

Cloud 9 is a drama written by Caryl Churchill that tells a story about colonization in Africa and sexuality issues that happened at the end of the 19th century. Nevertheless, the writer of this thesis focuses on the gay character's problems in the drama named Edward. By using a queer approach through Isay and Troiden's homosexual theories, the writer finds that Edward becomes gay because of some causes, which are the tendency to like feminine things, his father's lack of closeness, and the closeness of his mother. During his gay identity development, Edward experiences some stages that relate to homosexual people, such as having a high curiosity towards a man before pubescence, disavowing his sexuality when people recognize it, and having a same-sex relationship with another man. By having a gay identity, Edward develops his female roles in relationships, becomes afraid of society's perception and discrimination, and has a private or closed relationship.

Becoming gay in the Victorian era is also a big challenge for Edward because he must hide his sexual orientation, and this problem still exists today. Many gay people still hide their sexual orientation from their parents and friends because of the negative views in society. Although in some countries it is acceptable that there are differences in sexual orientation, there are still people who are not comfortable with the existence of LGBTQ+ people. For some straight people, a gay is sinful and must be expelled. As a result, gay people tend to express their sexual orientation in secret before they decide to come out as gay in public.