought happiness and a significant threat to her life.

The following excerpts also show how Edward Cullen and Bella had differing opinions:

"If I could carry you at school, I would, but..."
She sighed. "That probably wouldn't help with the staring."
"Probably not. However, while you have never appreciated the fact that I am actually frightening, I promise you I can do something about any staring." (Meyer, Chapter 30, para. 18).

The data presented above clearly describes the conflict between Edward Cullen and Bella. Edward Cullen and Bella became embroiled in a debate about

returning to school and her daily life. Edward Cullen, concerned, wanted to protect Bella from harm and the other attentive student's comments if she went back to school. On the other hand, Bella yearned for everyday life and longed to return to her schoolwork. This conflict not only highlights the personal challenge of the two characters but also illustrates the central theme in the novel, which is the problem between love and danger. Bella's choice to return to school reflected the internal and external conflicts Edward Cullen had to face and how this affected their relationship.

The following quotations also continue to describe how Edward Cullen and Bella have had differences of opinion:

I flinched internally as soon as the words were out. I'd been careful not to say anything that would bring up our conversation in the hospital for rehashing, but she let my comment pass this time.

In fact, she seemed just as unwilling as I was to talk about the future. I thought this was probably why having things "back to normal" seemed appealing to her. Perhaps she hoped we could forget this episode as though it had merely been one bad chapter, rather than the foreshadowing to the only possible conclusion. (Meyer, Chapter 30, para. 25).

The data presented explains how Edward Cullen experiences a conflict of opinion with Bella. Edward Cullen and Bella are stuck in disagreement about the future and how they are dealing with the current situation. Edward Cullen was profoundly concerned and considered this a bad omen for their relationship. On the other hand, Bella wants to forget this traumatic event and go back to everyday life as if nothing had happened. His reluctance to discuss the future after Edward Cullen had picked up their conversation at the hospital suggested his desire to divert attention and start over. This conflict reflects an overall theme in the novel: the tension between the deep love between Bella and Edward Cullen and the threat

created by Edward Cullen's existence as a vampire. Edward Cullen is concerned about Bella's safety and future together, while Bella desires an everyday life unaffected by the vampire world.

The following dialogue still describe the differences of opinion Edward Cullen faced with Bella:

"You seemed honestly surprised when you figured out that I was taking you here."
"I was," she interrupted.
"Exactly," I said.
"But you must have had some other theory... I'm curious—what did you think I was dressing you up for?"
 ...
"Well," she said after a long moment. "I assumed it was some kind of... occasion. But I didn't think it would be some trite human thing... prom!" She made a scoffing noise.
I took a short moment to control my reaction. "Human?" I asked.
 ...
"Okay," she finally said. Her stare was a challenge now. "So I was hoping that you might have changed your mind... that you were going to change me, after all." (Meyer, Chapter 30, para. 288).

The data above shows how Edward Cullen was involved in a conflict of opinion with Bella. Edward Cullen and Bella were caught up in a misunderstanding that sparked a conflict of opinion. Edward Cullen wants to invite Bella to PROM to help with her high school experience and a good time. Bella thinks Edward Cullen is turning him into a vampire, and PROM is celebrating that change. This conflict of dissent reinforces the underlying conflict in the novel. It shows how complicated Edward and Bella are because of the world's differences and their outlook on life.

2. Incompatible Roles

Incompatible roles, as Deetz & Stevenson (1986) describe, are positions within a relationship or interaction that hinder effective communication and collaboration due to conflicting expectations or functionalities. Here is the Edward

Cullen conflicts in *Midnight Sun* that shows conflicts based on incompatible roles, such as:

The incompatible roles that Edward Cullen faced the first were Edward Cullen with himself, as shown in the following quotations:

I was a predator. She was my prey. There was nothing else in the whole world but that truth.

...

I was a vampire, and she had the sweetest blood I'd smelled in more than eighty years.

...

Bella Swan sat down in the chair next to me, her movements stiff and awkward—no doubt with fear—and the scent of her blood bloomed in an inescapable cloud around me. (Meyer, Chapter 1, para. 103).

The data above describes how Edward Cullen experienced a conflict of roles incompatible with himself. Edward Cullen has two incompatible objectives. As a vampire, Edward Cullen has the instinct to hunt down and drink human blood. The data show Edward Cullen's passion as a predator, drawn by the scent of Bella's blood. This conflict arose because of a rift between Edward Cullen's predatory instincts as a vampire and Edward Cullen's desire to protect Bella. However, Edward Cullen felt emotionally attracted to Bella and wanted to protect her from harm, including himself as a vampire. He feels responsible for keeping Bella safe, even from himself.

Next, incompatibility of roles faced by Edward Cullen was with himself, as the following quotations show:

Because I could kill every spider in her home, cut the thorns off every rosebush she might one day touch, block every speeding car that got within a mile of her, but there was no task I could perform that would make me something other than what I was. I stared at my white, stone-like hand—so grotesquely inhuman—and despaired.

I could not hope to compete against the human boys, whether these specific boys appealed to her or not. I was the villain, the nightmare. How could she see me as anything else? If she knew the truth about me, it would frighten and repulse her.

Like the intended victim in a horror movie, she would run away, shrieking in terror. (Meyer, Chapter 5, para. 300).

The data above clearly describes the conflict between Edward Cullen and himself regarding the incompatible role. Edward Cullen was obsessed with protecting Bella from harm, including himself and his vampire instincts. He wants her away from anything that could hurt him. Edward Cullen, too, longed for a regular, romantic relationship with Bella. He wants to be loved for who Bella is, yet he realizes that a vampire threatens Bella. This internal conflict of Edward Cullen is at the heart of the central conflict within the *Midnight Sun*. It is the most vivid representation of Edward Cullen's internal conflict. He is caught between his desire to protect her and his massive love for Bella. This conflict was the source of Edward Cullen's suffering and the foundation of all his hard decisions.

Edward Cullen is experiencing an incompatible role with himself, as described in the following quotations:

... Tell me why you ran from me before.

...

"You know why."

She shook her head, and her brows pulled down. "No, I mean, exactly what did I do wrong?" She spoke intently, serious now. "I'll have to be on my guard, you see, so I better start learning what I shouldn't do. This, for example"—she stroked her fingertips slowly up the back of my hand to my wrist, leaving a trail of painless fire—"seems to be all right."

How like her to take the responsibility on herself.

"You didn't do anything wrong, Bella. It was my fault."

...

"But I want to help, if I can, to not make this harder for you." (Meyer, Chapter 17, para. 240).

The data above describes Edward Cullen experiencing a conflict of roles incompatible with his own. On the one hand, Edward Cullen is attracted to Bella and wants to play the role of lover. On the other hand, he was aware of the danger of becoming a vampire and had to act as a protective shield that kept Bella away.

Edward Cullen's lack of resolve in answering Bella's questions and his desire to stay in touch with Bella despite the dangers are seen. Edward Cullen's internal conflicts reflect the central conflict within the novel, which is the problem between the deep love between Bella and Edward Cullen and the threat created by the very nature of vampire Edward Cullen. Edward Cullen had to contend with his internal balance between his desire to protect Bella and his need for companionship with Bella.

An incompatible role between Edward Cullen and himself can be seen in the following quotations:

Carlisle's hands were still motionless. Fix her, I wanted to scream at him, but I knew, as he did, that his efforts were worthless now. Everything broken inside her would knit together on its own. Every shattered bone, every gash, every tiny leaking tear beneath her skin, all would be whole soon. Her heart would stop and never beat again. Bella screamed and writhed in misery. (Meyer, Chapter 26, para. 161).

Based on the above data, Edward Cullen experienced an apparent conflict of incompatible roles with himself. Edward Cullen is in a very emotional situation. Carlisle asked Edward Cullen to suck out the venom from Bella's wounds. Edward Cullen was gripped by fear and doubt because of his desire to save Bella as a lover in the throes of his bloodthirsty vampire instinct. "But I'm a vampire!" Edward Cullen demonstrates his awareness of his role and limitations as supernatural beings. Edward Cullen's internal conflict was closely linked with the central conflict. It provides a vivid example of the danger Bella faced and Edward Cullen's problem with self-control to protect his loved ones.

3. Incompatible Goals

Deetz and Stevenson (1986) claim that incompatible goals are one of the types of conflicts seen from the source. Incompatible goals are situations or relationships that are mutually exclusive, making it impossible for all parties to achieve their desired outcomes simultaneously. Edward Cullen conflicts in *Midnight Sun* describes incompatible goals as follows:

Edward Cullen and Tanya have an incompatible of goals that are evident in the following quotations:

“Thank you, Tanya. I needed to hear that.”

Her thoughts turned petulant. “You’re welcome, I guess. I wish you would be more reasonable about things, Edward.”

“I’m sorry, Tanya. You know you’re far too good for me. I just... haven’t found what I’m looking for yet.”

“Well, if you leave before I see you again... goodbye, Edward.”

“Goodbye, Tanya.” As I said the words, I could see it. I could see myself leaving. Being strong enough to go back to the one place I wanted to be. “Again, thank you.”

She was on her feet in one nimble move, and then she was running away, ghosting across the snow so quickly that her feet had no time to sink in. She left no prints behind her. She didn’t look back. My rejection bothered her more than she’d let on before, even in her thoughts. She wouldn’t want to see me again before I left. (Meyer, Chapter 2, para. 68)

Edward Cullen and Tanya had a conversation that indicated a difference in their goals. Tanya expected Edward Cullen to reciprocate her feelings. On the other hand, Edward Cullen felt that he had not yet found what he was looking for. She felt that she could not tie herself to Tanya because she had something more important to do. This conflict between Edward Cullen and Tanya has a secondary but essential role in the significant conflicts of the *Midnight Sun*. Edward Cullen’s departure was influenced by his desire to return to Bella, not by Tanya’s feelings. This decision was reinforced when he realized that refusing to ask was right.

The following excerpts describe a mismatch of the goals Edward Cullen faced with Emmet:

*“I have to leave,” I whispered to Alice, ignoring him.
 “Edward, we’ve already been over that,” Emmett said loudly.
 “That’s the best way to start the girl talking. Besides, if you take off, we won’t know for sure if she’s talking or not. You have to stay and deal with this.” (Meyer, Chapter 4, para. 154).*

Through the data above, Edward Cullen was involved in a conflict of unparalleled purpose with Emmet. Brief conversation quotes between Edward Cullen and Emmett indicate a significant conflict of purpose and tension between them. Edward Cullen wanted to escape to protect Bella and her family from the dangers. He feared that Bella’s presence would harm them all. Intercept Emmett’s idea is that they should confront the situation directly. He wants to make sure Bella does not leak the Cullen family secret. This conflict between Edward Cullen and Emmett is linked to the central conflict within the *Midnight Sun*. Edward Cullen needs to balance the need to protect Bella with the benefit of her family. Edward Cullen’s decision to stay or go was affected by this debate.

The following excerpts describe an incompatible in goals Edward Cullen faced with Bella:

*I tried to get as much of a warning through to her as was allowed.
 “It’s better if we’re not friends.” Surely, she could sense that much. She was a bright girl. “Trust me.”
 Her eyes tightened, and I remembered that I had said those words to her before—just before breaking a promise. I winced when her teeth clenched together with a sharp click—she clearly remembered, too.
 “It’s too bad you didn’t figure that out earlier,” she said angrily. “You could have saved yourself all this regret.”
 I stared at her in shock. What did she know of my regrets?
 “Regret? Regret for what?” I demanded.
 “For not just letting that stupid van squish me!” she snapped.
 I froze, stunned. (Meyer, Chapter 5, para. 155).*

A compatible conflict between the goals Edward Cullen faced with Bella is described in the data above. These conflicts arise because of fundamental differences in their view of relationships. Edward Cullen wanted to keep Bella safe. He believed their closeness would put Bella and her family in danger. Bella was fascinated by Edward Cullen and wanted to be close friends with him. He did not understand Edward Cullen's distastefulness and rejection. This conflict between Edward Cullen and Bella is the central conflict within *Midnight Sun*. Edward Cullen's desire to protect Bella conflicts with his desire to be close to her. It strengthens her internal conflict and causes her lies and attitudes to puzzle Bella. The relationship was not thriving because Edward Cullen hid his vampire identity. This misunderstanding amplifies their world's differences and is the principal barrier.

Edward Cullen and Bella have an incompatible of goals that are evident in the following quotations:

*"I'll figure it out eventually," she promised.
And when she did, she would run.
"I wish you wouldn't try," I said, all teasing gone.
"Because...?"
I owed her honesty. Still, I tried to smile, to make my words sound less threatening.
"What if I'm not a superhero? What if I'm the bad guy?"
Her eyes widened by a fraction and her lips fell slightly apart. "Oh," she said.
And then, after another second, "I see."
She'd finally heard me.
"Do you?" I asked, working to conceal my agony.
"You're dangerous?" she guessed. Her breathing hiked, and her heart raced.
I couldn't answer her. Was this my last moment with her? Would she run now?
Could I be allowed to tell her that I loved her before she left? Or would that frighten her more?
"But not bad," she whispered, shaking her head, no fear evident in her clear eyes.
"No, I don't believe that you're bad."
"You're wrong," I breathed. (Meyer, Chapter 6, para. 145).*

Based on the above data, Edward Cullen faced a conflict of incompatible goals with an observable Bella. Edward Cullen wanted to protect Bella by hiding

her vampire identity. He fears Bella will get hurt or run away if she discovers the truth. Bella was prompted by an intense curiosity and a desire to know Edward Cullen more. He promised to find out about Edward Cullen, and here it is, his secret vampire. This conflict between Edward Cullen and Bella is the central conflict within the *Midnight Sun*. Edward Cullen continued to waver between protecting Bella by lying or being honest and running the risk of abandonment. This conflict made Edward Cullen's decision difficult because it involved the safety and future of their relationship.

Next, the following excerpts highlight an incompatible goal between Edward Cullen and Mike:

*"I was taking her to the nurse," Mike said. "But she wouldn't go any farther."
"I'll take her. You can go back to class," I said dismissively.
Mike's teeth clenched together. "No. I'm supposed to do it." (Meyer, Chapter 6,
para. 191).*

This data described an overview of the incompatible conflict of goals between Edward Cullen and Mike. Mike and Edward Cullen have different roles to play in helping the injured Bella. Mike felt responsible for taking Bella to the nurse because he was the first to find her. On the other hand, Edward Cullen felt that he was better suited to help Bella. This conflict between Edward Cullen and Mike is minor in the significant *Midnight Sun* conflict yet remains influential. Edward Cullen's taking over Mike's role demonstrates his jealousy of his proximity to Bella. It reinforces Edward Cullen's possessive ownership of Bella.

A further incompatible of goals between Edward Cullen and Bella can be seen in the following quotations:

"Where do you think you're going?" I was upset—almost angry that she was leaving. I hadn't had enough time with her.

"I'm going home," she said, clearly baffled as to why this should upset me.
"Didn't you hear me promise to take you safely home? Do you think I'm going to let you drive in your condition?" ...
"What condition?" she demanded. "And what about my truck?"
"I'll have Alice drop it off after school." ...
"Let go!" she said, twisting sideways and nearly tripping. ...
"You are so pushy!"
She was right. My behavior was odd, and that was the kindest description. Would she tell me no now?
"It's open."
"I am perfectly capable of driving myself home!" Of course she was. But I craved her time in a way that I'd never really wanted anything else before. (Meyer, Chapter 6, para. 314).

The incompatible conflict of goal between Edward Cullen and Bella is perceived through the data above. Edward Cullen needed to protect Bella by bringing her home safely and arranging everything for her. He is concerned about Bella's safety and wants always to watch her. On the other hand, Bella wanted to be independent and felt capable of caring for herself. He does not like to feel controlled or coerced by Edward Cullen. Bella wants to return to her own house and do things her way. This conflict between Edward Cullen and Bella is linked to the central conflict in *Midnight Sun*. Edward Cullen's desire to organize Bella's return is driven by his fear and desire to protect her. It is connected to Edward Cullen's internal conflict between protecting and owning Bella.

Next, incompatible of goals between Edward Cullen and Bella can be seen in the following quotations:

"I feel very safe with you," she explained, her eyes again filled with trust. Trust I didn't deserve.
Her instincts were all wrong—backward. That must be the problem. She didn't recognize danger the way a human being should be able to. She had the opposite reaction. Instead of running, she lingered, drawn to what should frighten her.
How could I protect her from myself when neither of us wanted that? (Meyer, Chapter 9, para. 267).

The data above describes the conflict between Edward Cullen and Bella regarding the incompatible goals. Edward Cullen felt the need to protect Bella from

harm, including herself as a vampire. He did not feel worthy of accepting Bella's trust because he knew she threatened her. Edward Cullen wants to keep Bella out of the potential danger she poses. On the other hand, Bella feels very safe with Edward Cullen. She deeply trusted him, even when Edward Cullen felt he did not deserve it. Bella does not feel the fear humans should have when around something dangerous, like a vampire. Suggests that Bella's perception is not contrary to what a human should feel in a similar situation. This conflict between Edward Cullen and Bella is the central conflict within the *Midnight Sun*. It is the most vivid representation of Edward Cullen's internal conflict. He is stuck between her love for Bella and her dangerous vampire instincts.

The data presented describes how Edward Cullen and younger generation of werewolves (Jacob) have an incompatible conflict of goals:

How ironic that it would be Ephraim's own progeny that would violate the treaty he'd vowed to uphold. A grandson, or greatgrandson perhaps. How many years had it been? Seventy?

I should have realized that it was not the old men who believed in the legends that would be the danger. Of course, the younger generation—those who had been warned but would think the ancient superstitions laughable—that was where the danger of exposure lay. (Meyer, Chapter 10, para. 91).

The following quotes show how Edward Cullen and the younger generation of werewolves (Jacob) have incompatible goals. Edward Cullen was more concerned with keeping peace between vampires and werewolves per the agreement. For him, a breach of this agreement could pose a significant problem for both sides, especially if it were done by a younger generation of werewolves who might not take the legend and covenants seriously. In the quotation, Edward Cullen found it ironic that the violation of the covenant was likely a direct descendant of Ephraim, the founder of it. For Edward Cullen, this pointed to the

disobedience of a younger generation of werewolves, who did not appreciate the importance of peace that had been sustained for years. This conflict between Edward Cullen and the werewolf adds to the central conflict of *Midnight Sun*. Apart from her relationship with Bella, Edward Cullen must face an external threat from a werewolf. It widens the challenge Edward Cullen faces.

Edward Cullen and Quileute tribes (Jacob) are incompatible goals, as the following quotations show:

“Well, Jacob said something about that,” she said.

“What did Jacob say?”

“He said you didn’t... hunt people. He said your family wasn’t supposed to be dangerous because you only hunted animals.”

“He said we weren’t dangerous?” I repeated cynically. “Not exactly,” she clarified.

“He said you weren’t supposed to be dangerous. But the Quileutes still didn’t want you on their land, just in case.”

I stared at the road, my thoughts in a hopeless snarl, my throat aching with the familiar fire.

“So, was he right?” she asked, as calmly as if she were confirming a weather report. “About not hunting people?” (Meyer, Chapter 10, para. 160).

The data above well describes the conflict of incompatible goals between Edward Cullen and the Quileute tribes (Jacob). Edward Cullen was more concerned with keeping peace between vampires and werewolves per the agreement. For him, a breach of this agreement could pose a significant problem for both sides, especially if it were done by a younger generation of werewolves who might not take the legend and covenants seriously. In the quotation, Edward Cullen found it ironic that the violation of the covenant was likely a direct descendant of Ephraim, the founder of it. For Edward Cullen, this pointed to the disobedience of a younger generation of werewolves, who did not appreciate the importance of peace that had been sustained for years. This conflict between Edward Cullen and the werewolf adds to the central conflict of *Midnight Sun*. Apart from her relationship with Bella,

Edward Cullen must face an external threat from a werewolf. It widens the challenge Edward Cullen faces.

The following excerpts describe how Edward Cullen and Bella have an incompatible in goals:

*“This is a mistake?” she asked, and there was heartbreak in her voice. The sound of it disarmed me.
She wanted to be with me— despite everything, she wanted to be with me.
Hope swelled again, and I beat it back.
“A very dangerous one,” I told her truthfully, wishing the truth could really somehow cease to matter.
She didn’t respond for a moment. I heard her breathing change—it hitched in strange ways that did not sound like fear. (Meyer, Chapter 10, para. 174).*

The data presented explained how Edward Cullen and Bella had an incompatible conflict with purpose. These conflicts arise because of fundamental differences in their approach to danger and love. Edward Cullen wants to protect Bella by keeping her away. He realizes the danger posed by himself and other supernatural beings. At the same time, Bella Swan is bound by love and curiosity, wanting to stay close to Edward Cullen. He was not afraid of danger and was willing to accept Edward Cullen for who he was. This conflict between Edward Cullen and Bella is the central conflict within the *Midnight Sun*. Edward Cullen’s desire to protect Bella conflicts with his overwhelming love for her. It strengthens his internal conflict, leaving him trapped between protecting and Bella.

A further, incompatible goals between Edward Cullen and Bella can be seen in the following quotations:

*“I didn’t like it,” she said shyly, the skin over her cheekbones warming. “Not seeing you.
It makes me anxious, too.”
Are you happy now? I demanded of myself. Well, here was my reward for hoping. I was bewildered, elated, horrified—mostly horrified—to realize that all my wildest fantasies were not so far off the mark. This was why it didn’t matter to her that I was a monster. It was exactly the same reason that the rules no longer mattered to me. Why right and wrong were no longer compelling influences. Why*

*all my priorities had shifted one rung down to make room for this girl at the very top.
Bella cared for me, too. (Meyer, Chapter 10, para. 215).*

This conflict arose because of a problem between Edward Cullen's will and responsibility. Edward Cullen had a strong desire to be with Bella and build a relationship with her. As a vampire, Edward Cullen feels a responsibility to protect Bella from the harm she poses. This internal conflict of Edward Cullen is at the heart of the central conflict within the *Midnight Sun*. Edward Cullen's inner problem became a significant source of tension in his novel. He wanted to be with his beloved but was afraid to hurt him. It affects all aspects of their relationship. Edward Cullen's vampire status sets a significant barrier to achieving his desire with Bella. It is associated with the dangers of supernatural creatures and the distrust of the surrounding environment.

Edward Cullen has an incompatible goal with himself, as the following quotations explain:

*I did not pull my chair away from hers today to give myself space to breathe. Instead, I sat close beside her like any normal human would. Closer than we sat inside my car, close enough that the left side of my body felt submerged in the heat from her skin.
It was a strange experience, both enjoyable and nerve-racking, but I preferred this to sitting across the table from her. It was more than I was used to, and yet I quickly realized that it was not enough. I was not satisfied. Being this close to her only made me want to be closer still. (Meyer, Chapter 12, para. 13).*

This data presents an overview of the incompatible conflict of purpose between Edward Cullen and himself. Edward Cullen is tossed between two conflicting desires: to keep Bella safe, control her bloodlust, and be closer to Bella physically and emotionally. On the one hand, Edward Cullen must keep his distance from Bella to avoid the allure of her seductive blood. Physical proximity to Bella triggers her blood lust, putting her at risk of losing control and endangering her. On

the other hand, Edward Cullen has deep romantic feelings for Bella. He wanted to feel physical and emotional closeness with her and build more intimate relationships. Edward Cullen's internal conflict is directly linked to the novel's major conflict of illicit relationships between vampires and human beings. As a vampire, Edward Cullen had an instinct to hunt humans; as a Bella lover, he wanted to protect them.

The following excerpts highlight the incompatible of goals between Edward Cullen and Rosalie:

"Bella is friends with the great-grandson of Ephraim Black."

...

"We should have known, Carlisle. Of course the elders would warn the next generation when we came back. And of course the next generation wouldn't credit any of it. It's just a silly story to them. The boy who answered Bella's questions didn't believe anything he was telling her."

...

"You're right," Carlisle said. "Naturally, it would play out that way." He sighed. "It's bad luck Ephraim's progeny had such a knowledgeable audience." (Meyer, Chapter 12, para. 269).

This data describes an incompatible conflict of purpose between Edward Cullen and Rosalie. In the Cullen family, Edward Cullen and Rosalie fought to reveal a vampire secret to Bella. Edward Cullen might want to explain this secret gradually to Bella, while Rosalie wants to keep it a secret for her safety. The difference in purpose is the internal strain. Rosalie blamed Edward Cullen for Bella's knowledge, while Carlisle seemed calm but worried. The Cullen family's internal conflict is linked to the *Midnight Sun's* ultimate conflict. Vampire secrets constitute a significant barrier to Edward Cullen's relationship with Bella. Openness becomes the decisive factor in the progress of their relationship. Edward Cullen's inclination to tell Bella gradually demonstrates his internal problem between love and honesty. It is related to Edward Cullen's primary conflict.

Edward Cullen and Bella have an incompatible of goals that are evident in the following quotations:

“No trail?”

...

“I won’t let you get lost,” I promised.

...

“Do you want to go home?”

...

Her eyes flashed with some unfathomable reaction, and she said, “No!” so quickly, it was almost a retort ...

“What’s wrong?” I asked.

...

“I’m not a good hiker. You’ll have to be very patient.” ...

“I can be patient,” I assured her, lightening my tone. “If I make a great effort.”

...

“I’ll take you home,” I promised. Perhaps she felt she had no choice but to face this trial by fire, that she owed it to me in some way. She owed me nothing. She was free to walk away whenever she wished. I was taken aback by her response. Rather than accept the out I was offering with relief, she quite distinctly scowled at me. When she spoke, her tone was caustic.

“If you want me to hack five miles through the jungle before sundown, you’d better start leading the way.” (Meyer, Chapter 16, para. 80).

Based on the above data, Edward Cullen faced a conflict of incompatible goals with an observable Bella. This conflict arose because of differences in priorities on their journey into the jungle. He was driven by love and responsibility. He wanted to protect Bella from the dangers of getting lost and exhausted by bringing her home. He was motivated to prove his ability and determination to move on. He felt insecure and smothered by Edward Cullen’s protective behaviour. This conflict of interest is linked to the central conflict of *Midnight Sun*. Bella’s desire to prove herself confirms her interest in Edward Cullen’s world and her desire to be a part of his life. It deals with significant conflicts in their relationship.

The following excerpts still describe the incompatibility of goals Edward Cullen faced with Bella:

“Are you frightened now?” I asked quietly.

It was as if my question was totally unexpected, as if it shocked her. “No.”

...

My skin was blazing with the most flagrant symptom of my disease. In the sun, I was less human than at any other time. And she thought I was... beautiful.

...
"It's very strange, though," I said. Surely she could understand that this was part of the horror.

"Amazing," she corrected.

"You aren't repulsed by my flagrant lack of humanity?" Though I was fairly sure now what her answer would be, it was still astonishing to me. She half smiled.

"Not repulsed."

"You should be." (Meyer, Chapter 17, para. 20).

The incomplete conflict between the goals Edward Cullen faced with Bella is described in detail in the data above. This conflict arose because of differences in perception about Edward Cullen's dangers and appeal as a vampire. Edward Cullen wants to protect Bella by keeping her from the dangers of the vampires, including herself. He was depressed because he thought he was a monster who did not deserve to be loved and fascinated by Edward Cullen, both as a human and as a vampire. He was not afraid of danger and wanted to stay close to Edward Cullen. This internal conflict of Edward Cullen is at the heart of the central conflict within the *Midnight Sun*. Edward Cullen's inability to accept himself as a vampire and his fear of harming Bella became the heart of the novel's ultimate conflict. It impeded their relationship and Edward Cullen's happiness. The disclosure of Edward Cullen's identity as a vampire is a milestone in the story. Bella's unafraid reaction was a turning point in their relationship.

An incompatible of goals between Edward Cullen and himself is evident in the following quotations:

I realized how close our faces were. Her lips, closer than they had ever been to mine. No longer smiling, parted. She inhaled through her nose and her eyelids half closed. She stretched closer as if to catch more of my scent, her chin angling up half an inch, her neck arching forward, her jugular exposed.

And I reacted.

Venom flooded my mouth, my free hand moved of its own volition to seize her, my jaws wrenched open as she leaned in to meet me. I threw myself away from her. The madness hadn't reached my legs and they launched me all the way back to

the far edge of the meadow. I moved so quickly I didn't have time to gently release my hand from hers; I'd yanked it away. My first thought as I landed crouched in the shadows of the trees was her hands, and relief washed over me when I saw they were still attached to her wrists. (Meyer, Chapter 17, para. 97).

This data describes a situation where Edward Cullen faces a conflict of incompatible goals with himself. It is a conflict between Edward Cullen's wishes as a man who loves Bella and her vampire instincts, which are dangerous to her. Edward Cullen strongly desires to be with Bella and feel intimate with her. As a vampire, Edward Cullen has a strong instinct for bloodlust, which makes Bella a potential prey. This internal conflict of Edward Cullen is at the heart of the central conflict of *Midnight Sun*. Edward Cullen's inner problem became a significant source of tension in his novel. Her desire to be with her beloved constantly conflicts with the danger she represents. It affects all aspects of their relationship. Edward Cullen's vampire instincts are a significant obstacle in his relationship with Bella. It deals with the dangers of supernatural creatures and the distrust of the surrounding environment.

Edward Cullen is experiencing an incompatible goal with Bella, as the following quotations explain:

"I was afraid," she began, and I realized gratefully that she was answering my question after all. "Because... for, well, obvious reasons, I can't stay with you." ... "And I'm afraid that I'd like to stay with you, much more than I should."

*...
"That is something to be afraid of, indeed. Wanting to be with me." Selfish me. "That's really not in your best interest."*

*...
I spoke the thought aloud, but mostly to myself. "I should have left long ago. I should leave now. But I don't know if I can." She still stared at our hands, but her cheeks warmed. "I don't want you to leave," she mumbled. (Meyer, Chapter 17, para. 187).*

This data describes a situation where Edward Cullen faces a conflict of incompatible goals with Bella. Edward Cullen is in a difficult position. He was

attracted to Bella but haunted by the responsibility of protecting her. This desire to protect her also drove her away from Bella. Bella expressed her desire to be with Edward Cullen. On the other hand, Edward Cullen was terrified. She feels her presence as a vampire is endangering Bella. This combined conflict is at the heart of the *Midnight Sun*'s central conflict. Edward Cullen's inner problem and their different desires created significant tension. Edward Cullen wanted to be with Bella but was afraid to hurt her. It complicates their relationship. These conflicts provide the basis for many others. Edward Cullen's fear is associated with dangers from supernatural creatures and environmental distrust.

Edward Cullen is experiencing an incompatible goal with himself, as the following quotations explain:

"To me, it was like you were some kind of demon, summoned straight from my own personal hell to ruin me." It was painful to relive the emotion of it, to remember seeing her as prey. "The fragrance coming off your skin... I thought it would make me deranged that first day. In that one hour, I thought of a hundred different ways to lure you from the room with me, to get you alone. And I fought them each back, thinking of my family, what I could do to them....

...

And then," I continued, "as I tried to rearrange my schedule in a pointless attempt to avoid you, you were there—in that close, warm little room, the scent was maddening. I so very nearly took you then. There was only one other frail human there—so easily dealt with. (Meyer, Chapter 17, para. 265).

The data presented clearly describes the compatible conflict of purpose between Edward Cullen and himself. As a vampire, Edward Cullen had a strong passion for Bella's blood. Edward Cullen has the solid moral value of not hurting people, including Bella and her family. This internal conflict of Edward Cullen is at the heart of the central conflict within the *Midnight Sun*. Edward Cullen's inner problem became a significant source of tension in his novel. He is in a trap between

his primitive desire and his moral awareness. It affected all aspects of his life, especially his relationship with Bella.

The following excerpts describe an incompatible in the goals Edward Cullen faced with Bella:

*“Maybe you should let me drive.”
All disequilibrium seemed to vanish. Her shoulders squared. “Are you insane?”
If she were driving, I would need her to keep both hands on the wheel and I could do nothing to distract her. If I were driving, however, there would be much more leeway.
“I can drive better than you on your best day. You have much slower reflexes.” I smiled so that she would know I was teasing. Mostly.
She didn’t argue with the facts. “I’m sure that’s true, but I don’t think my nerves, or my truck, could take it.” (Meyer, Chapter 17, para. 423).*

In the data, Edward Cullen and Bella point to different destinations. Edward Cullen wants to drive because he is a vampire with better reflexes and can ensure Bella’s safety. Bella Swan still wants to drive and might want to prove herself or feel more comfortable if she is driving. This conflict of interest is linked to the central conflict of *Midnight Sun*. These incompatible of goals reflect the dynamics of Edward Cullen and Bella’s relationship. Bella wanted to be treated commonly and control her life, while Edward Cullen protected her for fear of getting hurt.

Edward Cullen also experienced an incompatible goal with Carlisle, such as the following quotations:

*“Carlisle brought Rosalie to our family next. I didn’t realize till much later that he was hoping she would be to me what Esme was to him— he was careful with his thoughts around me.”
I remembered my disgust when he’d finally slipped. Rosalie had not been a welcome addition in the beginning—in truth, life had been more complicated for all of us ever since her inclusion—and learning that Carlisle had envisioned an even closer relationship for her and me was horrifying. The extent of my aversion would be impolite to share. Ungentlemanly. (Meyer, Chapter 18, para. 37).*

The data above shows how Edward Cullen was involved in an incompatible conflict of goal with Carlisle. Edward Cullen experienced discomfort and rejection

of Carlisle's hope to be Rosalie's partner. Carlisle's desire to mate her with Rosalie is matched by Edward Cullen's rejection, which has no interest in Rosalie. Her memory of her dislike for Rosalie and feeling overwhelmed by such hope reflects this. This conflict is linked to the central conflict of the *Midnight Sun*. This conflict was linked to Edward Cullen's internal conflicts about love and desire to have a mate. Edward Cullen did not find his one true love until he met Bella. These conflicts provide background for Edward Cullen's relationship with Bella. His past experiences affected the way Edward Cullen viewed love and relationships.

Edward Cullen is experiencing an incompatible goal with Bella, as the following quotations explain:

"Wow, that was easy." She was laughing again.

I laughed, too, effortlessly falling into her exuberant mood.

"Easy for you!" I teased. I freed one of my hands to touch the tip of her nose with my index finger.

...

"I'm trying. If it gets to be too much, I'm fairly sure I'll be able to leave."

...

"Don't go away, then." I took a steadying breath—a steadying, burning breath—and forced myself to stop panicking. Could she understand that the invitation in her words spoke to my greatest desire? (Meyer, Chapter 18, para. 37).

The above data clearly describes the conflict of uncommitted goals between Edward Cullen and Bella. This conflicts between Edward Cullen's desire to be with Bella and his responsibility as a protector that should keep Bella out of harm's way. Edward Cullen strongly desires to be with Bella and feel intimate with her. As a protector, Edward Cullen realizes the danger Bella faces if she gets too close to a vampire like himself. This internal conflict of Edward Cullen is at the heart of the central conflict of *Midnight Sun*. Edward Cullen's inner problem became a significant source of tension in his novel. She wants to be with her lover but is afraid to hurt him. It affects all aspects of their relationship.

An incompatible of goals between Edward Cullen and Bella is described in the following quotations:

She sighed. "Well, I did wonder... about you and me... someday..."
No, not wrong. The sudden grief felt like a weight pressing against my chest. How I wished I had a different answer to give her.
"I don't think that... that..."—I avoided the word sex because she did "would be possible for us." (Meyer, Chapter 18, para. 413).

The incompatible conflict between Edward Cullen and Bella is described in the data presented. Bella's desire to have a closer relationship with Edward Cullen, including marriage, contradicts the impossibility Edward Cullen presents because her vampire nature could endanger Bella. Bella wanted an established intimacy, while Edward Cullen wanted to protect her from harm. Edward Cullen wants to get in touch with Bella but fears the consequences he is about to face. This suggests that Edward Cullen was dealing with internal conflicts that resulted from his contradictory goals. He missed a connection with Bella, but his vampire instinct and the desire to protect him stood in the way. This combined conflict forms the core of the *Midnight Sun's* central conflict, the basis for other conflicts. Edward Cullen's fear is associated with the dangers of supernatural creatures and environmental distrust. Edward Cullen wanted to protect Bella from a dangerous future as a vampire couple.

Edward Cullen also experienced another incompatible goals with Bella, as shown in the following quotations:

"That doesn't repulse you?" I asked.
She considered that for half a second. "No."
I found her answer upsetting. "Why not?" I nearly demanded. "I guess... it sounds reasonable.
Reasonable. I laughed, the sound too harsh. (Meyer, Chapter 20, para. 93).

Edward Cullen wanted to be honest about his vampire identity and past. She felt the need to tell Bella so that she would understand fully who she was and the risks that followed. Bella's unshocked or disgusted reaction to Edward Cullen's Revelations baffled her. Bella assumed that being a vampire was "reasonable," unlike Edward Cullen's expectations and fears. This joint conflict is linked to the central conflict of *Midnight Sun*. Edward Cullen's desire to be honest and unexpected reactions from Bella became plot movers. It creates tension and uncertainty about their relationship.

The following excerpts reveal an incompatible goal that Edward Cullen faced with himself:

There were a great many humans I'd saved this way, and yet, it never seemed to balance out the tally. So many faces flashed through my memories, the guilty I'd executed and the innocents I'd saved. (Meyer, Chapter 20, para. 102).

The data above describes how Edward Cullen and himself had an incompatible conflict of goals. Edward Cullen was riddled with guilt and moral dilemmas as a vampire. On the one hand, he strongly desired to protect and save humans from harm. On the other hand, he is bonded by a vampire predator trait that requires him to take a human life. Every time Edward Cullen kills a human, even to protect another, he is confronted with a tortuous internal conflict. He felt guilty and weighed down by his actions, contrary to the human values he had learned from Carlisle. This conflict identified Edward Cullen's profound moral dilemma and became one of the critical aspects of his character development. This internal conflict of Edward Cullen is at the heart of the central conflict of *Midnight Sun*. An internal problem between morals and instinct became a source of happiness when

Edward Cullen withstood and a source of suffering when he was forced to drink blood. It affected Edward Cullen's life as a whole.

Next, Edward Cullen was experiencing an incompatible goal with Billy Black, as the following quotations explain:

NO! Billy's thought was a shout, and then a mental groan. No. I heard his half-articulated fears—should he tell his son to run? Was it already too late?—and then his guilt. How did it know? I saw that I was right, that this visit was no innocent social call. Parking the truck against the curb, I locked eyes with the frightened man. "This is crossing the line." I enunciated clearly this time. I hoped he could read my lips. Bella understood immediately. "He came to warn Charlie?" She sounded horrified by the idea. I nodded, not breaking away from Billy's stare. After a second more, he looked down. (Meyer, Chapter 21, para. 11).

The data above clearly describes an incompatible conflict of purpose between Edward Cullen and Billy Black. Both wanted to protect Bella but in a different way. Edward Cullen is trying to protect Bella from vampire harm, while Billy is trying to warn Charlie Swan of the dangers he may be facing. Their goals are both linked to Bella's safety, but they are different. This external conflict is linked to the central conflict of *Midnight Sun*. This conflict reinforced a significant conflict about Edward Cullen's identity and the dangers of supernatural creatures. Billy's fear confirmed Edward Cullen's fear of the danger Bella faced.

The following excerpts describe the incompatibility of goals Edward Cullen faced with himself:

As much as I would have loved to get out of the truck and stalk up to the helpless duo—to lean over them, intimidating, close enough that all the little signs of what I was would feel like they were screaming at the old man, to bare my teeth and snarl a warning in a voice that would sound anything but human, to watch his hair stand on end and hear his heart splutter with panic—I knew it was a bad idea. For one thing, Carlisle wouldn't like it. For another, though the boy was well aware of the legends, he would never believe them. Unless I got in their faces and flaunted my less human side. (Meyer, Chapter 21, para. 20).

According to the data above, Edward Cullen was conflicted with an incompatible goal of his own. On the one hand, Edward Cullen wanted to protect Bella in any way possible, including using vampire powers to intimidate humans. It was reflected in her desire to terrify two humans deemed dangerous to Bella. On the other hand, Edward Cullen also wanted to abide by Cullen's family rule, not reveal their vampire identity, and avoid frightening human contact. It is visible from his realization that showing off a vampire's powers could create a problem. This internal conflict of Edward Cullen thus represents significant conflicts and other conflicts in the novels. Edward Cullen's problem with himself, between instinct and rules, reflects the characters' problem between desire and responsibility, love and danger.

An incompatible of goals between Edward Cullen and James as tracker vampire is evident in the following quotations:

*It happened exactly as he said Bella's name.
Just a gentle breeze, a mild flutter from a new direction, an aberration caused by the tail end of the storm swirling westward. So mild. So inescapable.
Bella's scent, fresh and immediate, wafted directly into the strangers' faces.
All of them were affected, but while Laurent and Victoria were predominantly confused by the delicious smell coming out of nowhere, James shifted instantaneously into hunting mode. Jasper's camouflage wasn't strong enough to deter that kind of focus.
There was no point in pretending any longer. ... (Meyer, Chapter 22, para. 67).*

The data above explains Edward Cullen's incompatible goals with that of the tracker vampire, James. Edward Cullen is caught in a grave situation. She had to protect Bella, her beloved human, from a tracker vampire captivated by her blood's enchanting scent. One of the trackers is James, who wants to make Bella his prey. Edward Cullen's desire to keep Bella safe goes against James' desire to hunt her down. It created a conflict requiring Edward Cullen to continue struggling

to keep Bella out of harm's way and to refrain from it. This external conflict is the core of the central conflict of *Midnight Sun*. Throughout the story, James' threat is a thread in Edward Cullen's problem. This conflict affected the tensions, Edward Cullen's internal conflicts, and the story's climax.

Edward Cullen and the Cullen family members are incompatible with certain goals, as the following quotations:

*... I mentally drew a line through a few other vehicles. And then Alice saw it—a glossy black BMW S1000 RR. Top speed one ninety.
Edward, it's impossible.
The image of myself astride the sleek black motorcycle was so appealing that for a second I ignored her.
Edward, you're going to need every one of us. (Meyer, Chapter 25, para. 123).*

The data presented explained how Edward Cullen experienced an incompatible conflict with the Cullen family. Edward Cullen's inner problem is between wanting to act quickly to save Bella and being aware of the Cullen family's need for help. Edward Cullen and the Cullen family disagreed on how to save Bella from James. This joint conflict is linked to the central conflict of *Midnight Sun*. Edward Cullen's decision to receive his family's help or not becomes a crucial point in the plot. It affects their next step in saving Bella.

Next, the following quotation shows how Edward Cullen and Alice had an incompatible goal:

*"Slow down now."
"There's not enough—"
If he hears us, she dies! (Meyer, Chapter 25, para. 195).*

The data above describes how Edward Cullen was involved in an incompatible conflict with Alice. Edward Cullen's desire to act quickly contradicts Alice's need to consider a safer strategy. Edward Cullen was faced with a dilemma when he wanted to save Bella. On the one hand, he was driven by a strong desire to

act quickly and efficiently to save Bella from harm. On the contrary, Alice warned him to slow down and be careful because taking a rash action could endanger Bella and themselves. This minor conflict is linked to the central conflict of *Midnight Sun*. This conflict suggests that despite Edward Cullen's vampire abilities, he still needs strategies and considerations to save Bella. It adds to the complexity of the story.

Edward Cullen and Bella are incompatible with goals, as the following quotations:

"Why you did it. Why didn't you just let the venom spread? By now I would be just like you."

...

"I can't do it, Bella. I won't do that to you."

"Why not?" Her voice was rough, louder with anger. "Don't tell me it's too hard! After today, or I guess it was a few days ago... anyway, after that, it should be nothing." (Meyer, Chapter 29, para. 274).

The data above shows how Edward Cullen was involved in an uncomplicated conflict of purpose with Bella. Bella wanted to be a vampire to be with Edward Cullen forever and be spared death from her wounds. Edward Cullen has a great love for Bella and wants to protect her. He did not want Bella to experience danger and suffering as a vampire. This external conflict is the core of the central conflict of *Midnight Sun*. Bella's problem to become a vampire and Edward Cullen's resistance became plot movers. Their final decision will determine the future of their relationship.

Similarly, Edward Cullen is experiencing an incompatible goal with Bella, as shown in the following quotations:

Her lip pushed out. "I'm not going back to sleep."

"You need rest. All this arguing isn't good for you." My fault, of course, always my fault.

"So give in," she suggested.

I pressed the button. "Nice try." "No!" she complained.

...

"Bella, you're in pain. You need to relax so you can heal. Why are you being so difficult? They're not going to put any more needles in you now."

Her face had lost all its stubbornness; she was only troubled now. "I'm not afraid of the needles. I'm afraid to close my eyes." (Meyer, Chapter 29, para. 335).

This data describes the conflict of incompatible goals between Edward Cullen and Bella. Edward Cullen wanted Bella to rest and receive treatment to speed up her recovery. He believes that Bella will recover more quickly from her wounds with sufficient rest and pain meds. Bella, on the other hand, had a deep fear that made her reluctant to go to sleep or take a painkiller. This fear is more potent than her physical pain, and she feels safer by staying awake. The conflict above was a conflict of interest between Edward Cullen and Bella. It is a secondary conflict that supports the development of the central conflict in *Midnight Sun*, which is the complicated relationship between Edward Cullen and Bella as human and vampire.

Edward Cullen also experienced an incompatible goal with Bella in another dialogue, as shown in the following quotation:

"You're taking me to the prom!" she shouted.

...

"Why are you doing this to me?" she moaned. I pointed at my tuxedo.

"Honestly, Bella, what did you think we were doing?"

...

"This is completely ridiculous," I pointed out. "Why are you crying?"

"Because I'm mad!" she shouted. (Meyer, Chapter 30, para. 106).

Based on the above data, Edward Cullen faced an incompatible goals conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen wants to take Bella to prom to give her a typical high school experience. On the other hand, Bella is uncomfortable and forced to conform to Edward Cullen's wishes. This prom conflict is a conflict of interest between Edward Cullen and Bella. It is a secondary conflict that contributes to the central conflict in *Midnight Sun*. This conflict highlights Edward Cullen's difficulty

understanding the human world and Bella's desires. Edward Cullen was kind enough to invite Bella to have a good time but ignored her feelings.

Still with Bella, the following quotations point to an incompatible in the goals Edward Cullen faced with her:

"Bella, I won't let anything hurt you," I promised. "Not even yourself. I won't let go of you once, I promise."

...
"Edward," she whispered, horror in her voice. She looked up at me with panic-stricken eyes. "I honestly can't dance!" (Meyer, Chapter 30, para. 142).

The data above shows how Edward Cullen is described as having a conflict of incompatible goals with Bella. Edward Cullen wants Bella to have fun and enjoy high school experiences, including dancing at prom. It shows her promise to protect Bella and give her a good time. Bella gets all freaked out when she thinks about prom. It is seen in her panicked reaction to Edward Cullen's invitation to dance. Edward Cullen's internal conflict is linked to the novel's ultimate conflict, a forbidden relationship between vampires and humans. Edward Cullen wanted to protect Bella from harm, including himself, who was seduced by her blood. This desire to protect conflicts with her desire to let Bella live an ordinary high school life, including dancing at prom.

Next, Edward Cullen also experienced an incompatible goal with Tyler in another dialogue, as shown in the following quotation:

"Hello, Tyler, this is Edward Cullen." My tone was perfectly polite, though it took a little work to keep it that way. As entertained as I'd been just a moment ago, a sudden flare of territorial feelings now swamped me. It was an immature reaction, but I couldn't deny I felt it.

Bella sucked in a sharp breath. I glanced at her out of the corner of my eye and then looked back to the road. If she had—somehow—been in earnest before, she was no longer in the dark.

"I'm sorry if there's been some kind of miscommunication, but Bella is unavailable tonight," I said to Tyler.

"Oh," he responded.

The jealous, protective instinct persisted and my response was stronger than it should have been. "To be perfectly honest, she'll be unavailable every night, as far as anyone besides myself is concerned. No offense. And I'm sorry about your evening." (Meyer, Chapter 30, para. 93).

Based on the above data, the quote shows another internal conflict with Edward Cullen in Stephanie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*. This conflict arose because of an incompatible of goal with another character (Tyler). Edward Cullen states that Bella was not around to see Tyler that night. She declared that Bella would be nothing to anyone other than herself every night. This statement describes Edward Cullen's desire to control Bella's time entirely and eliminate Tyler as a potential rival. Edward Cullen's will go against Tyler's wanting to bring Bella out. Unaware of Bella and Edward Cullen's relationship, Tyler is disappointed and offended by Edward Cullen's possessiveness. This conflict represents the ultimate conflict in the novel. Edward Cullen's territorial and protective feelings are part of his efforts to protect Bella from outside threats and himself as a vampire.

4. Limited Resources

As explained in the previous chapter, limited resources, according to Deetz & Stevenson (1986), are situations in which there needs to be more resources (tangible or intangible) to fulfill the needs or desires of all parties involved, leading to competition and potential conflict. In the Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*, Edward Cullen's conflict with limited resources is this:

In turn, the following quotations are tangible evidence of the limitations of resources faced:

*Once we turned on the tracker, he would know that he'd been led astray, and Bella wasn't with us. He would run, and we would chase. I felt confident I could outrun him, but I needed a course with enough length. Six hundred miles gave me some padding.
I wanted to finish this quickly. (Meyer, Chapter 24, para. 15).*

Data analysis reveals that Edward Cullen faces challenges related to resource limitations. In the quote, Edward Cullen plotted a strategy to lure James, a tracker vampire, away from Bella. To do so, Edward Cullen and his family must ensure they have a considerable distance to give them an advantage in the pursuit. Edward Cullen felt sure he could outrun James but needed a long enough route to fool him. Edward Cullen realizes that once the tracker is activated, James will realize that they are trying to trick him and that he will look for Bella. Therefore, Edward Cullen needed a considerable distance (six hundred miles) as a safe margin to ensure they could finish this quickly and effectively. Limitation of this distance is a significant resource challenge for Edward Cullen. This conflict is closely linked with the central conflict in the novel, Edward Cullen's attempt to protect Bella from dangers, including threats from other vampires like James. The scarce resources of distance and time reflect Edward Cullen's challenges in keeping Bella safe.

The next data also describing a limited resource is the following dialogue:

I heard nothing, though I listened close beside where Jessica's frivolous internal monologue continued to gush. It was as if there were no one sitting beside her. ... (Meyer, Chapter 1, para. 58).

According to the data above, Edward Cullen needs more resources. He pointed out Edward Cullen's limitations in Stephanie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*. These limitations triggered internal conflicts and were associated with the major conflicts of the novel. Edward Cullen could not hear Bella's thoughts when someone else, Jessica. This incompetence frustrates Edward Cullen and makes him curious. He was desperate to discover what was on Bella's mind, especially about her and the Cullens. Although not the central conflict, Edward Cullen's limitations are mainly

linked to the novel conflict, a forbidden relationship between vampires and humans. As a vampire with limited telepathic powers, Edward Cullen has trouble understanding Bella's world and her true feelings.

This quotation also reflects the limitations of resources that faced Edward Cullen:

*We could pretend to stop for gas again—it was nearly time—but this change of pace would have the tracker on edge. We'd have to move fast.
 "On my word," I told them, waiting for the first touch of the tracker's mind. Emmett's hand was on the door handle.
 This road was much rougher than the last. I hit a rut that had the Jeep jolting out of our lane. As I worked to control the vehicle, suddenly the tracker's voice was there.
 ... must have a place close...
 "Go," I snarled. (Meyer, Chapter 24, para. 33).*

The data above reflects the limits of Edward Cullen's resources. Edward Cullen should think highly of driving. Pretending to stop for gas was a clever ploy to distract James from their escape plan. However, Edward Cullen had to be cautious about choosing a location and keeping pace so that James would not become suspicious. This finite conflict of resources is linked to the ultimate conflict of the novel, which is Bella's protection from another vampire threat. Edward Cullen constantly has to use his skills and strategies to keep Bella safe despite the limitations of time and tactical choices.

Next, the limitations of resources by Edward Cullen can be seen clearly in the following quotations:

*I felt sick as I realized what I hadn't seen at first. With a low oath, I darted out of the shed and vaulted over the tall brambles. Emmett and Carlisle followed, back on high alert after the stupefying hours of failure.
 ...
 I'd been too focused on the water escape. There was an air escape, too...
 But he could go in any direction at all, and we had no way to follow. (Meyer, Chapter 24, para. 103).*

Data suggests that Edward Cullen is described as having limited resources. Edward Cullen was confronted with a complex situation and knew his limitations were tracking James. Edward Cullen and the Cullen family need complete information on James' escape routes. Their initial focus was only on the waterway, making them vulnerable to the possibility of escape through the air. Resource constraints create frustration and anxiety for Edward Cullen. Failure to anticipate all of James' escape routes left Edward Cullen feeling guilty and concerned for Bella's safety. This finite conflict of resources is directly linked to the ultimate conflict of the novel, which is Bella's protection from another vampire threat. Edward Cullen had to continue to face limitations and overcome these challenges to keep Bella safe. Awareness of their limitations adds pressure and urgency to Bella rescue attempt.

Further, conversations indicating the limitations of the resources Edward Cullen faced can be seen in the following dialogue:

Alice's voice erupted from the phone, trilling with speed. "He's coming here, he's coming to Phoenix, if he's not already here—I saw the second room again, and Bella recognized the sketch, it's her mother's house, Edward—he's coming after Renée. He can't know we're here, but I don't like Bella so close to him. He's too slippery, and I can't see him well enough. We've got to get her out of here, but somebody's got to find Renée—he's going to spread us too thin, Edward!"

I felt dizzy, dazed, though I knew it was an illusion. There was nothing wrong with my mind or my body. But the tracker had gone around me again, circling, always in my blind spot. Whether by design or by luck, he was about to be in the same place as Bella while I was fifteen hundred miles away from her.

...

It was too far to make running an efficient option. We'd have to fly. And a big plane was the fastest way. (Meyer, Chapter 24, para. 170).

The above data reveals that Edward Cullen faces challenges related to resource limitation. Edward Cullen is bounded by an immense distance between Bella and its current location. He needs more resources to be in two places

simultaneously and effectively protect both. Edward Cullen must decide how to use resources, like an aeroplane, to save Bella and her mother. This resource limitation conflict is particularly relevant to the central conflict in the novel. Edward Cullen constantly had to find ways to overcome the limits of resources and logistics to keep Bella safe. The inability to be in two places once added stress to Edward Cullen's efforts to protect Bella and Renee.

Next, the quotation also highlights the limitations of the resources Edward Cullen endured:

The chaos and agony of Alice's mind hit me then, like a sudden vortex erupting out of a calm sea, sucking me under.

I staggered to a stop, paralyzed. I didn't hear what Carlisle said, barely felt his attempts to pull me forward. I was vaguely aware of his awareness of the human security officer eyeing us suspiciously.

...

Alice could see Bella a few seconds from now, in a taxi, speeding along a freeway through brilliant sunlight. Bella's eyes were closed.

And in just a few minutes more: a mirrored room, fluorescent tubes bright overhead, long pine boards across the floor.

The tracker, waiting.

Then blood. So much blood.

"Why didn't you go after her?" I hissed.

The two of us weren't enough. She died. (Meyer, Chapter 25, para. 16).

The quote indicates Edward Cullen's conflict with the limits of their abilities, despite extraordinary abilities, in protecting Bella. Edward Cullen felt panically and paralyzed upon receiving Alice's vision of the impending danger to Bella. The limitations of their ability make Edward Cullen feel powerless and fail to protect his loved ones. This is directly linked to the novel's central conflict, Edward Cullen's attempt to protect Bella from the threats of other vampires, especially James, a very dangerous tracker. Resource constraints made it difficult for Edward Cullen to carry out this protection mission effectively.

In turn, data regarding the limited resources can be found in the following conversations:

“Edward!” Carlisle’s voice had lost its control. Pain bled through. Pain for me, pain for Bella. “You must do it now, or it will be too late.”

*...
Bella was burning, and I was exactly the wrong person to save her. Absolutely and literally the worst person in the entire universe for this task. But I was the only one here to do it. You have to do this, I ordered myself. There is no other way. You cannot fail.*

*...
I will show you when, Alice promised.*

*..
It’s time, Alice told me. Now, Edward. (Meyer, Chapter 26, para. 215).*

The above data suggests Edward Cullen’s conflict with resourced resources, in this case of time and the right person, in saving Bella from vampire venom. Edward Cullen is also faced with a time limit to save Bella. The vampire poison works fast and can be fatal. Time and limited dependence on Edward Cullen as a poisoner adds to the pressure and difficulty of saving. Furthermore, he is burdened with the responsibility of inhaling poisons because Carlisle is focused on treating Bella’s pain. The limits of these resources are also linked to external conflict (against James). James was a vampire who bit Bella, so his poison threatened her. If Edward Cullen cannot save Bella, James will.

B. Edward Cullen’s Way of Overcoming His Conflicts

This study’s data was compiled from Stephenie Meyer’s *Midnight Sun* to answer the second research question. In this section, the researcher describes the conflict management strategies employed by Edward Cullen based on the concept of conflict in *Managing Interpersonal Communication* proposed by Deetz & Stevenson (1986) as depicted in the *Midnight Sun*. The researcher analyzes how

Edward Cullen uses various strategies to manage his interpersonal conflicts, including avoidance, pacification, competition, compromise, and creative integration. By applying Deetz and Stevenson's concept of conflict in *Managing Interpersonal Communication*, the study examines how these strategies are portrayed in the novel and how they influence the resolution of Edward Cullen's conflicts. The analysis identifies specific instances where Edward Cullen's conflict management strategy differs based on the nature of the conflict and the characters involved, providing a comprehensive understanding of how Edward Cullen navigates and overcomes his conflicts throughout the story.

1. Avoidance

Avoidance is a conflict resolution strategy where people consciously or unconsciously choose to postpone, withdraw from, or disregard a potential or existing conflict (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986). Avoidance can be a successful strategy when the conflict is minimal, or the individual lacks the resources or energy to overcome it. The researcher has found data related to the avoidance strategy used by Edward Cullen as follows:

Edward Cullen's first strategy for avoiding a conflict involving Bella is as described in the following dialogue:

I turned my mind away from the girl with a sense of relief. I didn't want to continue to fail at this—failure was a rare thing for me, and even more irritating than it was uncommon. I didn't want to develop any interest in her hidden thoughts simply because they were hidden. No doubt when I did decipher them—and I would find a way to do so—they would be just as petty and trivial as any human's. Not worth the effort I would expend to reach them. (Meyer, Chapter 1, para. 88).

The data above suggest that Edward Cullen used an avoidance strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen is attracted to Bella, but she resists

her feelings because of their differences. Her ability to read the minds of others usually gives her control, but her inability to access Bella's thoughts engenders further frustration and curiosity. This left him trapped in a pattern of avoidance, where he tried to distance himself from Bella and her mind.

The following quotation describes Edward Cullen's avoidance strategy with Ms. Cope:

"Never mind, then. I can see that it's impossible. Thank you so much for your help." (Meyer, Chapter 1, para. 232).

The data above reveal that Edward Cullen implemented an avoidance strategy to cope with his disagreement with Ms. Cope. Edward Cullen wants to change classes but fears Ms. Cope's view or argues for her decision. To avoid further conversation, Edward Cullen chose to remain in a class he was not interested in. This avoids the immediate conflict with Ms. Cope but does not address her wishes for higher learning.

Edward Cullen implemented an avoidance strategy with Bella, as shown in the following quotations:

It wasn't getting any better. Six days had passed, six days I'd hidden here in the empty Denali wilderness, but I was no closer to freedom than I had been since the first moment I'd caught her scent. (Meyer, Chapter 2, para. 3).

The above data describes Edward Cullen's avoidance strategies for overcoming with his conflict with Bella. The data above suggests that Edward Cullen feels that escape is the only way to protect Bella and herself. He did not want to endanger Bella with her presence. However, this strategy does not solve the problem permanently. She remains bound to Bella and must remain hidden to avoid confrontation.

The dialogue between Edward Cullen and Carlisle then describes Edward Cullen's strategy of avoidance with Bella:

*But you're not leaving? I sighed.
"I should."
"What holds you here, Edward? I'm failing to see..."
"I don't know if I can explain." Even to myself, it made no sense. (Meyer, Chapter 3, para. 26).*

Edward Cullen uses avoidance strategies in the data. Edward Cullen is in a difficult situation. He is stuck between his vampire instincts and Bella's moral fiber of Carlisle's. He wants to go, but his heart wants to stay close to Bella. Edward Cullen could not tell Carlisle the truth because he was confused by his feelings.

Edward Cullen's avoidance strategy with Bella is evident in the following dialogue:

*No one was here to watch me. I flitted to her side and had her books in order before she had even examined the mess.
She bent halfway, saw me, and then froze. I handed her books back to her, making sure my icy skin never touched hers.
"Thank you," she said in a sharp voice.
"You're welcome." (Meyer, Chapter 5, para. 170).*

The data highlights Edward Cullen's use of avoidance strategies in his fight with Bella. He prepares to go through Bella's book without waiting for it, avoids physical contact with her when she returns it, and answers her voice in a hostile tone. This suggests that Edward Cullen is trying to overcome conflict without direct interaction.

The following dialogue suggests the avoidance strategy Edward Cullen implemented in overcoming with his conflict with Bella:

"Which is exactly why I should." Surely the more time we were together, the harder it would grow to be apart. "But don't worry. I'm essentially a selfish creature. I crave your company too much to do what I should." (Meyer, Chapter 17, para. 205).

Edward Cullen is still trapped in the avoidance pattern. Although he did express his desire to be with Bella, he did not explicitly express a strategy for overcoming his internal conflict. This suggests that she may still be looking for a way to avoid the consequences of her proximity to Bella.

The following quotation describes Edward Cullen's avoidance strategy with Rosalie:

Just tell her everything. It's not like we have rules, Rosalie's thoughts hissed at me. I struggled to not hear her. (Meyer, Chapter 11, para. 360).

As shown in the data, Edward Cullen used the avoidance strategy to overcome his conflict with Rosalie. He chose not to get involved with Rosalie's advice and instead focused on something else. Faced with Rosalie's advice to tell Bella everything, Edward Cullen chose not to respond and tried not to hear it. It shows that Edward Cullen is avoiding confrontation with Rosalie and her advice. It is possible that Edward Cullen feels that telling Bella about everything is not the right solution for now, or he does not want to extend the debate with Rosalie.

The following data reveals that Edward Cullen used a avoidance strategy in an effort to overcome his conflict with Rosalie:

I'd deal with the others later. I only had so much time allotted to be with Bella, and I wasn't going to waste it.

...

Rosalie's outrage continued, a caustic inner monologue that barely paused for a second or two as she searched her memory for fresh insults to hurl my way. I forced the sound into the background, determined to be present with Bella. (Meyer, Chapter 11, para. 237).

The following data reveals that Edward Cullen used avoidance strategies to overcome his conflict with Rosalie. Edward Cullen's choice to avoid conflict describes his strategy for managing the situation. He prioritized his relationship with Bella over other people's issues. Amid Rosalie's anger, Edward Cullen chose

to focus on Bella. He ignores Rosalie's voice and focuses on the precious moment with his beloved. Edward Cullen realizes that conflict with Rosalie does not take him anywhere, and he prefers to spend time with Bella, whom he loves.

Next, Edward Cullen's initial avoidance strategy with Emmet is reflected in the following dialogue.

*What was the point of stoking my anger? Should I blame them for their inability to understand? How could they?
How meaningless it all was. Infuriating, yes, but... would I have been any different if it hadn't been my life that had changed? If it hadn't been about Bella?
Regardless, I didn't have time to fight with Emmett now. I would be waiting for Bella when she was done with Gym. So many more pieces to the puzzle I needed to discover. (Meyer, Chapter 13, para. 205).*

The data indicates that Edward Cullen used an avoidance strategy to overcome his conflict with Emmet. He was not trying to settle things with Emmet but instead chose to withdraw from the situation. Edward Cullen was confronted with an internal conflict situation, where he questioned the use of quarrels with Emmett. He realized that Emmet was not going to be able to understand the situation, and he chose to withdraw from the conflict. Edward Cullen prefers to focus on something else that is more important to him, waiting for Bella. Edward Cullen's strategy can be seen as an effort to keep calm and avoid more significant conflict. He probably felt that conflict with Emmet would accomplish nothing and would waste only his time and energy.

Edward Cullen's avoidance strategy with Alice is evident in the following quotation:

Fine. We would talk. I would sacrifice my time with Bella this afternoon to show Alice how wrong she was. In truth, I knew I wouldn't be able to rest until I'd made her see that, made her admit she was off this time. (Meyer, Chapter 14, para. 98).

The data suggests that Edward Cullen used an avoidance strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen was confronted with an internal conflict regarding his decision with Alice involving Bella's vampire world. Edward Cullen chose to use a competition strategy to overcome this conflict. Edward Cullen wanted to convince Alice that he was right and that she did not need to worry about Bella's safety. She sacrifices time with Bella to show Alice that she is wrong. Edward Cullen's behavior describes a desire to achieve victory in this conflict.

The following dialogue describes the conflict avoidance strategy Edward Cullen took with Rosalie to Bella:

"I'm sorry about that," I murmured quickly. "She's just worried." It irritated me to have to defend Rosalie's behavior, but I couldn't think of another way to explain. And at the heart of Rosalie's hostility, this was the true issue. "You see... it's dangerous for more than just me if, after spending so much time with you so publicly..." (Meyer, Chapter 14, para. 153).

The data above describe Edward Cullen's avoidance strategy to overcome his conflict with Rosalie and Bella. Edward Cullen avoided a confrontation with Bella by apologizing and explaining Rosalie's behaviour. He acknowledged Rosalie's concern, even though she felt uncomfortable defending him. Edward Cullen also tried to reach a compromise by giving clues about the dangers ahead, but he did not specifically forbid Bella from meeting him.

The following excerpts describe Edward Cullen's avoidance strategy with Bella:

I stared at her, dumbfounded, waiting for more—for something that would make it clear how I'd offended her—but she just lifted her chin and narrowed her eyes as if in challenge. Not knowing what else to do, I held my arm out to usher her forward, lifting a protruding branch higher with my other hand. She stomped underneath it, then swatted a smaller limb out of her way. (Meyer, Chapter 16, para. 98).

The data highlights Edward Cullen's use of avoidance strategies in his fight with Bella. In the tense situation with Bella, Edward Cullen expressed confusion and ignorance of her challenging behavior. This gesture may have intimidated Edward Cullen, making him avoid it rather than seek solutions. Edward Cullen's inability to cope openly with conflict, especially with Bella, was his driving factor in taking a step toward it. Edward Cullen may also have feared that this conflict would worsen his relationship with Bella, pushing him away from direct confrontation.

The following dialogue highlights Edward Cullen's avoidance strategy with Bella:

"I need some time," I explained.

"Okay." Still a whisper.

I moved around her, slow deliberate steps, and walked to the center of the meadow. I sat down in a patch of low grass, and locked my muscles in place, as I had done before. I breathed carefully in and out, listening as her hesitant footsteps crossed the same distance, tasting her fragrance as she sat down next to me.

"Is this all right?" she asked, uncertain.

I nodded. "Just... let me concentrate."

Her eyes were huge with confusion, with concern. I didn't want to explain. I closed my own.

Not in cowardice, I told myself. Or not just in cowardice. I did need to concentrate. I focused on her scent, on the sound of the blood gushing through the chambers of her heart. Only my lungs were allowed motion. Every other part of me I imprisoned into rigid immobility. (Meyer, Chapter 17, para. 53).

As indicated in the data, Edward Cullen used avoidance strategies to overcome his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen shows his need to stay away and focus on himself. He explicitly asks for time and goes slowly and carefully away from Bella, creating physical and emotional distance. Edward Cullen sat down and locked up his muscles, displaying an effort to control himself and attain serenity. His request for concentration made it clear that he was unprepared to face the conflict head-on. Edward Cullen did not explain the situation to Bella, indicating

an emotional evasion. Although this strategy gave him room to cool off, this avoidance did not overcome the conflict and potentially resulted in misunderstandings and tensions in his relationship with Bella.

Next, Edward Cullen's initial avoidance strategy with Bella is reflected in the following dialogue:

"I'm the world's best predator, aren't I?" I made no attempt to hide the bitterness in my voice now. "Everything about me invites you in— my voice, my face, even my smell." It was all so much overkill. What was the point of my charms and lures? I was no rooted flytrap, waiting for prey to land inside my mouth. Why couldn't I have been as repulsive on the outside as I was on the inside? "As if I need any of that!" (Meyer, Chapter 17, para. 128).

The data above suggest that Edward Cullen used an avoidance strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen reflected on self-loathing and negative feelings toward him as a vampire. Edward Cullen saw its appeal as a trap that endangered Bella, so he wanted a disgusting look to avoid attracting her. This suggests Edward Cullen's desire to avoid an interaction that could harm Bella.

Edward Cullen implemented an avoidance strategy with Bella, as shown in the following dialogue:

*Now I could feel nothing but dread, panic... and guilt.
"I'm sorry, Bella," I breathed just loud enough for her to hear. The strangers were too close for me to risk speaking at a greater volume. "It was stupid, irresponsible, to expose you like this. I'm so sorry."*

*...
Carlisle turned to face the whisper of their approaching feet, and the others followed his lead. We would not give away any of our advantages, but would pretend to have no more than our extensive vampire senses to guide us. Frozen, motionless as if we were hewn from the rock around us, we waited. (Meyer, Chapter 21, para. 570).*

The above data shows that Edward Cullen chose avoidance strategies to overcome his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen tried to calm dangers, compete with threats, or compromise. Instead, he chose to wait and observe, gathering information and preparing before taking action. This avoidance can be seen as a

temporary strategy for obtaining time and information. By feigning ignorance, Edward Cullen and the Cullen family could observe the situation more freely and devise an appropriate plan for the threat to come.

The following dialogue shows Edward Cullen's avoidance strategy with Rosalie:

But none of this mattered. Rose's spoiled temper tantrums had always been irritating, but this petty flare-up was ill timed, and time was something I didn't have enough of. If she'd decided to cease being my sister tonight, that was her choice and I accepted it. (Meyer, Chapter 23, para. 220).

The data above reveal that Edward Cullen adopted an avoidance strategy to overcome his conflict with Rosalie. Faced with an emotional conflict with Rosalie, Edward Cullen chose not to get caught up in unnecessary conflict. He realized that Rosalie's childish anger was not worth her limited time and more important priorities. Edward Cullen did not attempt to appease Rosalie or persuade her to change her mind. Although this was frustrating, he accepted his decision to quit being his brother.

Next, Edward Cullen implemented an avoidance strategy with Alice, as shown in the following dialogue:

Bella was running across a white-hot sidewalk, stumbling. Or she would be soon. "Just the road, Alice," I spit through my teeth. Sorry. I'm trying. Her panic bled through her thoughts. Bella was running into a parking lot. Or would be soon. "Stop!" She closed her eyes and tried to see nothing but the pavement ahead. I knew these images had the power to render me useless. I forced them out of my mind. (Meyer, Chapter 25, para. 94).

The data reveal that Edward Cullen chose avoidance strategies to overcome his conflict with Alice. In the midst of a tense situation, Edward Cullen was

confronted by Bella's vivid images of danger. Rather than succumb to anxiety and panic, Edward Cullen chose to avoid the picture. Edward Cullen's decision to focus on Bella's safety and get rid of disruptive thoughts reflects his mental powers. He understood that being caught in fear would only hinder his ability to act and protect Bella.

Edward Cullen employed his avoidance strategy with Jacob, as seen in the following dialogue.

I shouldn't let myself get angry.

...

I held still as Jacob approached. He mostly looked at Bella, his expression comical in its reluctance.

...

I knew my anger was pointless, and it certainly wasn't directed at this blameless boy, but I couldn't quite keep it in check. Rather than let either of them hear it in my voice, I just set Bella gently on her feet and stepped away. (Meyer, Chapter 30, para. 187).

The data above reveal that Edward Cullen adopted an avoidance strategy to overcome his conflict with Jacob. Rather than being lured into confrontation, Edward Cullen chose to avoid the situation. He understood that her anger would not solve the problem and could only hurt the innocent Jacob.

2. Pacification

Pacification is a conflict resolution strategy that creates a false sense of engagement by diverting attention away from the core issue (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986). The researcher has uncovered data relating to the pacification used by Edward Cullen that will be explained as follows:

The following dialogue describes the pacification strategy Edward Cullen employed in overcoming with his conflict with Bella:

*“Please, Bella,” I said, and my voice was too intense, because I suddenly wanted her trust. Wanted it badly, and not just in regard to this accident. A stupid desire. What sense would it make for her to trust me?
 “Why?” she asked, still defensive.
 “Trust me,” I pleaded.
 “Will you promise to explain everything to me later?”
 It made me angry to have to lie to her again, when I so wished that I could somehow deserve her confidence. When I answered her, it was a retort.
 “Fine.” (Meyer, Chapter 3, para. 159).*

The data suggests that Edward Cullen implemented a pacification strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen tried to calm Bella with words and promised to explain later. Edward Cullen gets caught up in a situation where he wants to gain Bella’s trust but is haunted by the impossible of being completely honest. Edward Cullen is furious that he had to lie to Bella. He wants to gain Bella’s trust, but he cannot be honest because of the secrets of his vampire identity.

Edward Cullen, in turn, also used a pacification strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella, as shown in the following dialogue:

*With a sigh, I let the car drift to a crawl. “Happy?”
 She eyed the speedometer. “Almost.”
 Was this still too fast for her? “I hate driving slow,” I muttered, but let the needle slide down another notch.
 “This is slow?” she asked. (Meyer, Chapter 10, para. 65).*

The data above also suggests that Edward Cullen used a pacification strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen’s stance suggests a pacification strategy. She may avoid discussing the real reason behind her high speed, as she is anxious or distracted by something and does not want to involve Bella. Edward Cullen also made an effort to calm Bella down after realizing her discomfort. This shows that he is concerned about Bella’s feelings and wants to overcome her internal conflicts in a way that does not jeopardize their relationship.

This dialogue describes how Edward Cullen implemented the passive strategy for overcoming with his conflict with Bella:

Her scent was still a force in the car. I was growing used to it, I could almost ignore it, but there was no denying that my body still yearned toward her for the worst possible reason. My mouth was swimming with venom. I swallowed. (Meyer, Chapter 10, para. 173).

In the data above, Edward Cullen also chose a pacification strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella. The analysis suggests the appeasement strategy Edward Cullen used to overcome his conflict. He tried to calm down and control his emotions not to endanger Bella. In the middle of a car full of seductive Bella scent, Edward Cullen struggled to control himself. She admits that the temptation to drink Bella's blood is so strong that it is difficult to control it. Edward Cullen's act of swallowing saliva was a testament to his attempts to suppress the instinctive urge of his vampirism.

Edward Cullen's additional pacification strategy for overcoming conflict with Bella is also clearly described in the following dialogue:

*"Later," I snapped, and I rose to my feet.
"We're going to be late."
She looked around, disoriented, as though she'd forgotten we were at lunch. As though she'd forgotten we were even at school and was surprised that we were not alone in some private place. I understood that feeling exactly. It was hard to remember the rest of the world when I was with her.
She got up quickly, bobbling once, and threw her bag over her shoulder.
"Later, then," she said, and I could see the determination in the set of her mouth. She would hold me to that. (Meyer, Chapter 11, para. 397).*

The data above clearly describes Edward Cullen's involvement in the pacification strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen's behavior suggests efforts to de-escalate tensions and avoid potential conflict with Bella. He may feel that their conversation is in a sensitive direction and is at risk of arguments. She used a firm tone and hurried to end the conversation quickly, perhaps to protect

Bella from emotional harm or conflict. Edward Cullen may also want to protect himself from feelings of too much about Bella.

Edward Cullen's pacification for overcoming conflict with Rosalie is seen in the following dialogue:

*"True," I agreed quickly. "This is my fault. I am sorry."
Please, Rosalie thought directly at me. Enough with the roll-over routine. Stop playing so penitent.
"I'm not playing," I said to her. "I know I'm to blame for all of this. I've made an enormous mess of everything."
"Alice told you I was thinking of burning your car, didn't she?"
I smiled—sort of. "She did. But I deserve that. If it makes you feel better, have at it."
She looked at me for a long moment, thinking about going ahead with the destruction. Testing me, to see if I was bluffing.
I shrugged at her. "It's just a toy, Rose."
"You've changed," she said from between her teeth again.
I nodded. "I know." (Meyer, Chapter 12, para. 278).*

The data above describe Edward Cullen's use of the pacification strategy in his conflict with Rosalie. Edward Cullen used pacifism to overcome with interpersonal conflict with Rosalie. He admits his mistakes, tries to ease the tension, and resolves Rosalie's anger. Edward Cullen's behavior suggests his efforts to ease tensions and avoid more significant conflict with Rosalie. He did not stand up and showed signs of resignation when Rosalie threatened to break his car. This strategy can be seen as Edward Cullen's way of showing responsibility for his behavior and keeping in touch with Rosalie.

Edward Cullen's use of a pacification strategy in overcoming with his conflict with Bella is evident in the following dialogue:

*I shook my head, thinking of her ridiculous assumption before— that I didn't care for her as much as she cared for me. I thought I'd explained this.
"I told you—you don't see yourself clearly at all. You're not like anyone I've ever known. You fascinate me." (Meyer, Chapter 14, para. 141).*

The data highlights Edward Cullen's use of the pacification strategy in his fight with Bella. Edward Cullen tried to ease tensions and conflicts with Bella by reassuring and praising her. He avoided confrontation and focused on the positive aspects of their relationship. Edward Cullen's behavior demonstrated a desire to keep the peace and avoid arguments that might worsen the situation. Edward Cullen's strategy in this situation suggests using a strategy to avoid confrontation. He did not try to solve the problem sincerely but to ease the tension and create a peaceful atmosphere. Edward Cullen may want to protect Bella from stress and anxiety, or he may feel that a confrontation only worsens the situation.

3. Competition

Competition is a conflict resolution strategy where each person strives to win and achieve their desired outcome (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986). Competition can be an effective technique when the outcome of a conflict is essential, or when an individual feels confident in his stance. The researcher has uncovered data relating to Edward Cullen's conflict management strategy with the competition that will be described as follows:

The following excerpts point to a competition strategy that Edward Cullen applied in overcoming with his conflict with himself:

I leaned away from her in revulsion—disgusted by the monster aching to take her.

...

I turned my face away from her as a sudden fierce, irrational hatred washed through me.

I didn't want to be the monster! I didn't want to kill this roomful of harmless children! I didn't want to lose everything I'd gained in a lifetime of sacrifice and denial! I wouldn't. She couldn't make me. (Meyer, Chapter 1, para. 144).

The data above suggest that Edward Cullen implemented a competition strategy to overcome his conflict with himself. Edward Cullen is caught between a

vampire's desire to attack Bella and the moral values that prohibit her from killing humans. In the process, there is a tremendous internal rivalry between the monster and the human inside. Edward Cullen does not want to harm Bella and anyone else, but his vampire instincts are constantly teasing and threatening control.

Edward Cullen used the competition strategy to overcome his conflict with Mike, as shown in the following dialogue:

*"I'll take her. You can go back to class," I said dismissively.
Mike's teeth clenched together. "No. I'm supposed to do it."
I wasn't going to stand around arguing with the moron. (Meyer, Chapter 6, para. 192).*

The data above revealed that Edward Cullen used a competition strategy to overcome his conflict with Mike. Edward Cullen was involved in a conflict with Mike regarding Bella's descent. Edward Cullen took direct action from Mike and claimed he would be the one to take Bella. He was adamant and did not want to argue with Mike.

This dialogue describes how Edward Cullen overcomes the competition strategy for his involvement with Emmet:

*... He was picturing Bella's face again, but imagining it whiter, imagining her eyes bright red.
"No," I said, my voice strangled.
"It solves your worries about mortality, doesn't it? And then you wouldn't want to kill her, either. Isn't that the best way?"
"For me? Or for her?"
"For you," he answered easily. His tone added the of course.
I laughed humorlessly. "Wrong answer." (Meyer, Chapter 7, para. 137).*

Edward Cullen was involved in an intense debate with Emmet regarding Bella's fate. It demonstrated its strong opposition to Emmet's suggestion to turn Bella into a vampire. Edward Cullen questioned the logic behind the suggestion and even laughed at Emmet's answer. Edward Cullen's attitude describes his

determination to protect Bella as a human and to keep her decision. There was a rivalry between Edward Cullen and Emmet during this debate, where Edward Cullen tried to convince Emmet and keep their eyes open.

Edward Cullen's competitive strategy for overcoming conflict with himself is clearly described in the following dialogue:

And I would fight, I would keep fighting. Whatever force it was that wanted to hurt Bella would have to go through me. No, she had no guardian angel. But I would do my best to make up for the lack. A guardian vampire—there was a stretch. (Meyer, Chapter 10, para. 389).

Edward Cullen's way of competition strategy to overcome his conflict with himself is reflected in the data above. Edward Cullen may have used this competitive strategy to convince himself and Bella that he could protect her. Edward Cullen's determination to protect Bella from harm is evident in his statement. He is declaring his readiness to continue to fight, even at his own expense, against any force that might harm Bella. Even though Edward Cullen realized he was not a guardian angel and could not guarantee Bella's complete safety, he kept himself in check. This suggests that he wanted to ensure Bella's safety in any way possible, even if it meant competing with other forces that wanted to hurt her.

Edward Cullen's competitive strategy for overcoming with conflict with Rosalie is seen in the following dialogue:

Will you shut up! Rosalie's mental scream peaked, breaking into my absorption. I saw what she thought of this conversation, of exactly how much Bella already knew. I glanced back automatically to see Rosalie glowering furiously, but I realized I simply did not care. Let her destroy the car. It was just a toy. (Meyer, Chapter 11, para. 351).

The data highlights Edward Cullen's competition strategy in his fight with Rosalie. Rosalie's anger and focus did not sway Edward Cullen, who remained to

converse with Bella. He even ignored Rosalie and treated her wrecked car as a “toy” that did not matter. Edward Cullen’s behavior shows the use of competition in addressing conflict with Rosalie. He tried to control the situation and assert his dominance, but at the same time, he showed apathy toward Rosalie’s anger and her car.

The following dialogue describes Edward Cullen’s use of a competition strategy to overcome his conflict with the tracker:

“Look, if we try to take him down while she’s still around, there’s a much better chance that someone will get hurt—she’ll get hurt, or you will, trying to protect her. Now, if we get him alone...” The picture in his head morphed as he imagined the tracker cornered now, himself closing in. If we could manage it, if we could deal with the tracker quickly, then this would be the right choice. Why was it so painful to make? (Meyer, Chapter 22, para. 296).

The data highlights Edward Cullen’s use of competition strategy in addressing his conflict with a tracker. Edward Cullen realized that Bella’s and her survival depended on their ability to beat a tracker. He planned to lure the tracker in to be alone and then beat him. This strategy describes Edward Cullen’s determination to protect Bella, even if he risks his own life. Edward Cullen’s strategy reflected his strategic and bold thinking. He did not hesitate to take risks and come face to face danger to protect the one he loved.

Edward Cullen’s use of a strategy of competition in overcoming his conflict with the tracker, James, is evident in the following dialogue:

I pushed myself, blurring through the trees we’d just driven past. I could hear Carlisle and Emmett behind me, Emmett charging through the underbrush like a rhinoceros. His louder attack might cover some of the sounds of my own. Maybe the tracker would think I was farther back than I actually was. (Meyer, Chapter 24, para. 43).

As described in the data, Edward Cullen used a competition strategy to overcome his conflict with a tracker. Edward Cullen ran and tried to evade the tracker in search of a chance to defeat him. Edward Cullen demonstrated his courage, intelligence, and ability to think strategically in dangerous situations. He did not hesitate to take risks and risk his own safety to protect those he loved.

The following dialogue highlights Edward Cullen's application of a competition strategy in addressing his conflict with himself:

Bella was burning, and I was exactly the wrong person to save her. Absolutely and literally the worst person in the entire universe for this task.

But I was the only one here to do it.

You have to do this, I ordered myself. There is no other way. You cannot fail.

I grasped her twisting hand, smoothing her clenched fingers and holding them still. I stopped breathing and bent to press my mouth to her hand.

The skin on the edges of the wound was already cooler than the rest of her hand. Changing. Hardening.

I sealed my lips around the small gash, closed my eyes, and then began. (Meyer, Chapter 26, para. 217).

The data above suggests the competition strategy Edward Cullen used to overcome his conflict with himself. Edward Cullen is confronted with a difficult situation when a werewolf bites Bella, who is wounded. Instead of giving up or running away, Edward Cullen chose to fight the process of transforming Bella into a vampire using a competition strategy. Edward Cullen was not competing with werewolves or trackers but with a biological process inside Bella's body. She did everything in her power to stop the change by sucking the venom out of her wounds, showing her strong determination to protect Bella. As brutal as Edward Cullen's strategy was, his love and deep concern for Bella impelled him to act. He was willing to risk his life to prevent Bella from plunging into a dangerous vampire world. Edward Cullen was focused not only on winning but also on Bella's safety.

He understood the fatal consequences of transforming into a vampire, and his determination to stop this process reflected his priorities in protecting his loved one.

The following dialogue describes Edward Cullen's implementation of a competition strategy in managing his conflict with Bella:

"Bella, we're not having this discussion anymore. I refuse to damn you to an eternity of night and that's the end of it."

...

"If you think that's the end, then you don't know me very well. You're not the only vampire I know," she reminded me.

Again, I saw red. "Alice wouldn't dare."

...

"So where does that leave us?" she asked hesitantly. I sighed, and then laughed once without much humor. "I believe it's called an impasse." An impasse that led to an inevitability. (Meyer, Chapter 29, para. 319).

The data indicates that Edward Cullen relies on a competition strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella. When faced with a situation where Bella insists on becoming a vampire, Edward Cullen describes a dominant and more assertive side of the conflict using the competition strategy. Unlike Bella, who wants to be a vampire, Edward Cullen has a vital purpose in preventing that transformation. Edward Cullen resolutely rejected Bella's wishes and expressed her resistance clearly. This gesture describes his determination not to give in to the debate. He is not easily swayed and works hard to achieve his goal.

Edward Cullen's employment of a competitive strategy in overcoming his conflict with Tylor is evident in the following dialogue.

"I'm sorry if there's been some kind of miscommunication, but Bella is unavailable tonight," I said to Tyler.

"Oh," he responded.

The jealous, protective instinct persisted and my response was stronger than it should have been.

"To be perfectly honest, she'll be unavailable every night, as far as anyone besides myself is concerned. No offense. And I'm sorry about your evening." (Meyer, Chapter 30, para. 95).

The data describes a competition strategy to overcome Edward Cullen's conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen felt jealous and wanted to have Bella all to himself. She does not want to share it with other men, including Tyler. Instead of evading the situation or trying to put his feelings at ease, Edward Cullen took decisive action by contacting Tyler. Edward Cullen aimed to put Tyler out of the race and assert his dominance in his relationship with Bella. She declared Bella "unavailable" every night without consulting her first. Edward Cullen even smiled at the thought of Tyler's disappointment. This shows that he focused on winning the race and wanted to show Tyler that Bella was his.

4. Compromise

Compromise is a conflict resolution strategy where each party concedes some of their desires to reach a mutually agreeable but potentially less satisfying solution (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986). The researcher has uncovered data relating to compromise strategies for conflict management by Edward Cullen, which would explain the following:

The first data showing that Edward Cullen implemented a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Tanya can be seen through the following conversation:

"I'm sorry, Tanya. You know you're far too good for me. I just... haven't found what I'm looking for yet." (Meyer, Chapter 1, para. 70).

The above data suggests that Edward Cullen implemented a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Tanya. Edward Cullen realized that keeping Tanya in the dark about her feelings for him would only hurt her in the future. She

chose to be honest and end the relationship despite it being painful. To be honest, Edward Cullen respected Tanya's feelings and kept his own.

Next, the data suggest that Edward Cullen chose a compromise strategy for overcoming with himself:

To please Esme and protect the others, I stayed in Forks. I returned to my old schedule. I hunted no more than the rest of them. *Every day, I attended high school and played human. ... (Meyer, Chapter 5, para. 3).*

The above data suggests that Edward Cullen used a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with himself. To please Esme and protect her family, she succumbed to her desire to go out and hunt on her own. Edward Cullen got back into the routine of hunting like the rest of the Cullen family, went to school, and behaved like a human every day. This indicates that he is willing to adapt and give up his desire for the happiness and safety of loved ones.

The following data also highlights Edward Cullen's use of compromise strategies in the fight he has with himself:

I began to plot. I loved her, and so I would try to be strong enough to leave her. I knew I wasn't that strong now. I would work on that one. But perhaps I was strong enough to circumvent the future in another way. Alice had seen only two futures for Bella, and now I understood them both. Loving her would not keep me from killing her if I let myself make mistakes. (Meyer, Chapter 5, para. 326).

Edward Cullen used a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with himself, as indicated in the data. Edward Cullen was caught in the dilemma of love and safety. He wants to be with Bella, only to be aware that her presence nearby is a danger to her. Edward Cullen understood that walking away from Bella was not the solution because he was not strong enough. However, Edward Cullen believed he could refrain from making mistakes that could harm Bella. He realized that

Bella's love would not guarantee her death, but she was convinced that she would not allow herself to make such a fatal mistake. Edward Cullen's gesture was a great compromise. He is willing to sacrifice his happiness for the sake of those he loves. He has chosen to exercise restraint and to fight his vampire instincts to protect Bella.

The following data also describe that Edward Cullen used a compromise strategy to overcome Bella:

*I chose my words carefully. She needed to see. To understand that it was in her best interest to tell me to go.
 "It would be more... prudent for you not to be my friend." Staring into the melted chocolate depths of her eyes, I entirely lost my hold on light. "But I'm tired of trying to stay away from you, Bella." The words felt like they'd burned their way out of my mouth. (Meyer, Chapter 5, para. 417).*

The data above indicates that Edward Cullen relies on a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen is trying to convince Bella to end the relationship for her safety. She carefully chose her words to help Bella understand that they should not be friends. Edward Cullen's gesture was a compromise. He tried to devise a mutually beneficial solution by encouraging her to stay out of the way.

The data also suggests that Edward Cullen described a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella:

"I'm sorry," I said, my jaw locked. How could I ever tell her how sorry I was? Sorry for all the stupid mistakes I'd made. Sorry for my never-ending selfishness. Sorry that she was so unfortunate as to have inspired this first, and last, tragic love of mine. Sorry also for the things beyond my control—that I'd been the executioner chosen by fate to end her life in the first place. (Meyer, Chapter 10, para. 244).

The data suggests that Edward Cullen implemented a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella. In his mind's throes, Edward Cullen apologized to Bella for his foolish mistake. He acknowledges her selfishness and that her love

for Bella is tragic. This confession suggests Edward Cullen's efforts to take responsibility for the conflict between himself and Bella. Edward Cullen was willing to admit his mistakes and accept the consequences of his actions. This suggests his willingness to compromise with Bella and find common ground to overcome their problems. Further, Edward Cullen's apology shows his willingness to sacrifice for Bella's happiness, even though he considers her love tragic.

Edward Cullen's compromise strategy in overcoming conflict with Bella can be seen in the following dialogue:

*"Are you still angry?" I asked her. Her frown had relaxed.
 "Definitely," she answered curtly.
 I sighed. Maybe I shouldn't have brought it up. Oh well. I could try to make amends, I supposed.
 "Will you forgive me if I apologize?" She thought about that for a moment.
 "Maybe... if you mean it," she decided. "And if you promise not to do it again."
 (Meyer, Chapter 12, para. 186).*

In the data above, Edward Cullen chose a compromise strategy with Bella to overcome his conflict. Amid a disagreement with Bella, Edward Cullen shows his efforts to overcome the conflict openly and peacefully. He admitted his mistake and was willing to qualify Bella to forgive him. This suggests Edward Cullen's awareness of his mistakes and efforts to repair their relationship. This strategy can be seen as Edward Cullen's way of showing responsibility for his behavior and preserving his relationship with Bella.

The following data show that Edward Cullen implemented a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Siobhan and himself:

It was years before I gave up. I was never sure then why blood wasn't the existence-crowning ecstasy that Siobhan had believed it to be, why I continued to miss Carlisle and Esme more than I enjoyed my freedom, why the weight of each kill seemed to accumulate until I was crippled under their combined load. Over the years after my return to Carlisle and Esme, as I struggled to relearn all the discipline I'd abandoned, I came to the conclusion that Siobhan might not know

anything greater than the call of blood, but I had been born to something better. (Meyer, Chapter 15, para. 255).

The data suggests that Edward Cullen used a compromise strategy to overcome Edward Cullen's conflict with Siobhan and himself. Edward Cullen did not merely shun the desire to drink blood. He admitted that he had given up after years of trying to fight him. However, he also did not completely give up on his instincts. He sought to establish common ground by accepting his biological needs, but he tried to control them in order to uphold higher values. Edward Cullen reflected on his experience and realized that the need to drink blood was unsatisfying. He compared his desire to drink blood with his longing for Carlisle and Esme, the parent figure who taught him moral values. Edward Cullen concluded that there is a better option than giving in to instinct. He believed that he was born for something better than being a predator.

The data above reveal that Edward Cullen used a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella:

As usual, I wasn't truly angry with her—only myself. Yes, her responses toward me were always backward. But that was because, in another way, they were right. She was always too kind. She gave me credit I didn't deserve, worried over my feelings as if they mattered. Her very goodness was what put her in this danger. Her virtue, my vice, the two opposites binding us together. (Meyer, Chapter 16, para. 70).

The data above reveal that Edward Cullen used a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen tried to control his passion for Bella and protect her from the dangers of other vampires. This choice, though not ideal and unpredictable, was Edward Cullen's attempt to balance the two opposing forces in him.

The following dialogue describes a compromise strategy that Edward Cullen employed in overcoming with his conflict with Bella:

“I couldn’t live with myself if I ever hurt you. You don’t know how it’s tortured me.” I hated to look away from her sympathetic expression, but it was too hard to see her other face, the one from Alice’s vision, in the same frame. “The thought of you, still, white, cold... to never see you blush scarlet again, to never see that flash of intuition in your eyes when you see through my pretenses... it would be unendurable.” That word did nothing to convey the anguish behind the thought. But I was through the ugly part now, and I could say the things I’d wanted to tell her for so long. I met her eyes again, rejoicing in this confession. “You are the most important thing to me now. The most important thing to me ever.” (Meyer, Chapter 17, para. 287).

The data highlights Edward Cullen’s use of compromise strategies to overcome his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen did not leave Bella, even though he feared hurting her. This shows that he is looking for a way to overcome the conflict. The self-sacrifice Edward Cullen described is not a permanent solution. He still wants to be with Bella.

The following dialogue also describes how Edward Cullen implemented a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella:

I sighed, choosing my words. I wanted her to understand as much as I could share. “It’s not easy.” It would never be easy. ...”But this afternoon, I was still... undecided.” ...
... Her smile became benevolent. “Not unforgivable.”
“Thank you,” I murmured before returning to the task of explaining. “You see... I wasn’t sure if I was strong enough, and...” I took one of her hands and held it against my skin ... While there was still that possibility that I might be”—I inhaled her scent from the most fragrant point inside her wrist, reveling in the fiery pain—
“overcome... I was susceptible. Until I made up my mind that I was strong enough, that there was no possibility at all that I would... that I ever could...
... “So there’s no possibility now.” I couldn’t tell if she meant it as a statement or a question. If it was a question, she seemed very sure of the answer. And I wanted to sing with joy that she was right. (Meyer, Chapter 18, para. 280).

According to this data, Edward Cullen is depicted as using a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen was caught in a dilemma between his desire to be close to Bella and his fear of danger posed by her

vampirism. Edward Cullen expressed his inner conflict and tried to explain his problem to Bella. It shows a shift from avoidance to open communication. Despite his hesitancy, Edward Cullen took Bella's hand and inhaled her scent. This controlled physical contact indicates a compromise between Bella's distant station and impulsive action. Edward Cullen stresses the control he currently has and his commitment to protecting Bella. This highlights her efforts to find the ground between yielding to one's desires and putting Bella's safety first.

Edward Cullen's compromise strategy for overcoming conflict with himself about Bella is evident in the following dialogue:

*I smiled at her, wishing I could display a similar kindness on my face. It came so easily to her.
"That suits me. Bring on the shackles—I'm your prisoner." (Meyer, Chapter 18, para. 296).*

As indicated in the data, Edward Cullen used a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen was caught in an inner conflict between a desire to be close to Bella and a fear of the danger posed by his vampire nature. He struggled to balance his passion and the responsibility to protect Bella. Edward Cullen's response showed a willingness to accept boundaries to maintain his connection with Bella. It signified a shift from avoidance to involvement in the face of conflict. Edward Cullen's use of humor acknowledges the dynamics of forces between himself and Bella and describes a willingness to conform to Bella's wishes. This highlights his efforts to compromise his desire for their relationship. Apart from the tone of a joke, Edward Cullen's words also carry seriousness. He recognized the potential danger of his presence and was willing to accept limits to

ensure Bella's safety. This highlights his commitment to finding a compromise that protects her wishes and Bella's safety.

The following dialogue highlights Edward Cullen's application of a compromise strategy in addressing his conflict with Bella:

"That's certainly a problem," I said slowly. "But that's not what I was thinking of. It's just that you are so soft, so fragile. I have to mind my actions every moment that we're together so that I don't hurt you. I could kill you quite easily, Bella, simply by accident." I reached up carefully to lay my hand against her cheek. "If I was too hasty... if for one second I wasn't paying enough attention, I could reach out, meaning to touch your face, and crush your skull by mistake. You don't realize how incredibly breakable you are. I can never, never afford to lose any kind of control when I'm with you." (Meyer, Chapter 18, para. 418).

According to the above data, Edward Cullen used a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen was fettered by the desire to be close to Bella but was overwhelmed by the fear of the danger posed by its formidable power. He recognized the constant need for self-control and the potential for unintentional harm. Edward Cullen expressed concern for Bella's safety and stressed the need for constant self-control to protect Bella.

The following dialogue describes Edward Cullen's use of a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Rosalie:

"Your life isn't what you wanted," I began quietly. "But in the last seventy years or so, would you say you've had at least five years of pure happiness?"

...

"Let me have my five years, Rosalie," I whispered. "I know it can't last. Let me be happy while happiness is possible. Be part of that happiness. Be my sister, and if you can't love my choice the way I love yours, can you at least pretend to tolerate her?"

...

I'm not sure what I can do. Seeing everything I want... out of my reach... It's too painful.

...

"Will you try?" I demanded, my voice sterner than before.

Her walk slowed for a few seconds, and her eyes were on her feet. Finally, her shoulders slumped and she nodded. I can try. (Meyer, Chapter 19, para. 54).

According to the above data, Edward Cullen used a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Rosalie. Edward Cullen fell between the desire to live happily with Bella and Rosalie's disapproval of his choice. She acknowledged her pain and her impermanence of happiness. Edward Cullen expresses his desire to be happy and begs Rosalie to be a part of that happiness. This indicates a shift from avoidance to open communication and an effort to address Rosalie's concerns. Edward Cullen recognized the temporary nature of his happiness and the difficulty of his situation. This indicates a willingness to compromise by accepting some limitations. Edward Cullen did not expect full acceptance from Rosalie but sought a compromise solution. This highlights his efforts to find a middle point where Rosalie can honor her choice without full consent. At first, Edward Cullen used a demanding tone but softened it into a request when Rosalie hesitated. It shows a shift toward a more compromise strategy.

The following dialogue highlights Edward Cullen's application of a compromise strategy in addressing his conflict with himself:

I wondered if I would ever have gone astray if I had not met Siobhan and others like her. If I hadn't been aware that every other creature like myself—we'd not yet stumbled across Tanya and her sisters—thought the way Carlisle lived was ludicrous. If I had only known Carlisle, and never discovered another code of conduct, I think I would have stayed. It made me ashamed that I'd let myself be influenced by others who were never Carlisle's equals. But I'd envied their freedom. And I'd thought I would be able to live above the moral abyss they all sank to. Because I was special. I shook my head at the arrogance. (Meyer, Chapter 20, para. 100).

The data indicates that Edward Cullen relies on a compromising strategy to overcome his conflict with himself. He did not fully adhere to Carlisle's teachings, but he also did not fully indulge in another dangerous vampire lifestyle. Edward

Cullen admits to being affected by another vampire but also believes in his ability to control that desire.

The following quotation showcases Edward Cullen's implementation of a compromise strategy in managing his conflict with himself:

As I considered them all, every one of those I'd executed, I didn't regret any of their deaths individually. The world was a better place for each one of their absences. But somehow this didn't matter. And in the end, blood was just blood. It quenched my thirst for a few days or weeks, and that was all. Though there was physical pleasure, it was too marred by the pain of my mind. Stubborn as I was, I could not avoid the truth. I was happier without human blood. (Meyer, Chapter 20, para. 137).

The above excerpts indicate that Edward Cullen used a compromise strategy to address his internal conflicts. Edward Cullen could not wholly avoid his need to drink blood. He admitted that he did not regret his decision to kill his prey in the past. It shows a partial acceptance of his biological needs. However, Edward Cullen was morally abused after killing humans. He felt empty and guilty. It signified a rejection of his actions. Edward Cullen realized that human blood could control his bloodlust for a while. However, he knew this was not a permanent solution to his conflict. Despite being tempted by his needs, Edward Cullen remained firm in his moral principles. He was determined to find a way to coexist with his biological needs without violating his values.

The following quotation also suggests Edward Cullen's compromise strategy in overcoming his conflict with Bella:

I coiled into a parody of my actual hunting stance, a loose, playful version. Exposing even more of my teeth, I growled softly; it was almost a purr. ... She swallowed loudly. "You wouldn't." I sprang. ... Launching myself across the room, I scooped her up into my arms as I flew by. ... By design, I'd landed on my back. I held her against my chest, still curled within my arms.

... She tried to glare at me, but her eyes were too wide to make the expression effective. "You were saying?" I asked, my voice a playful snarl. She tried to catch her breath. "That you are... a very, very... terrifying monster." I grinned at her. "Much better." (Meyer, Chapter 20, para. 156).

The data presented above suggests that Edward Cullen implemented a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with himself. He refrains from hurting Bella, avoiding competition and potential danger. However, he still showed his vampire strength by pretending to pounce on Bella. Edward Cullen is looking for a way to interact with Bella safely and comfortably. He adjusts his strategy depending on the situation, demonstrating the flexibility and willingness to negotiate. This dynamic compromise intrigued Bella, leaving her intrigued with Edward Cullen. At the same time, Edward Cullen could maintain control of his bloodlust and keep Bella safe.

The defiant dialogue describes how Edward Cullen implemented a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Rosalie:

She took another deep breath, instantly regretting our agreement. She tried to imagine being in the same place as Bella and... struggled. "Nothing is going to happen tonight, Rose. She's not making any decisions. She's just going to watch us play a game, that's all. Think of it as an experiment." In that... it might blow up? I gave her a tired look. She rolled her eyes. "If it doesn't work, we'll regroup and come up with another solution." (Meyer, Chapter 21, para. 187).

The data above reveals that Edward Cullen used compromise strategies to overcome his conflict with Rosalie. Edward Cullen is trying to negotiate with Rose. He explained his plans and offered an alternative solution if his plans failed. Rose's response suggests that she may disagree but accepts Edward Cullen's plan. It signifies a partial acceptance of a compromise.

Edward Cullen's compromise strategy for overcoming conflict with Bella is described clearly in the following dialogue:

“I infuriate myself,” I told her. “The way I can’t seem to keep from putting you in danger. My very existence puts you at risk. Sometimes... I truly hate myself. I should be stronger, I should be able to—”

...

The confusion had disappeared from her face, leaving only kindness behind. (Meyer, Chapter 21, para. 391).

The data highlights Edward Cullen’s use of compromise strategies in overcoming with his conflict with Bella. He tried to reach out to Bella by expressing his feelings and offering a solution to protect her.

Edward Cullen’s use of a compromise strategy in overcoming with his conflict with Rosalie is evident in the following dialogue:

... Rosalie didn’t acknowledge Bella’s spontaneous applause—she wouldn’t even look at her, instead rolling her eyes at me—but I was surprised to hear that she was ever so slightly... softened. I supposed it wasn’t that remarkable; I knew how much Rosalie craved admiration. (Meyer, Chapter 21, para. 462).

Edward Cullen used a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Rosalie. He tried to ease the tension with Rosalie by offering an alternative solution. She wanted Rose to see Bella and feel her admiration for Rosalie, hoping that she would hail Rose. However, it seems that Rose would deny Edward Cullen his opinion. Nevertheless, Edward Cullen tried hard to devise a standard solution to ease the tension with Rose.

Edward Cullen’s initial strategy for overcoming his conflict with Bella involved a compromise strategy, as the following quotation shows:

For the entire quarter of a second that I was grappling with the tracker, I was barely aware of him as a living creature. He was just an object in my way. I knew that at some point in the near future, I would be jealous of Emmett and Jasper. I would wish for the chance to claw and slash and sever. But that was all meaningless now. I spun. (Meyer, Chapter 26, para. 6).

The data above indicates that Edward Cullen relies on a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with a tracker, James. Edward Cullen started physically fighting with a tracking device to get rid of him. Edward Cullen wrestled

a tracker to protect Bella. However, he placed trackers on Emmet and Jasper to kill while he was trying to save Bella. Edward Cullen's desire to help kill trackers must be ignored because Bella's safety is more important. He seeks a solution that can benefit everyone.

The following dialogue showcases Edward Cullen's implementation of a compromise strategy in managing his conflict with Bella:

"I won't," I told her, while I mentally qualified my answer. Not until you're whole again. Not until you're ready. Not until I find the strength. "Now relax before I call the nurse back to sedate you."

...

I stroked my fingers along her whole cheek. "Bella, I'm not going anywhere. I'll be right here as long as you need me. "Do you swear you won't leave me?" she whispered. Her hand twitched toward her ribs. They must be aching.

...

I took her face in my hands again, let the consuming love I felt for her fill my eyes, and lied with all the experience of a hundred years of daily deception. "I swear." (Meyer, Chapter 29, para. 240).

The data suggests that Edward Cullen implemented a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen understood Bella's strong desire to be a vampire, but he was also concerned about her safety and the negative consequences of that transformation. Edward Cullen postponed his wishes to keep Bella human for a while. He promised to keep Bella company so she would recover first. She tried to comfort Bella with touch and promised to stay by her side, showing her deep concern and concern. Even though Edward Cullen lied in his oath to leave Bella, this demonstrated his strong commitment to keep that promise, even on certain conditions.

Next, the following dialogue suggests a compromise strategy that Edward Cullen implemented to overcome his conflict with Bella:

I reached out to hold her face, and smiled at her with perfect sincerity. This wasn't difficult. All I wanted—all I would ever want— was to look into her eyes forever.

"I told you I'm not going anywhere. Don't be afraid. As long as it makes you happy, I'll be here."

Until you're healthy, until you're ready. Until I find the strength I need. She smiled despite the pain. "You're talking about forever, you know." A mortal kind of forever.

...

I flitted back to Bella, cradling the good side of her face in my hand.

"Stay."

The word was slurred.

"I will," I promised her. She was drifting now, and I felt able to speak the truth.

"Like I said, as long as it makes you happy... as long as it's what's best for you."

She sighed, only partly conscious. "S not the same thing."

"Don't worry about that now, Bella. You can argue with me when you wake up."

The corners of her lips curled into a faint smile. "Kay." (Meyer, Chapter 29, para. 348).

The data above reveal that Edward Cullen used a compromise strategy to overcoming his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen understood Bella's strong desire to be with him forever. However, he was also concerned about her safety and the negative consequences of transforming into a vampire. Edward Cullen chose to promise his presence at Bella's side on certain conditions. He promised to accommodate Bella's wishes, but on the condition that Bella recover first and Edward Cullen finds the strength she needs. This deal is temporary and impermanent. Although Bella realized Edward Cullen's promise was not permanent, she accepted it with a smile and said, "fine." This suggests that the temporary agreement is acceptable to both parties.

Edward Cullen also used a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella, as shown in the following dialogue:

"You're ready now, then?" I asked, raising one eyebrow.

"Um. Yes?" She swallowed, nervous.

...

"Right now?" I whispered.

...

"Yes," she whispered.

My game had failed. I laughed at myself and straightened up. "You can't really believe that I would give in so easily."

...

“Bella.” I hoped she could hear the devotion in my voice. “I will stay with you.” As long as I can, as long as it’s allowed, as long as it doesn’t hurt you. Until the sign comes, until it’s impossible for me to ignore. “Isn’t that enough?” She smiled, but she was unappeased. “Enough for now.” Bella didn’t realize now was all we had. My breath came out as a groan. Her fingertips brushed along the edge of my jaw. “Look,” she said. “I love you more than everything else in the world combined. Isn’t that enough?” And then I could smile a genuine smile. “Yes, it is enough,” I promised. “Enough for forever.” This time I spoke of the real forever. My eternal forever. (Meyer, Chapter 30, para. 329).

As the above data shows, Edward Cullen used a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella. Edward Cullen does not want Bella to turn into a vampire. However, she also understood Bella’s desire to be with Edward Cullen forever. Edward Cullen tried to negotiate by posing a challenge, pretending to change Bella, and waiting for Bella’s reaction. Upon learning of Bella’s true intentions, Edward Cullen agreed to a compromise. Despite the initial disappointment, Bella eventually accepted Edward Cullen’s decision with a smile and declared, “Enough for now.” It shows that the deal has been reached.

5. Creative Integration

Creative integration is portrayed as the most effective conflict-resolution strategy (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986). Creative integration is a conflict resolution strategy that seeks to find a solution that meets the underlying needs and goals of all parties involved, even if it requires reframing the way the conflict is perceived. The researcher came up with data related to the creative integration strategy used by Edward Cullen as follows:

Edward Cullen’s first use of creative integration strategies in overcoming conflict with Bella can be observed in the following dialogue:

I wasn’t going to lie to her, and there was no way I was agreeing to that. Perhaps if I offered her a different exchange.

“How about if I mean it, and I agree to let you drive this Saturday?” I shuddered internally at the thought.

The furrow popped into existence between her eyes as she considered the new bargain. “Deal,” she said after a moment of thought. (Meyer, Chapter 12, para. 190).

In the data above, Edward Cullen used a creative integration strategy to overcome conflict with Bella. He did not immediately present an existing solution but sought a creative new one. Edward Cullen offers a solution that meets both needs. Bella gets the honesty she wants, while Edward Cullen can still overcome Bella’s desire to drive the next time by still considering the security factors.

Edward Cullen’s next creative integration strategy to overcome conflicts with himself is described in the following dialogue:

For the first time, as I breathed in the sear of her scent, I let myself imagine it. Rather than blocking my thoughts, cutting them off and forcing them deep down, out of my conscious mind, I allowed them to range unfettered. They did not go willingly, not now. But I forced myself to go where I had always avoided. (Meyer, Chapter 17, para. 372).

Edward Cullen used creative strategies to remedy his conflict with Bella based on the above data. In the face of an internal conflict between his vampire desires and his love for Bella, Edward Cullen shows a significant change in mindset. For the first time, he allowed himself to “imagine” the possibilities he had been avoiding. He no longer blocked his thoughts on his vampire desires. This suggests Edward Cullen’s efforts to deal directly with his internal conflicts. Further, Edward Cullen forced himself to “go where he was always trying to avoid.” It demonstrated his courage to face his fears and his pent-up desires.

The creative integration strategy that Edward Cullen used in overcoming his conflict with himself is evident in the following quotations:

I played the sequence of events through to the end, surprised, even as I let these taboo imaginings loose, at how little they appealed to me now. Even withholding

the inevitable sequel—the return of the thirst, the emptiness of the world without her—I felt no desire to act on my imaginings.

I also saw very clearly in that moment that there was no separate monster and never had been one. Eager to disconnect my mind from my desires, I had—as was my habit—personified that hated part of myself to distance it from the parts that I considered me. Just as I had created the harpy to give myself someone to fight. It was a coping mechanism, and not a very good one. Better to see myself as the whole, bad and good, and work with the reality of it. (Meyer, Chapter 17, para. 378).

The data above suggest that Edward Cullen implemented a creative integration strategy to overcome his opposition to himself. Edward Cullen no longer avoided his forbidden imagination of vampire desire but dared to confront it. Interestingly, Edward Cullen was surprised by his lack of attraction to it. This suggests a shift in perspective and a rejection of what he previously considered a strong desire.

The following excerpts provide evidence of Edward Cullen's use of the creative integration strategy to overcome his conflict with himself:

INSISTING UPON DRIVING HAD BEEN A VERY GOOD IDEA.

There were all those things, of course, that would be out of the question if she needed to concentrate her human senses on the road—hand-holding, eye-gazing, general joy-radiating. But more than this, the feeling of being filled to the point of bursting with pure light hadn't dimmed at all. I knew how overwhelming it was for me; I wasn't sure how much it would compromise a human system. Much safer to let my inhuman system tend to the road. (Meyer, Chapter 18, para. 1).

Based on the above quotation, Edward Cullen implemented a creative integration strategy to overcome his conflict with himself. Edward Cullen was caught up in the conflict between a desire for physical intimacy with Bella and a fear of the dangers her presence as a vampire would cause. Her desire to hold hands, be intimate, and experience happiness with Bella conflicts with her realization that her “radiance” presence could pose a danger to Bella as a human being. Edward Cullen showed a compromise strategy, insisting on driving himself. This describes her desire to stay close to Bella on the road while avoiding risky activities. Edward

Cullen's decision to drive can also be seen as an effort to stay physically separate from Bella while staying in one vehicle, thus reducing the potential danger of her strong presence.

The following excerpt describes how Edward Cullen implemented a creative integration strategy to overcome his conflict with himself:

"But as time went on," I continued, wondering how much she'd intuited that I hadn't said, "I began to see the monster in my eyes. I couldn't escape the debt of so much human life taken, no matter how justified. And I went back to Carlisle and Esme. They welcomed me back like the prodigal. It was more than I deserved." I remembered their arms around me, remembered the joy in their minds when I returned. (Meyer, Chapter 20, para. 130).

The above data suggests that Edward Cullen used a creative integration strategy to overcome his conflict with himself. Edward Cullen returned to Carlisle and Esme, seeking new solutions and support. These actions signaled the beginning of creative integration, where he no longer focused on avoiding his needs or justifying his past. Edward Cullen began looking for a way to integrate his biological needs with a desire for moral living. Carlisle and Esme's support allowed Edward Cullen to work out a long-term solution.

The following excerpts are examples of the application of Edward Cullen's creative integration strategy in overcoming conflict with James:

*James thrust forward into a crouch. His mind was empty of thought besides the hunt, intent on immediate gratification.
I gave him something else to think about.
I crouched in front of Bella, ready to launch myself into the hunter before he could get any closer to her, all my abilities concentrated on his thoughts. ... (Meyer, Chapter 22, para. 73).*

Based on the data, Edward Cullen implemented a creative integration strategy to overcome his conflict with James. Faced with the danger that James wanted to hunt down Bella, Edward Cullen did not choose to avoid conflict. Instead,

he prepares to protect Bella by hitting James first. However, Edward Cullen did more than just fight physically. He used his unique vampire abilities to interfere with James' mind, give him a tactical advantage, and become a creative way of overcoming with threats. Edward Cullen's actions exemplify a creative integration strategy. He innovatively blends his physical and supernatural powers to distract James and protect Bella.

The following dialogue is an application of Edward Cullen's creative integration strategy in overcoming conflict with James:

"Let's just look at our options for a minute," Alice coaxed.

...

Alice saw one version of the future in which the tracker lost interest and abandoned the chase.

...

It looked just like the old vision, but I could tell it was new. Freshly generated. Bella, her eyes blazing a red so bright it nearly glowed, her features as sharp as though they had been chiseled from diamond, her skin whiter than ice.

Sure enough, the tracker disappeared from this version of destiny.

And Bella's brilliant eyes stared at me coldly... accusingly.

I wrenched the Jeep onto the shoulder and braked hard. We jerked to a stop. (Meyer, Chapter 22, para. 125).

Referring to the above data, Edward Cullen implemented a creative integration strategy to overcome his opposition to James. With the precarious situation of being chased, Edward Cullen was focused on more than just the escape option. He considered Alice's new vision to reveal an unexpected solution by transforming Bella into a vampire. Edward Cullen was receptive to Alice's suggestion and considered the vision, showing he was open to creative and innovative solutions to conflict. Alice's vision offered a new and unprecedented way to create the trackers to reverse, signalling that Edward Cullen could adapt and find the best solution in a difficult situation. This strategy reflected Edward Cullen's

intellect and agility in thinking and acting. It is not tied to traditional thought patterns but is daring to try new solutions that may have never been tried.

Still with James, the creative integration strategy Edward Cullen used in resolving conflict is described in the following conversation:

“We’ll leave Esme and Rosalie here again. The redhead won’t come near them. Get Bella ready. We’ll keep the same groups. Emmett, Carlisle, and I will take her somewhere far away, somewhere random, till we can figure out the next step. You find her mother.” (Meyer, Chapter 24, para. 179).

The above data suggests that Edward Cullen used a creative integration strategy to overcome his conflict with James. Edward Cullen’s overcoming of conflict describes his intelligence and ability to think creatively in dangerous situations. He did not hesitate to take risks and risk his own life to protect those he loved. Edward Cullen plans to take Bella somewhere safe and far away from lurking danger. Edward Cullen, Emmet, and Carlisle focus on protecting Bella, while Jasper and Alice are told to find Renee. It was to distract the tracker and give him time to escape with Bella.

Next, the following dialogue describes how Edward Cullen implemented his creative integration strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella:

“Stay, Edward,” Bella sighed, peaceful now. “Stay with me...” Her quiet voice slid into my head, somehow stronger than Alice’s panic, louder than all the chaos inside and around me. The sound of her confidence was a key turning; it seemed to reconnect my brain to my body. It made me whole again. And I simply let her hand fall away from my lips. I raised my head and looked at her face. Still spattered with blood, still ashy, eyes closed, but calm now. Her pain was eased. “I will,” I promised her through bloodstained lips. (Meyer, Chapter 26, para. 251).

Edward Cullen implemented a creative integration strategy to overcome his conflict with Bella, as listed in the above data. Edward Cullen faced two dilemmas, protecting Bella from becoming a vampire and keeping her promise to always be

with Bella. Edward Cullen did not choose to walk away or just follow Bella's wishes. Neither does he insist on his way or resort to compromise. Bella's peace and trust in Edward Cullen is the key to Edward Cullen finding a solution. The calm Bella voice helped Edward Cullen regain focus and a clear mind. Despite her blood covering her lips, Edward Cullen's promise to stay with Bella demonstrated his commitment to overcoming the two conflicts. Though weak, Bella's smile proved she accepted the solution that Edward Cullen offered. Edward Cullen's use of creative strategies reveals the maturity and complexity of his character in overcoming with conflict. He not only focused on one side but also took into account Bella's needs and feelings.

BAB V

CONCLUSION

In this chapter, the researcher offers conclusions about this study and suggestions for further analysis. Conclusions have been drawn from discussions about the sources of Edward Cullen's conflicts and how he overcomes them in Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*. Meanwhile, the suggestions provide information to other researcher interested in researching the same issue.

A. Conclusion

Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun* is a novel about the illicit love between a vampire and a human. The central conflict lies in the natural differences between Edward Cullen, the vampire, and Bella, the human. This complex clash within *Midnight Sun* corresponds with the Deetz and Stevenson's conflict concept because it explains that conflict is not only just the opposition but also involves various aspects, such as the source of conflict and a strategic solution.

The first research question suggests that Edward Cullen suffers from all the sources of conflict mentioned by Deetz and Stevenson, including differing opinions, incompatible roles, incompatible goals, and limited resources. The first source of Edward Cullen's conflict was differing opinions with Ms. Cope, Bella, Carlisle, Rosalie, Alice, Emmet, Jasper, Siobhan. The source of the next conflict was Edward Cullen's incompatible roles with himself. The next source of conflict is incompatible goals, one that occurs between Edward Cullen and himself, Emmet,

Jasper, Tanya, Bella, Mike, Jacob, Rosalie, Carlisle, James, Alice, and Tyler. The source of the last conflict was limited resources. In the source of this conflict, Edward Cullen is conflicted with himself.

Edward Cullen, on the second research question, has various ways of overcoming conflict, including avoidance, pacification, competition, compromise, and creative integration, as Deetz and Stevenson have put it. The first conflict management strategy used by Edward Cullen was avoidance, which was used with Bella, Ms. Cope, Rosalie, Emmet, Alice, and Jacob. Then, a second conflict management strategy is pacification, which Edward Cullen uses to overcome his conflict with Bella and Rosalie. Next, Edward Cullen uses competition strategies to overcome with his conflict with himself, Mike, Emmet, Rosalie, James, Bella, and Tyler. Edward Cullen also used a compromise strategy to overcome his conflict with Tanya, himself, Bella, Siobhan, Rosalie, Tanya, and James. Edward Cullen's last conflict management strategy was creative integration, which was used to address his conflict with Bella, himself, and James.

B. Suggestion

As a suggestion to future researcher interested in studying conflict, the researcher recommends a comparative analysis of the character of another fictional character who experiences a similar conflict. Further research on the Edward Cullen conflicts at *Midnight Sun* can contribute significantly to understanding interpersonal conflict, communication, and fictional characters. This study can also

help readers, especially *Twilight* lovers and *Midnight Sun*, understand better the complexity of forbidden love and the personal problems faced in resolving conflict.

It is essential to acknowledge, however, that there are limits to this study, including a small sample size and a focus on one fictional character, Edward Cullen. The study relies solely on analysis of the conflict experienced by Edward Cullen in Stephenie Meyer's *Midnight Sun*, without considering the adaptation or interpretation of the character in any other work. However, the researcher hopes this research is the basis for further research on how Edward Cullen overcame its consonants and literary representation. We must continue exploring and understanding the conflicts in literary works to increase our understanding of interpersonal communication management and guide those experiencing similar conflicts.

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