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A STUDY OF TYPES OF MORAL VALUES IN THE MAIN CHARACTER OF CARSTEN HENN'S NOVEL "DOOR-TO-DOOR **BOOKSTORE**"

Abstract

This study examines the moral values of the main character, Carl Kollhoff, in Carsten Henn's "The Door-to-Door Bookstore", using Linda and Richard Eyre's theory of moral values. The analysis shows that Carl demonstrates a strong moral foundation, displaying qualities such as honesty, integrity, humility, self-awareness, understanding, potential, responsibility, and motivation. Carl also highlights generosity values, including kindness, compassion, empathy, understanding, appreciation, responsibility, consideration, and respect. These values are evident in interactions with customers, commitment to the profession, and willingness to help those in need. This research contributes to the understanding of moral values in literature by applying a specific theoretical framework and providing a detailed analysis of fictional characters. It also emphasizes the importance of ethical values in promoting a more humane and just society.

Keywords: Moral, Value, Being, Giving.

Abstrak

Studi ini meneliti nilai-nilai moral dari tokoh utama, Carl Kollhoff, dalam novel "The Door-to-Door Bookstore" karya Carsten Henn, dengan menggunakan teori nilai moral dari Linda dan Richard Eyre. Hasil analisis menunjukkan bahwa Carl menunjukkan dasar moral yang kuat, dengan menampilkan kualitas seperti kejujuran, integritas, kerendahan hati, kesadaran diri, pemahaman, potensi, tanggung jawab, dan motivasi. Carl juga menonjolkan nilai-nilai kemurahan hati, termasuk kebaikan, kasih sayang, empati, pemahaman, penghargaan, tanggung jawab, pertimbangan, dan rasa hormat. Nilai-nilai ini tampak jelas dalam interaksi dengan pelanggan, komitmen terhadap profesi, serta kesediaan untuk membantu mereka yang membutuhkan. Penelitian ini berkontribusi pada pemahaman nilai-nilai moral dalam literatur dengan menerapkan kerangka kerja teoretis yang spesifik dan memberikan analisis terperinci tentang karakter fiksi. Penelitian ini juga menekankan pentingnya nilai-nilai etika dalam mempromosikan masyarakat yang lebih manusiawi dan adil.

Kata Kunci: Moral, Nilai, Keberadaan, Memberi.

INTRODUCTION

Literature is the artistic expression of human thought and emotion through written language, encompassing various forms such as poetry, drama, and prose (Deffiar & Dewi, 2024). Novels, a prominent genre within literature, serve as a profound medium for storytelling, allowing authors to craft elaborate narratives that delve into the complexities of life. Through novels, readers can embark on journeys into different worlds, eras, and perspectives, gaining a deeper understanding of the human experience. This connection between literature and novels not only provides entertainment but also fosters empathy, reflection, and a greater appreciation for diverse cultures and viewpoints (Sari, 2019).

A novel is a lengthy, fictional narrative that explores characters, settings, and plots in great depth (Pratiwi, 2019). This literary form allows authors to delve into intricate storylines and develop multifaceted characters, providing readers with a rich and immersive experience. Science fiction, fantasy, romance, mystery, historical fiction, and more are all possible genres

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for novels. Readers can relate to the narrative on a personal level since they frequently depict societal challenges, cultural backgrounds, and human emotions. Through the pages of a novel, one can embark on journeys to different worlds, times, and perspectives, all crafted through the artful use of language (Hendrawati, 2017).

In addition, "The Door-to-Door Bookstore" novel by Carsten Henn (2023) is a heartwarming tale about Carl Kollhoff, an elderly bookseller in a small German town. Carl's life revolves around his bookstore and his special customers, to whom he delivers books in the evenings after closing time. He knows their reading preferences intimately and carefully selects the perfect stories for each individual, fostering a deep connection with them the moment when Carl was on the brink of losing his job and feeling down, a clever nine-year-old girl entered his life with love, rekindling his hopes for books and community.

Unconsciously, with her enthusiasm, Scahasha spreads her love for reading, inspiring Carl to enjoy books again. With the rekindling of the bond they share with their customers, they come together. The timeless magic of books, resilience, and friendship became a lesson for them as they shared stories and laughter. The Door-to-Door Bookstore is a feel-good novel that celebrates the power of books to bring people together, reminding us of the importance of human connection and the transformative nature of storytelling (Henn, 2023).

Therefore, The protagonist, often referred to as the main character, is the primary character that the narrative centers around (Hasby & Islami, 2020). This character typically faces significant challenges, undergoes development, and drives the plot forward. The protagonist's actions, decisions, and experiences are crucial to the narrative, and readers often form a deep emotional connection with them. Through the protagonist's journey, themes and messages of the novel are explored, making the main character a vital element in the storytelling process (Andriani et al., 2023).

Carsten Henn, also known as Carsten Sebastian Henn, is a German author, dramatist, and journalist. He is well-known for his novels, particularly in the crime genre, as well as his works on wine and culinary topics. Some of his notable works include the Julius Eichendorff series, which combines culinary themes with detective stories, and The Door-to-Door Bookstore, which has gained popularity among readers. Henn is also a respected wine journalist and critic, contributing to various national and international publications (Piper, n.d.).

This study is connected to the earlier research by Dea Deffiar and Ratna Sari Dewi titled Moral Values in Johanna Spyri Novel "Heidi." The fact that both of researchers analyzed moral values suggests that they looked at. According to Linda and Richard Eyre's thesis, what kinds of moral values are presented in the main character of Carten Hennn's novel "DOOR-TO-DOOR BOOKSHOP"? Nonetheless, the present study sets itself apart by emphasizing certain categories of moral principles exhibited by the protagonist. This research focused on how the moral value in the novel is relevant to the contemporary situation and cultural background. However, the previous study may have offered a more comprehensive examination of different sorts of moral values utilizing Buzan's approach (Deffiar & Dewi, 2024).

A direct comparison of studies employing both is needed to effectively compare the specificity and limitations of research using Linda and Richard Eyre's theory versus Buzan's theory. The available information focuses on the authors themselves, not a comparative analysis of their theoretical frameworks in practical application. Therefore, a conclusive statement about which approach offers more specificity or fewer limitations cannot be made without further research into studies that have directly contrasted their application in similar contexts.

To conduct such a comparison, one would need to identify research papers that have utilized Linda, Richard Eyre, and Buzan's theories to analyze similar subjects. This would allow for a direct assessment of the scope, detail, and limitations of each theoretical framework in practice. By examining the specific findings and conclusions of these studies, a more nuanced understanding of the relative strengths and weaknesses of each approach could be developed

Above all, "moral values are the norms and tenets that help people discern between good and wrong actions" (Fløistad, 2014). They are deeply rooted in one's cultural, societal, and personal beliefs and shape ethical conduct and decision-making. Examples of moral values include honesty, integrity, kindness, respect, and fairness. These values help individuals and

communities to live harmoniously and foster a sense of trust and cooperation. Moral values often serve as a compass, guiding people to act in ways that promote well-being, justice, and positive relationships (Mahendra & Amelia, 2020).

Introduction to moral values, moral values play a crucial role in shaping human behaviour and interactions within society based on Linda and Richard Eyre's book Teaching Your Children Values (2010), The division of moral values is divided into two main groups: "Values of Being" and "Values of Giving." Between the two, there are pragmatic differences in aspects of morality that influence how individuals socialize and interact with others. These two categories must be understood in order to behave ethically and maintain positive relationships in various social aspects.

Furthermore, the Values of being encompass inherent traits fundamental to personal development and character formation, including honesty, courage, peace, independence, selfcontrol, and loyalty. This is considered an urgent characteristic in behaving and relating to someone. Additionally, values such as peace and self-control promote harmony and conflict resolution, which are very important in personal growth while also serving as the foundation of moral behavior in society.

One of the important components of the "value of being" is integrity and responsibility, which are emphasized as very important in loyalty (Eyre & Richard, 2010; Wati, 2022). Ethical principles and consistency in actions are reflected in each individual's self. These values contribute to moral behavior, personal development in morality, and personal progress due to the drive to become a person of integrity. By developing these qualities, individuals can enhance their character and make a positive impact on their community.

On the contrary, "values of giving" focus on how individuals interact and dedicate themselves to others. This category includes values such as loyalty, respect for human life, love, kindness, and compassion (Eyre & Richard, 2010). Respect emphasizes the dignity of all living beings, while loyalty is reinforced by trust between individuals. Love and kindness evoke emotional and deep relationships, then encourage empathy, prompting individuals to act and consider the well-being of others.

In addition, one of the categories of "values of giving" is justice accompanied by compassion. This principle emphasizes the importance of fairness while recognizing the need for forgiveness and understanding in human interactions. Together, the "Values of Being" and "Values of Giving" guide individuals in creating a more just, compassionate, and harmonious society. By embodying these moral values, individuals can contribute to a culture of empathy and cooperation, ultimately fostering a community where ethical behavior and positive relationships thrive (Wati, 2022). Understanding and applying these values is essential for personal growth and the betterment of society as a whole.

Further, human behavior deemed socially acceptable is often termed morality. Individuals with strong values act morally, shaping their conduct within society (Hastuti et al., 2023). Society instils moral principles to foster character development and maintain ethical well-being. Actions are judged as good or bad based on societal norms, but moral values also stem from individual conscience (Mahendra & Amelia, 2020). These values are crucial for developing positive social and spiritual attitudes, ultimately enhancing character. However, many struggle to consistently practice virtues like honesty and forgiveness, perhaps due to an unawareness of their benefits or a lack of appreciation for their importance in building ethical character (Pratiwi, 2019).

Buzan (2003) and Marzal et al. (1990) categorized moral values, suggesting that they may be divided into groups such as accountability, cooperation, sincerity, love and affection, diligence, persistence, honesty, courage, kindness, loyalty, and strong belief (Suroso & Husin, 2024). This framework highlights the diverse aspects of morality, emphasizing both personal virtues like honesty and bravery and social values like responsibility and cooperation.

In addition to personal virtues, the framework also emphasizes social values such as responsibility and cooperation (Curry et al., 2022). These values highlight the significance of ethical interactions and relationships within a community. Responsibility involves acknowledging and fulfilling one's duties and obligations, while cooperation emphasizes working harmoniously with others toward common goals. Together, these values create a sense

of community and mutual respect. Integrating personal and social values provides a holistic view of morality, encouraging individuals to develop not only their ethical character but also to contribute positively to the broader social fabric.

Moral values, which are inextricably linked to human behaviors, are determined by society standards that specify what constitutes good or bad behavior. (Suroso and Husin, 2024). According to Thomas Lickona's view, these values include a variety of rules that govern ethical action. Lickona's list of key moral values includes "respect, accountability, honesty, justice, tolerance, self-control, self-discipline, helpfulness, compassion, collaboration, courage, and democratic ideals". These values influence how people interact with others and make decisions, instilling a sense of ethical duty and fostering harmony and justice in society. Lickona's framework allows us to have a deeper understanding of the fundamental moral principles that underpin human conduct and societal functioning.

Frauke Albersmeier's book "The Concept of Moral Progress" dives into the complex idea of moral progress, examining how our understanding of right and wrong develops. Published in 2022 as part of the "Practical Philosophy" series, this book explores various ethical systems, including Consequentialism, Kantianism, Virtue Ethics, and Liberalism. Albersmeier offers a comprehensive framework for understanding the various ways we grapple with moral issues and seeks to deepen our ethical knowledge by examining these various approaches to morality (Hasby & Islami, 2020).

METHOD

This research employed a qualitative methodology to analyze Carl Kollhoff's moral values in The Door-to-Door Bookstore. It followed Creswell's (2018) guidelines for qualitative data analysis using purposeful sampling. It gathered open-ended data from the novel's text and presented the findings in tables to illustrate the identified moral values. This approach allowed for a detailed application of Linda Eyre's moral value theory to a fictional character.

The conventional view that qualitative research is limited to descriptive analysis is directly challenged by this research. While acknowledging the common criticism that causal explanations are best derived from quantitative methods, this study demonstrates how in-depth qualitative analysis, using a systematic approach, can provide a robust explanation of Carl Kollhoff's moral character. A careful and complete reading of the novel was undertaken, observed behaviors were linked to specific moral values, the data was summarized in a table, and finally, the patterns of moral values revealed in the table were analyzed.

This methodology, therefore, offers a rigorous approach to understanding complex moral dimensions within a literary text. By meticulously documenting and analyzing textual evidence, a strong, qualitative explanation of Carl Kollhoff's moral values is provided, contributing to a nuanced understanding of the character and the broader application of moral value theories within literary analysis.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

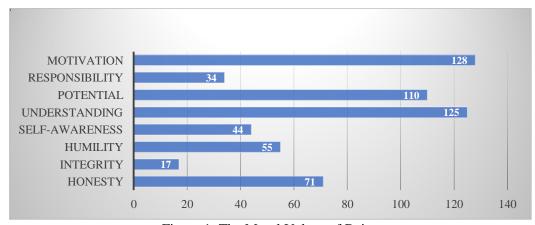


Figure 1. The Moral Values of Being

The table above shows that the main character embodies the values of motivation, responsibility, potential, understanding, self-awareness, humility, integrity, and honesty. These values align with the theory of Linda and Richard Eyre. The main character shows that the value of motivation is more dominant than the others, with a significant finding of 128, followed by the other values: understanding 125, potential 110, honesty 71, humility 55, self-awareness 44, responsibility 34, and integrity 17. According to Linda and Richard Eyre (New York; Touchstone, 2010), Moral values are divided into two groups:

1. Values of being

The concept of "the value of being" refers to the intrinsic worth inherent in every evolved human being, which influences our behavior and interactions with others (Eyre & Richard, 2010). It emphasizes the recognition and appreciation of each individual's unique existence and humanity. This value manifests in our actions, attitudes, and the way we treat one another, guiding us to show respect, empathy, and kindness. By acknowledging the fundamental values of every person, we create a foundation for ethical behavior and positive relationships, fostering a more compassionate and just society (Mahendra & Amelia, 2020). It included:

- Honesty: the state of being true, truthful, and devoid of fraud or deception. It entails acting and speaking fairly and transparently (Eyre & Richard, 2010). This kind of moral value is found in the chapter A Man for All Seasons, page (number).
 - Carl would never dream of recommending a novel without a happy end to her, but on no account would he rob Ursel Schäfer of the tiny thrill of wondering whether this one would be different."
 - That passage describes that while Carl wants to protect Ursel, he also values honesty. He does not want to mislead her by explicitly guaranteeing a happy ending. He believes she deserves the opportunity to experience the suspense and potential surprise of an uncertain outcome.
- Integrity: Strong moral and ethical standards are upheld, and behaviors, attitudes, strategies, and policies are all in line with them (Albersmeier, 2024). It implies honesty and reliability in all circumstances. This kind of moral value is found in the chapter *The Stranger*, page (number).
 - People trust you," Gustav was saying. "That is the most important thing for a bookseller. When you recommend a book, the customer does not just hope they will enjoy it—they are certain of it. Moreover, if they do not enjoy it, it must be their fault, not yours." He winked. That passage describes that Gustav's statement, "People trust you," highlights the importance of honesty and integrity in the role of a bookseller. He emphasizes the trust that customers place in booksellers' recommendations, suggesting that this trust should be earned and maintained through ethical practices and genuine guidance.
- c. Humility: The quality of having a modest view of one's importance and abilities. It involves recognizing one's limitations and being open to learning from others (Mahendra & Amelia, 2020). This kind of moral value is found in the chapter *Great Expectations*, page (number). "Ah, no matter how many books I read, there will always be more that I have not read. That is the tragedy. Anyone who enjoys reading wants to read every good book there is." The passage describes how he demonstrates humility by recognizing his limitations. Despite reading extensively, he acknowledges that he will never be able to read everything, showing a healthy awareness of his knowledge and a willingness to embrace the vastness of literature.
- d. Self-awareness: conscious awareness of one's personality, emotions, motivations, and desires. It involves recognizing one's strengths and weaknesses, as well as understanding how one's actions impact others (Sari, 2019). This kind of moral value is found in the chapter *The Stranger*, page (number).
 - Carl barked a laugh. It felt like an old, rusty engine suddenly springing to life. "You have got a funny laugh," said Schascha, "like you do not quite know how."
 - That passage describes Carl's laugh as "like he does not quite know how," hinting at a degree of self-awareness. He might be aware that his laugh is unusual, but he is not ashamed of it, suggesting a comfortable relationship with his quirks and imperfections.

- e. Understanding: The capacity to understand something's nature, importance, or meaning. It involves empathy, insight, and the capacity to comprehend different perspectives and contexts (Hasby & Islami, 2020). This kind of moral value is found in the chapter A Man for All Seasons, page (number).
 - Carl smiled. He knew exactly why Leon's sister had taken to reading.
 - That passage describes Carl's smile, suggesting that he understands Leon's sister's motivations well. He is able to see beyond the surface and grasp the reasons behind her actions, demonstrating empathy and insight.
- Potential: The inherent ability or capacity for growth, development, or future achievement. It refers to the possibilities that exist within an individual or situation that can be realized through effort and opportunity (Sari, 2019). This kind of moral value is found in the chapter Journey to the End of the Night, page (number).
 - "I have been giving your name some thought," said Carl
 - That passage describes Carl's statement as suggesting a potential for respect and consideration. He is taking the time to think about the other person's name, implying a willingness to engage thoughtfully and to treat them with care. This indicates a desire to understand and appreciate the other person.
- Responsibility: Facts and circumstances have an obligation to handle the situation well and take responsibility for every action taken by the individual. It is important to realize and accept responsibility in order to create positive and effective results in various aspects of life. (Fløistad, 2014). It involves reliability, trustworthiness, and the obligation to make ethical and effective decisions. This kind of moral value is found in the chapter Words, page (number).
 - Carl Kollhoff had made it quite plain that she was his only hope.
 - That passage describes Carl's statement as highlighting a sense of responsibility and duty. He recognizes that he has a crucial role to play in helping Mrs. Longstocking and that she is relying on him. This suggests a strong sense of obligation and a commitment to supporting others in need.
- Motivation: the explanation or reasons for a person's actions or behaviour. It includes the motivation that comes from within or from outside sources to motivate someone to act and accomplish their objectives (Inavyah & Simanjuntak, 2022). This kind of moral value is found in the chapter *Tracks* page (number).
 - He received no money on delivery; his customers had long since moved to bank transfer direct to the bookshop's account.
 - That passage describes Carl's motivation for accepting this change. Is he simply adapting to the new reality of his business, or is he seeking to streamline his work, avoid unnecessary contact with customers, or achieve some other goal? This invites us to consider the complexities of business decisions and the potential for different motivations behind seemingly simple changes.

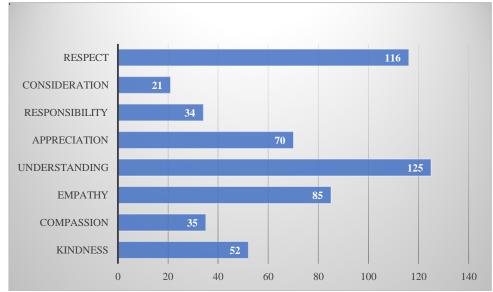


Figure 2. The Moral Values of Giving

The table above shows that the main character embodies the values of respect, consideration, responsibility, appreciation, understanding, empathy, compassion, and kindness. These values align with Linda and Richard Eyre's theory. The main character shows that the value of understanding is more dominant than the others, with a significant finding of 125, followed by the other values: respect 116, empathy 85, appreciation 70, kindness 52, compassion 35, responsibility 34, and consideration 21.

2. Values of Giving

Values of giving are essential principles that guide our interactions and relationships with others, emphasizing the importance of loyalty, respect, love, and compassion (Eyre & Richard, 2010). Loyalty fosters trust and reliability in our connections, while respect ensures that we honor the dignity and worth of every individual. Love drives us to care deeply and selflessly, enhancing emotional bonds and creating a sense of belonging. Compassion motivates us to empathize with others' suffering and offer kindness and support (Hendrawati, 2017). By embracing these values, we cultivate a more harmonious and supportive environment, enriching both personal relationships and the broader community.

- a. Kindness: The trait of being amiable, kind, and thoughtful. It involves acts of goodwill and a genuine desire to help and make others feel better (Syamaun et al., 2019). This kind of moral value is found in the chapter *The Red and the Black* page (number).
 - Carl had been determined to tell her she could not come with him today, but at the sight of her clothing, he did not have the heart. "Don't girls of your age prefer wearing pink?" he asked.
 - That passage describes Carl's change of heart about letting Schascha accompany him despite his initial determination, which demonstrates kindness and compassion. He recognizes her vulnerability and chooses to be accommodating, suggesting a caring and empathetic nature.
- b. Compassion: The sympathetic awareness of others' distress combined with a desire to alleviate it (Pratiwi, 2019). It involves feeling deep empathy for others and taking action to assist them. This kind of moral value is found in the chapter *The Stranger*, page (number). The following day, Carl visited Gustav Gruber, his former boss, at the Münsterblick care home.
 - That passage describes visiting Gustav at a care home as suggesting compassion and empathy. Carl recognizes that his former boss is in a vulnerable situation and is willing to make an effort to visit him, demonstrating a caring and considerate nature.
- c. Empathy: The capacity to comprehend and share another's emotions. It entails placing oneself in someone else's shoes and feeling their feelings (Inayyah & Simanjuntak, 2022). This kind of moral value is found in the chapter *Words* page (number). "It must hurt," said Carl

- That passage describes Carl's statement as demonstrating empathy and compassion for Schascha. He acknowledges her pain and expresses understanding of her feelings, suggesting a caring and thoughtful nature.
- Understanding: is the ability to grasp the meaning, significance, or nature of something. It involves empathy, insight, and the capacity to comprehend different perspectives and contexts (Wati, 2022). This kind of moral value is found in the chapter The Red and The Black, page (number).
 - When Schascha said the word, Carl took it to mean Understood; they won't each be given a book they should read. In fact, it had meant, You can think that as much as you like, but I see it totally differently, and I'll do what I please, whatever you think. The word okay was much bigger on the inside.
 - The passage highlights the potential for miscommunication and the importance of understanding different perspectives. Carl's interpretation of "okay" as a simple affirmation ("Understood") completely misses Schascha's intended meaning, which is a more complex and defiant statement ("You can think that as much as you like, but I see it totally differently, and I will do what I please"). This underscores the need for clear communication and the importance of being sensitive to nuances in language.
- Appreciation: The recognition and enjoyment of someone or something are good qualities. It involves expressing gratitude and valuing the efforts and contributions of others (Andriani et al., 2023). This kind of moral value is found in the chapter Great Expectations page (number).
 - "Ah, no matter how many books I read, there will always be more that I have not read. That is the tragedy. Anyone who enjoys reading wants to read every good book there is."
 - That passage describes The Reader's statement as expressing an appreciation for the vastness and richness of literature. He acknowledges that there is a seemingly endless supply of good books to explore, indicating a deep love for reading and a recognition of its value.
- Responsibility: The state or fact of having a responsibility to cope with something or being held accountable for one's conduct. It entails dependability, trustworthiness, and the responsibility to make ethical and productive judgments (Dewi & Tarihoran, 2022). This kind of moral value is found in the chapter *The Stranger* page (number).
 - They said their goodbyes, and Carl was then obliged to accept the next alteration to his precise routine since he would have to take Schascha back to Münsterplatz instead of heading directly home.
 - That passage describes Carl's decision to take Schascha back to Münsterplatz, despite disrupting his "precise routine," as demonstrating responsibility and care. He shows empathy and a readiness to act in others' best interests by putting Schascha's welfare ahead of his comfort and acknowledging that she has to be brought home securely.
- Consideration: Quality of being thoughtful and mindful of others' feelings and needs. It involves showing concern and respect for others in one's actions and decisions (Fløistad, 2014). This kind of moral value is found in the chapter *The Stranger* page (number). Carl always visited Gustav between breakfast and lunch.
 - That passage describes that choosing a specific time slot for a visit might also indicate consideration for Gustav's needs and routines. Carl likely understands that Gustav may have his schedule and preferences within the care home, and he is respecting those by choosing a time that's likely to be convenient. This suggests a degree of empathy and a desire to minimize disruption to Gustav's day.
- h. Respect: Admiration and respect for the rights, feelings, wishes, and skills of others. It entails treating people with dignity and respecting their individuality (Hastuti et al., 2023). This kind of moral value is found in the chapter *A Man for All Seasons* page (number).
 - "I hope it lives up to your recommendation." Hohenesch took the book but did not unwrap it.
 - That passage describes how Hohenesch leaves the book wrapped, showing respect for the gift itself. He acknowledges the effort Carl put into selecting the book and chooses to preserve its initial presentation, potentially valuing the gesture behind the gift.

CONCLUSION

This research examines the moral values of Carl Kollhoff, the protagonist in Carsten Henn's novel The Door-to-Door Bookstore, using Linda and Richard Eyre's theory of moral values. The analysis reveals that Carl demonstrates a strong moral foundation, embodying qualities like honesty, integrity, humility, self-awareness, understanding, potential, responsibility, and motivation. He also exhibits values of giving, including kindness, compassion, empathy, understanding, appreciation, responsibility, consideration, and respect. These values are evident in his interactions with customers, his commitment to his craft, and his willingness to help those in need. The study contributes to the understanding of moral values in literature by applying a specific theoretical framework and providing a detailed analysis of a fictional character. It also emphasizes the significance of moral values in fostering a more compassionate and just society.

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