

## By the end of the play do you find yourself criticizing or sympathizing with Eddie?

Firstly, I find myself criticising Eddie by the end of the play as at times he seems too proud and concerned about the respect he is given. For example, Eddie demandingly tells Marco that 'I want my name.' his name being his place and honour within the neighbourhood. Eddie's need for respect and power is emphasised from the beginning of the play when Catherine 'kneels beside him in his 'chair'.

**Comment [K1]:** Good link back to the question using key words

**Comment [K2]:** Clear point, made obvious at the beginning of this paragraph – although it needs to be made clear exactly why this makes him criticize him

**Comment [K3]:** Excellent analysis / explanation to make the significance of this clear

Furthermore, I would also criticise Eddie because he broke the unspoken law of 'Red Hook': respect your family. For example Eddie broke the 'law' by betraying his cousins the 'submarines' to the Immigration Bureau therefore becoming a 'stool pigeon' or an informer, behavior which he had previously criticised when telling the story of Vinny Bolzano.

**Comment [K4]:** Connectives used well to join points together

**Comment [K5]:** Again, exactly how this encourages us to be critical of Eddie needs to be explored a little more: his hypocrisy should be drawn out and considered

Additionally, Eddie is portrayed as over-protective of Catherine and this is something I would criticise him for as for as this eventually makes her try to break free, 'I think I have to get out of here Eddie' It is, in a way, Eddie's need to protect Catherine which eventually causes his death as he realises too late his mistakes 'I think maybe I kept you too much.'

**Comment [K6]:** This is the beginnings of a good explanation of why 'over-protectiveness' should be criticised but still could be explored in a little more detail

Moreover throughout the play Eddie is warned constantly by Alfieri that the way he is acting is wrong and that he has 'no recourse in the law' Alfieri also seems to see where Eddie's choices will take him and warns him to 'put it out of [his] mind'

**Comment [K7]:** Paragraphs in general are too short and need to be developed in more depth in order to score highly – in particular here what is missing is why Eddie being warned by Alfieri should make us criticize him

However, by the end of the play I also sympathise with Eddie, as he genuinely loved Catherine and Beatrice and his need to protect them was perfectly natural. For example, Eddie's wish that Catherine finishes high-school and gets a job in New York, shows that he only wants the best for her.

**Comment [K8]:** Good structure – fairly balanced consideration of both sides of the argument

Additionally, I sympathise with Eddie because, tragically he realizes that despite everything the Carbone family has been through he still loves Beatrice. This is shown in the penultimate scene of the play when Eddie is dying in the street, he stops himself talking to Catherine, 'Then why -' and instead exclaims 'Oh B!'

**Comment [K9]:** Again – why exactly should this realisation make us sympathise with him, the ideas need to be more explained

Eddie cannot be criticized for his actions as one of the major themes of the play is fate and inevitability and it could be said that Eddie was just a 'pawn' of Fate and that he was being slowly guided to a 'certain door'. This is also shown by Alfieri's often prophetic speeches: such as and 'run its bloody course'

**Comment [K10]:** Connective needed here to join this paragraph to the rest of the essay

**Comment [K11]:** Good – complex idea saved for last – although once more how exactly this makes us sympathise with Eddie needs to be explained a little more

**Comment [K12]:** Good quotation to end on

In conclusion, by the end of the play I both criticise and sympathise.

**Comment [K13]:** Summing up conclusion but it is clearly rushed and more time needs to be spent on it