

**MULTIPLE PERSONALITY DISORDER IN SHYAMALAN'S
GLASS: A PSYCHOANALYTIC PERSPECTIVE**



**Disusun sebagai salah satu syarat menyelesaikan Program Studi Strata I pada
Jurusan Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan**

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**PROGRAM STUDI PENDIDIKAN BAHASA INGGRIS
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UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH SURAKARTA**

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**MULTIPLE PERSONALITY DISORDER IN
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PERSPECTIVE**

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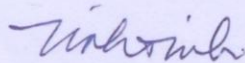
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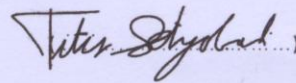
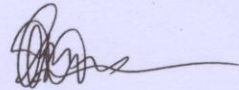
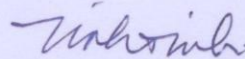
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Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta
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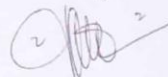
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MULTIPLE PERSONALITY DISORDER IN SHYAMALAN'S *GLASS*: A PSYCHOANALYTIC PERSPECTIVE

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi Multiple Personality Disorder (MPD) pada tokoh utama film *Glass* karya M Night Shyamalan yang dianalisis dengan perspektif Psikoanalisis. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi: 1) apa saja indikator Gangguan Kepribadian Ganda yang digambarkan dalam film *Glass* 2) Bagaimana Gangguan Kepribadian Ganda digambarkan dalam film *Glass* 3) mengapa M Night Shyamalan secara khusus membahas Gangguan Kepribadian Ganda dalam film *Glass*. Penelitian ini menggunakan penelitian kualitatif sebagai metodenya. Data penelitian ini terdiri dari dua kategori, yaitu data primer dan data sekunder. Data primer adalah dari film *Glass* karya M Night Shyamalan dengan menggunakan *script* dan gambar. Sedangkan data sekunder diperoleh dari sumber lain seperti buku-buku literatur, penelitian terdahulu, jurnal, artikel, internet, dan lain-lain yang berkaitan dengan Gangguan Kepribadian Ganda. Hasil dari penelitian ini adalah indikator gangguan kepribadian ganda Kevin yang disesuaikan berdasarkan dialog atau monolog tokoh utama, sikap, penampilan dan pikiran, serta interaksi dengan tokoh lain. Penggambaran gangguan kepribadian ganda Kevin berasal dari dipengaruhi dan mempengaruhi karakter, setting, peristiwa atau plot, dan gaya yang terkait dengan *Glass*. Alasan Shyamalan menangani Gangguan Kepribadian Ganda melalui *Glass* adalah dari penelitiannya dan ingin menciptakan karakter kepribadian ganda ke dalam karya-karyanya.

Kata Kunci: *Gangguan Kepribadian Ganda, M Night Shyamalan, Glass, Psikoanalisis.*

Abstract

This study aims to identify Multiple Personality Disorder (MPD) in the main character of *Glass* movie by M Night Shyamalan which analyzed with a Psychoanalytic perspective. This research was established to identify: 1) what are the indicators of Multiple Personality Disorder illustrated in the *Glass* movie 2) how is Multiple Personality Disorder depicted in the *Glass* movie 3) why did M Night Shyamalan specifically address Multiple Personality Disorder in the *Glass* movie. This research used qualitative research as the method. The data of this research consists of two categories, namely primary data and secondary data. Primary data is from the *Glass* movie by M Night Shyamalan by using script and images. While secondary data acquired from other sources such as literary books, previous studies, journals, articles, the internet, and others related to Multiple Personality Disorder. The results of this study are the indicators of Kevin's multiple personality disorder adjusted based on the main character's dialogue or monologue, attitude, appearances and thoughts, and also interaction with other characters. The depiction of Kevin's multiple personality disorder is from influenced and influencing characters, setting, events or plot, and style that related to *Glass*. The reason Shyamalan is addressing Multiple Personality Disorder through *Glass* is from his research and wants to create a split personality

character into his works.

Keywords: *Multiple Personality Disorder, M Night Shyamalan, Glass, Psychoanalytic*

1. INTRODUCTION

Multiple Personality Disorder (MPD), is one of all the foremost topics talked regarding by people who have much debated and criticism in the last 20 years. Verhulst (2017) mentioned that it additionally has been shown in several films over the decades. MPD is represented as hypothesized mental dissociation traumatic to be caused by severe childhood trauma (Lewis, Yeager, Swica, Pincus, & Lewis, 1997). Meanwhile, completely different personalities that occur are referred to as alters. The term “alter” is commonly accustomed used to describe alternative personalities or identities hooked up to the individual (McAllister, 2000). This might even mean that multiple alters may be associated with one major personality. The alter-personality is a condition where someone forms other characters in themselves consciously (TD, 2016). Alters take over control of the opposite person’s ode or behavior at various times. This feels fascinating to admit however it feels to be somebody who can change from one personality to another and it becomes a unity within that person.

Research of this *Glass* can be grouped into seven. The research is done by Sheen, Chung, Ferrara, & Opler, (2020). The researcher tells about the depiction of a psychiatrist as illegal villains’ victimization. The researcher based on the Multiple Personality Disorder in *Glass* trilogy, they are Darwati, (2018); Asmara, (2019); Hidayat, (2019); Rini, (2019); Nuraeni & Silaban, (2018); Melanie, (2018); and Apriyani, (2020). Jørgensen, (2008) focuses on two elements of style and their relation with how the central themes in *Unbreakable* are represented by using mise-en-scene and long take.. The researchers based on the literature review of Multiple Personality Disorder and child abuse. McAllister, (2000); Coons, (1986). The other study is used planning treatment in the psychological assessment of patients Dissociative Identity Disorder. It was discussed by Brand, Armstrong, & Loewenstein, (2006). There are some researchers which interesting in Multiple Personality Disorder based on film and novel, they are Pratama & Adi, (2019); Satriyadi, (2018); Irfantara, (2014); Nurharyati, (2018). Verhulst, (2017)

focuses on stories in the different decades of American films that combine with Multiple Personality Disorder. The researchers based on the psychoanalytic perspective are Deshta Pratama Putra, (2020); Fatimah, (2018); (Suprpto, n.d.); Marbun, (2019); Ivandić, (2002); Izzah Afkarina, (2019); Ilmawati, (2019); Fuady & Suhendar, (2019); Putri, (2020).

Previous studies above determined that they focused on psychoanalysis theory, semiotic analysis, post-traumatic model, and analyzation the conflicts and kinds of psychological. The researcher finds the gap between the latest researches with the latest research. The previous researchers are only focusing on psychiatric roles in *Glass* and the main characters' multiple personality disorder in other literary works, but until now there are no researchers that discuss multiple personality disorders with psychoanalytic perspective through *Glass* movie. From the explanation above, the latest research is different from the previous researches. This study focused on the multiple personality disorders in the main character of *Glass*' movie by using a psychoanalytic perspective. To give novelty to the research on the *Glass* movie, this study will identify the multiple personality disorder with a psychoanalytic perspective.

Psychoanalytic theory is widely used in literary analysis. Ringrose (2018) stated that psychoanalytic theory is a continually transforming body of knowledge. In other words, bodies that continue to transform can be called genetic development which is the focal point for the development phase before and after. (Rezaei & Seyyedrezaei, 2013) in the theory and practice of Sigmund Freud, it contributes the basic for psychoanalytic criticism in literature. He cites the basics for a representation of how our minds work. Regardless of consciousness, according to him how the mind works depends on how we act, think, and feel. In this method, the relationship is emotional and psychological. When the method was applied to the interpretation of literary works, that's when we were involved in the world of psychoanalytic.

From here, the researcher wants to analyze the Multiple Personality Disorder of the main character in *Glass* movie by using a psychoanalytic perspective. Researchers have a reason to research Multiple Personality Disorder on *Glass* movie, namely analyzing the multiple personality disorder that was suffered by Kevin Wendell Crumb as the main character with his 24 other personalities or on

Glass movie. Therefore, the researcher intends to conduct research entitled Multiple Personality Disorder in Shyamalan's *Glass* with a Psychoanalytic Perspective.

2. METHOD

In this study, the researcher is used descriptive qualitative as the method. There are two types of data sources that are necessary to establish this research namely; primary data and secondary data. The primary data source is from the script and screen capture of *Glass* movie. The secondary data acquired from previous studies such as literary books, previous studies, journals, articles, the internet, and others that issued Multiple Personality Disorder and others M Night Shyamalan's works related to *Glass*. The technique of collecting data in this study is used document analysis. It was done by collecting and analyzing documents, both written, drawings, works, and electronics (Nilamsari, 2014). The method of data analysis is hermeneutics that is closely related to text interpretation. This theory is commonly used as structural method objectivities text implicitly through the practical steps (Saidi, 2008).

3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The Indicators of Multiple Personality Disorder in *Glass* Movie

The first sign of multiple personalities is amnesia. They often cannot remember clearly the time, place, or even the information that was conveyed to them. A person who has this disorder will not be aware of the running time. This can happen when another personality is ‘sleeping’ or another character takes over. It is usually marked by changes in physical appearance such as clothes, accessories, etc. Not infrequently, they sometimes experience a flashback or broken threads of memory.



Where is the man in the rain poncho?

Who is he?

(G.S. Mrs. Patricia, 00:27:33-00:28:16)

The affective symptom is a condition that affects a person's mood, or commonly known as mood disorders. They usually experience mood swings unexpectedly or suddenly. For example, someone feels happy suddenly turns into sad or angry. As happened to Hedwig who when he met Casey looked very talkative.

However, that changed immediately when Casey asked Hedwig totalk to Dennis.



Picture 2



Picture 3

The transformation of Hedwig to Dennis

Hedwig: *“Don't worry. I haven't cheated on you.”*

Dennis: *“What are you doing here? Your clothes are not dirty.”*

(G.S. Hedwig and Dennis, 00:41:39-00:41:45)

A behavior symptom is a situation where a person cannot control his own behavior. Sometimes, they unconsciously speak to themselves in what other people assume that they are actually “crazy people.” Also, not infrequently they cannot control their emotions. One of them is often suddenly angry for no apparent reason. This is due to the inner turmoil between the main person and the alter ego who is considered unable to solve his own problems so that his emotions peak. As happened to The Beast. He has always high emotions, likes to fight because he thinks that what he is doing is right and protects weak people.



Picture 4. Attack of The Beast

(G.S. The Beast, 01:34:32-01:34:34)

Hallucinations usually occur in the human subconscious. People with MPD usually feel that they are talking to other people, but this is just an argument going on in their brain, a voice from inside (psychotic). This can also happen when someone has an imaginary history of something that will never age. Hedwig with the mindset that he will always be 9 years old for the rest of his life and will always act like a 9-year-old boy. He is also often seen wrestling with other characters in mind.



Picture 5.



Picture 6.

Hedwig is a forever 9-year-old boy.

*The Beast is gonna come for you guys
any minute now, and I...
I get... I get to greet him.*

(G.S. Hedwig, 00:09:03-00:09:10)

Depiction of Multiple Personality Disorder in *Glass* Movie

a. Characters

1) Multiple Personality Disorder

a) Kevin Wendell Crumb

Kevin is a frightened young man who still imagining events in his past that traumatized him psychologically. Kevin is portrayed as an adult who looks like a middle-aged man who was seen wearing hospital clothes. He has an induction haircut style which becomes his characteristic.

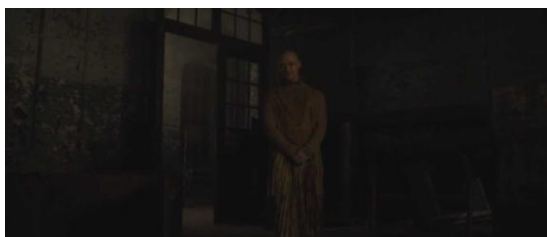


Picture 7. Kevin scared about being flashback on his trauma.

(G.S. Kevin, 00:49:35-00:49:58)

b) Patricia

Kevin is introduced as a man with a woman characteristic named Mrs. Patricia. He may be a refined, obsequious, orderly, and polite „woman’ who has extensive command over a number of the opposite personalities. Patricia is arguably the mother of other personalities. He is particularly portrayed as an old woman character who wears a turtleneck and skirt. By wearing those female attributes, he looks like a male with female characteristics. His voice becomes soft and his actions turn into femininity.



Picture 8.



Picture 9.

Kevin who transforms into Mrs. Patricia

(G.S. Ms. Patricia, 00.01:01-00:01:10)

c) Hedwig

Kevin has a child on his alters named Hedwig. He is represented as a 9-year-old boy with a slurred accent. His appearances is characterized by his frequent use of yellow and green bomber jackets and a fondness for roller skating. He appears to have the unique ability of childish nature

so he wondered about the power of the Beast. He loves dancing crazily by using a headphone with Drake's songs in his CD player. In short, he is portrayed as the youngest alters surrounded by his other alters and becomes a result of his innocence and naive behavior.



Picture 10
Hedwig tells story about The Beast.

(G.S. Hedwig, 00:09:30-00:09:35)

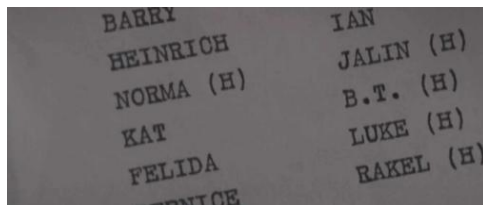
d) The Beast

The Beast or The Horde had been seen as the dominant personality. He is the most dangerous, antagonistic, and terrifying of all the personalities. He is a malevolent and hateful figure, idolized by Dennis, Patricia, and Hedwig. He is a megalomaniac, a person who is obsessed with their power. This personality was formed because Kevin used to work as a staff at the Philadelphia Zoo about ten years ago. He believed that a weak and innocent human being must be protected, but of course, he does not have enough confidence and is easily influenced by others.

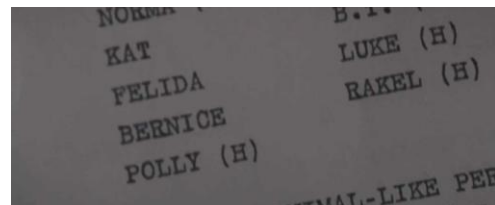


Picture 11. The Beast started to show himself.
(G.S. The Beast, 00:14:15-00:14:23)

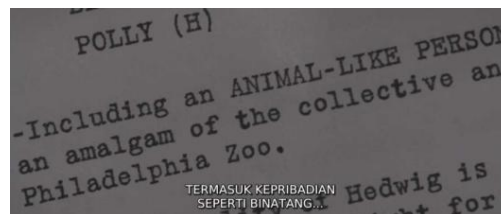
In the middle of the film, it is depicted that Mr. Glass escapes his room and conducts research about Kevin Wendell Crumb. From there, you can see data about Kevin and the names of his distinct personalities (Pictures 12, 13, and 14).



Picture 12



Picture 13



Picture 14

(G.S. Kevin's personalities' names, 01:04:28 – 01:04:48)

Besides, there is no acceptable information why Kevin has many personalities and when those will appear. Nonetheless, the researcher believes that those personalities arise as a result of psychological problems.

2) Psychiatrist

Dr. Ellie Staple is a psychiatrist who is taking care of Kevin, David Dunn, and Mr. Glass. She has the capability to manipulate her patients with her psychiatric knowledge. The manipulation carried out by him was to make The Horde and David Dunn doubts his skills. Also, she occurs that Kevin, David, and Mr. Glass have a delusion. She always opposed David and Kevin's explanation of their abilities with the psychiatric knowledge she had. She considers everything as just a fabrication or can be explained by medical reasons.



Picture 15
Dr. Staple introduces herself

(G.S. Dr. Ellie Staple, 00:21:00-00:21:05)

3) Family

Penelope Crumb is the mother of Kevin Wendell Crumb who is a perfectionist that always pushed him to keep the area clean without a mess. She was a very violent and abusive disposition towards his son which at that time was still very young to get this treatment. She has Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD). Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) is a disorder in which people have an obsession that makes them feel compelled to do something over and over again (compulsions), it is usually related to perfection, harmful, and forbidden thoughts.



Picture 16



Picture 17

Penelope Crumb was yelled out Kevin's name

(G.S. Penelope Crumb, 00:49:24-00:49:30)

4) Relative

Casey Cooke is a 'friend' of Hedwig, Dennis, and Kevin. She knows how to control her emotions in herself, as well as when she met Kevin. She is also smart and has a good strategy. She is also adept at manipulating Kevin's consciousness which makes Kevin finally believe in Casey.



Picture 18. Casey meets Kevin

Kevin?

(G.S. Casey Cooke, 00:42:54-00:43:59)

b. Setting

1) Empty Factory

This factory is the factory where Kevin commits crimes. Dennis is one of Kevin's personalities who like to kidnap young girls because he is a pervert.



Picture 19



Picture 20

2) Underground Road or Subway

Underground roads are generally used for people to take temporary shelter or only as a connecting road between one place and another. In another case with Kevin, he used the place to hide from the crowd, where around there were also homeless people who were doing activities.



Picture 21



Picture 22

3) Raven Hill Memorial Psychiatric Hospital

Raven Hill Memorial Psychiatric Hospital is the largest psychiatric hospital in Philadelphia, USA. It is also the place where Kevin, David, and Mr. Glass were treated by Dr. Staple. Also, it is the place most often used in the *Glass*.



Picture 23



Picture 24

The main scene of *Glass* is happened in a hospital's hall, a pink room with a large window and high ceilings (Picture 24). We can see Kevin, David, and Mr. Glass are gathered to talk with Dr. Staple. They gather to convince Dr. Staple that all the advantages that exist in themselves exist but denied by doctors on scientific grounds and think that it is all just delusional.



Picture 25

4) Trenton Railway Station

Trenton Railway Station or Trenton Transit Center is a train station located in New Jersey, USA. In *Glass*, this station is the place where little Kevin parted with his father for the last time by boarding the same train named “Eastrail 177” with David Dunn who also killed all passengers except Dunn.



Picture 26



Picture 27

In *Glass*, the setting of the time is around 2019. It reveals through Mr. Glass’s dialogue when he tells about his pride that he has been created superhuman in this world.



Picture 28

It just took longer.

19 years.

(G.S. Mr. Glass, 01:41:21-01:41:30)

Also, when Mr. Glass was looking at the data on Kevin, he saw a magazine ‘The Architecture Issue PHILADELPHIA’ which was lying on the table. Written on it was about the opening of the city's highest skyscraper on December 7th.



Picture 29
(G.S. Philadelphia magazine, 01:05:39)

c. Events/Plots

Glass started with Kevin who was playing the role of Patricia. In the scene that follows, Hedwig is busy riding his roller skates while talking about Beast's arrival at the kidnapped cheerleaders in the factory. After that, Hedwig went to an underground passage to bring up The Beast because he felt threatened by the act of confinement being carried out in the factory. The Beast appeared from the darkness with a position crawling over the roof of the silent building.



Picture 30. Kevin as Patricia
(G.S. 00:01:25 – 00:01:38)



Picture 31. Kevin as Hedwig
(G.S. 00:09:03 – 00:09:20)



Picture 32. Hedwig is going to transform into The Beast
(G.S. 00:13:10 – 00:14:23)



Picture 33. The Beast meets DavidDunn
(G.S. 00:16:00 – 00:16:33)

Then, Dr. Staple suggested that Kevin and David be transferred to the hospital. Dr. Staple introduced herself while explaining why he brought them to the Raven Hill Memorial. She explained that they were delusional and completely powerless. When Dr. Staple calls Kevin's name 'Kevin Wendell Crumb', Kevin's memory suddenly brings him to his memories when his mother shouted his name while carrying a hot iron. It scared him.



Picture 34. Barry is getting caught by Dr. Staple
(G.S.00:18:26)



Picture 35. Dr. Staple and the Police
(G.S. 00:19:17)



Picture 36. Dr. Staple describes about Kevin's room
(G.S. 00:21:25)



Picture 37. Kevin, David, and Mr. Glass meet Dr. Staple
(G.S. 00:47:41)

That night, Mr. Glass manages to get out of his room and plans to instigate The Beast to help him. Then, Mr. Glass manipulates David to

fight The Beast by revealing his plan to destroy a chemical lab inside Osaka Tower, a new skyscraper in Philadelphia.



Picture 38. Mr. Glass talks to Hedwig
(G.S. 01:16:25)



Picture 39. Mr. Glass tells about his
weaknesses to be protected by The
Beast
(G.S. 01:17:08)



Picture 40. The Beast is ready to fightDavid
(G.S. 01:34:38)

Seeing the incident, Joseph Dunn tried to approach The Beast and explain that it was Mr. Glass. He was the one who caused the East rail 177 train accident 19 years ago. Mr. Glass is proud of the work of his creation. Feeling angry, The Beast then injured Mr. Glass to death. The Beast then left and Casey immediately walked over to him; manage him to bring Kevin's original personality out. At the end of the *Glass* film, Kevin was shot by a sniper. It was done by one of the police that already target him also one of Dr. Staple's team.



Picture 41. Joseph tells about Kevin's father's death
(G.S. 01:39:06)



Picture 42. The Beast kills Mr. Glass
G.S. (01:41:56)



Picture 43. Casey calms Kevin down
(G.S. 01:45:14)



Picture 44. Kevin killed by Dr. Staple's crew
(G.S. 01:49:17)

d. Style

In *Glass*, color is affiliated with the hero and villain. Yellow represents The Beast or Kevin Wendell Crumb as a villain, green represents David Dunn as Overseer same as his rain poncho, and purple represents Mr. Glass that uses to communicate with David (in *Unbreakable*).



Picture 45. Casey is flashback about her meeting with The Beast
(G.S. 01:00:23 – 01:00:41)

Furthermore, Shyamalan also used music to show and inform his characters. Particularly, Kevin Wendell Crumb is given the abstract quality of the music to tie up his multiple personalities directly with the fragmented and expressive musical concept.

In the opening of *Glass* film, the audiences hear the violin playing interspersed with a sharp beating rhythm made the listener feel panicked. Primarily, The Beast is given special effects with low-end string attacks which sound more like a growling beast. The music and vocalization lines are blurred. The Beast growled with down-tuned bass that makes an incredible sound performance.

Reasons of M Night Shyamalan Addressing Multiple Personality Disorder

In one of his interviews in entertainmentie (YouTube) on March, 24th 2021, he stated that the Dissociative Identity Disorder or Multiple Personality Disorder idea comes from the famous DID novel “Billy Milligan” which tells a person who has twenty different personalities. However, he made Kevin as twenty-four different personalities because he thought that it was just a big deal that several 23 or 24 feel important to him. And the names he created are from many references of baby names. He claimed that he has many baby name books in his private library only for references name of his character that he will make.

According to Shyamalan, DID is a fascinating psychological disorder fact in his mind. He believes that it exists. His interest in DID started at his college. In his opinion, this disorder is very shocking and provocative. Each of these personalities is for a reason. They're all to protect the original person. So, each of them has a purpose.

From the description above, the researcher considers that the reason why Shyamalan addressed Multiple Identity Disorder specifically in *Glass* is that he had some references and thoughts about Multiple Identities that he wanted to create in his works, also based on his own experience and research for many years ago. He already learned that disorder well from his books in his private library.

4. CONCLUSION

The researcher concluded that the main character in the *Glass* movie has suffered from Multiple Personality Disorder. First is the indicators of Multiple Personality Disorder (MPD); the indicators are adjusted based on amnesia, affective symptoms, behavior symptoms, and auditory “hallucinations” and imaginary companions. It could be seen in some parts of Kevin's scenes, from his changing appearances to the speaking style that can characterize him as having different characters. As though, the characteristics of MPD mentioned by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorder (1994:487) are suitable with the condition in the *Glass* film. Second, the depiction of Multiple Personality Disorder is categorized

into four parts; there are character, setting, events or plots, and style. The character itself is divided into four parts; they are multiple personality disorder's character, psychiatrist and medical team, family, and relatives. The settings of the places are taken at the empty factory, underground road, Raven Hill Memorial Psychiatric Hospital, and Trenton Railway Station. Meanwhile, the setting of the time is around 1st-7th December of 2019. Events are explained with the depiction of Kevin Wendell Crumb's multiple personality disorder. Last is the style that defines the color that is affiliated with the hero and villain which is pictured in the comic book. Also, the music of the film is to show and inform the characters. The last is according to Shyalaman, he created the character who suffered from Multiple Personality Disorder is just because he has researched from various sources, one of which is from a book in his private library. Then, he wants to put his ideas and put them into his work and make it seem as if it is a real thing.

The pedagogical implications of this study done by the researcher as follows: 1) Multiple Personality Disorder can be used as basic knowledge in teaching English in educational psychology courses even though only as an introduction; 2) Most DID or MPD problems are not recognized until past kindergarten. After that, the symptoms were known, ranging from dissociative symptoms, behavioral and conduct disturbances, school attendance problems, socialization problems, cognitive difficulties, performance problems, and somatoform symptoms that affected their education experience throughout their academic careers (Hobbs & Coons, 1994); 3) Within this film, the researcher adopted that Multiple Personality Disorder is not as dangerous as people think. The more we know the symptoms early on, the easier it will be for us to prevent other personalities from appearing that might harm both themselves and others.

Based on the conclusion and pedagogical implications above, the researcher suggested to the next researcher should use the suitable theory, especially Sigmund Freud's theory which is not much different from the theory used by researchers.

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