Judith Moore’s multiple father fantasies signify her yearning for outside validation to help her feel good enough, which is important because she has never had a father figure in her life to show her unconditional love. When Moore and her uncle Carl share root beer floats, she experiences a rare carefree moment that involves both food and a positive male role model. This valuable time spent with her uncle is the closest thing to healthy father/daughter time she has ever experienced. Moore feels as if she can be herself around her uncle, and she wants to experience this with her father. Moore fantasizes about an ideal father because she believes he will provide the affection her mother fails to provide by giving her the love she needs to feel like a valuable human being. While in the presence of her uncle, Moore does not have to worry about a diet or her uncle judging her. The acceptance from him is what helps her feel welcome and validated. Judith’s uncle Carl makes her feel as if she is one of his own children. Although she lives under the same roof as her mother and grandmother, she still feels the tension and misses the loving bond she needs in order to feel like she is wanted. Moore wants to be a part of a family, and she yearns for outside validation from a father figure to help her feel secure in her own body.

KEY:

IDEA

ILLUSTRATION

INTERPRETATION