DISSOCIATIVE IDENTITY DISORDER OF THE MAJOR CHARACTER IN SHYAMALAN’S *SPLIT*

A THESIS
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Sarjana Degree Majoring American Studies in English Department Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University

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2019
PRONOUNCEMENT

The writer honestly confirms that she compiles this thesis by herself and without taking any results from other researchers in S-1, S-2, S-3 and in diploma degree of any university. The writer ascertains also that she did not quote any material from other publications or someone’s paper except the reference mentioned.

Semarang, 18th June 2019

Rini
MOTTO AND DEDICATION

I made a mistake yesterday. But yesterday’s me is still me. Today, I am who I am with all of my faults and my mistakes. Tomorrow, I might be a tiny bit wiser, and that’ll be me too.

RM

The thing you fear most has no power, your fear of it is what has the power.

Oprah Winfrey

Never say sorry for who you are.

Demi Lovato

We are what we believe we are.

Split

This thesis is dedicated to

My beloved family, My inspirators, almamater, friends, and

To everyone who helped me accomplish this thesis.
APPROVAL

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I realize that this thesis is still far from perfection. I, therefore, will be glad to receive any constructive criticism and recommendation to make this thesis even better.

Lastly, I expect that this thesis will be useful for anyone wishing to gain a better understanding and broader knowledge about dissociative identity disorder.

Semarang, 18th June 2019
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ABSTRACT


Kata-kata kunci: dissociative identity disorder, trauma, karakter, konflik.
1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

A movie is not only made for entertainment purposes, but it is also made as a media to deliver certain messages or criticism that happen in society. It tends to use imaginative aspects as part of the story. The writer thinks that imagination in a movie is related to human psychology. Human beings need the imagination to feel what the characters of the movie have experienced, while the psychology gives us the view of certain reality through imagination. The relation between movie and psychology aspects makes the writer interested in analyzing it, hence the movie Split is chosen as the object of the study.

Split is an American psychological horror thriller movie which is written, directed, and produced by M. Night Shyamalan. Split, aired in 2016, is the second movie of the unbreakable trilogy; which are unbreakable (2000), split (2016) and glass (2019). The movie is starred by James McAvoy, Anya Taylor Joy, and Betty Buckley. It portrays the story of a man named Kevin who suffers from Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID). He can transform into a different person who has various personalities. In general, a human being usually has one personality. Different from others, the main character of the movie has 24 identities. Kevin kidnapped three young girls to welcome his 24th identity called The Beast.
The writer chose Split as the object of her thesis because it has a unique plot that combines horror thriller and psychology genres; also the main character has a complicated form of psychological issues. Kevin as the main character suffers from DID due to his abusive childhood experience. He gets abused by his mother for doing trivial mistakes. The trauma leads to his multiple identities. Although DID in the movie exists for entertainment purposes, it is a psychological problem which can be found in reality. There is about 1 percent of all human population suffers DID. The sufferers can develop eight to thirteen different personalities, but in extreme cases, they can have more than 100 personalities in one individual.

Based on the statement above, the writer decides to analyze the multiple personalities which occur as the result of dissociative identity disorder of the main character in Split. Besides analyzing the DID, the writer will also describe the intrinsic aspects which consist in the movie on her thesis entitled Dissociative Identity Disorder of the Major Character in Split Movie.

1.2 Scope of the Study
Since there are many aspects which can be analyzed in Split, the writer makes limitation on the scope of the research. The research discussion is the analysis of intrinsic elements, such as character, cinematographic, and the extrinsic aspects focusing on the Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID), the characteristics of DID and the causes of it which is experienced by the main character of the movie.
1.3  **Purpose of the Study**

The purposes of the study are:

1. To analyze the intrinsic aspects of *Split*;
2. To describe dissociative identity disorder of the main character in *Split*;
3. To explain the causes of Kevin’s dissociative identity disorder.

1.4  **Methods of the Study**

Methods will always be part of research studies. The methods used as the guideline on how the research is done. The writer uses two methods to gain data and information that this research needed. Methods of the study in this thesis are divided into two sub-chapters; they are methods of data collection and research approach.

1.4.1  **Methods of Data Collection**

The writer uses library research to analyze Shyamalan’s movie *Split*. Semi states about library research that the researcher gets data and information of the research object in printed or audiovisual media and it is done in the office or library (1993:8). The main data of this research is the movie entitled *Split* which is written and directed by M. Night Shyamalan. As for the supporting data of this research are books and article which are collected from printed media and the internet.
1.4.2 Research Approach
Related to this thesis’s background, the writer uses psychological approach to analyze the dissociative identities disorder of Kevin as the major character of *Split*. According to Harsono, a method that discusses human behavior and life events psychologically is the definition of psychological method. He also states that the method uses literature as a research object (1999:63). Theory of dissociative identity disorder is applied, as it is related to the psychological approach, to analyze and explain the extrinsic aspects. While cinematography approaches are used to analyze both intrinsic and extrinsic aspects.

1.5 Organization of the Writing

Chapter 1 : Introduction
It contains background of the study, scope of the study, purpose of the study, methods of the study and organization of the writing.

Chapter 2 : Synopsis of the Movie
It contains a brief summary of the movie.

Chapter 3 : Theoretical Framework
In theoretical framework, the writer describes the theory used such as intrinsic and extrinsic aspects. Intrinsic aspects contain character, characterization, setting, theme, conflict, cinematographic elements,
distance, angle, and *mise en scene*. As for the extrinsic elements, the writer explores the psychological conflict of the main character that is dissociative identity disorder.

Chapter 4 : Analysis

It elaborates the analysis of intrinsic and extrinsic elements.

Chapter 5 : Conclusion

It will display the result of the study.
SYNOPSIS OF *SPLIT*

*Split* depicts the story of Kevin who suffers from dissociative identity disorder (DID). Kevin experiences a frightful childhood due to his abusive mother. His mother punishes him harshly every time he makes mistakes. Even though the little Kevin is merely a three years old kid, his mother hits, yells and treats him bad. As a result of DID, he has 24 identities which each identity taking turns over his body. As time goes on, he develops the last identity which is believed stronger than his other identities. It is called The Beast who can completely protect his original personality. The Beast or The Horde is Kevin’s 24th identity. When Kevin transforms into his 24th identity, he becomes a person with animalistic features and turns into a completely strong creature.

The movie begins with Kevin who kidnaps three teenagers, Casey, Claire, and Marcia, and locks them in a room without any window surrounding. The three girls are abducted in a parking lot after attending a birthday party. Kevin knocks out Claire’s father who wants to drive them home. He gets in the car as if nothing happens and sprays a chemical drug to drive them sleep.
After waking up and realizing that they are kidnapped, one of the girls shows a different reaction. It is Casey; a rather quiet and not popular girl among the three. Casey portrays as a mysterious girl who seems to have a lot of problems. The movie keeps showing her memories when she was a child. The memory of hunting in the woods appears on her mind at the time. When the two other girls plot to get out of the room, Casey stays still and tries to learn the situation before taking action to prevent bad things to happen. Remembering the way of hunting from her late father, Casey tends to stay calm before giving a try to get away as if she is waiting to shot a deer after quietly observing on the bush.

The girls witness the strange behavior of their captivator. The abductor acts differently when he meets them. For instance, when the girls are trying to seek help by banging and peeping at the door, they see a woman in front of the room. The woman talks about something and they try to call her for help. The woman then notices their shouts and opens the door. Unexpectedly, she turns out to be Kevin who is wearing a long red skirt and high heels. That is Patricia, one of Kevin’s identities.

As the movie goes on, it shows several of Kevin’s identities. The 24 identities are not fully showing. Only dominant identities that keep taking a turn over Kevin’s body have appeared. They are Dennis, an identity who suffers from Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD), Barry, a sketch artist, Hedwig, who acts like 9 years old kid, Patricia, a polite lady and last The Beast who has incredible strengths.

Although Kevin develops many identities, the real personality of Kevin shows up only at the near ending of the movie. Even from the start, the one who kidnaps the
girls is Dennis. Kevin also meets his doctor as Barry. Barry has a regular schedule to talk about his identities to a psychologist named Doctor Fletcher. She helps Barry and uses him as an object to observe further about dissociative identity disorder. She learns that a person who suffers from DID can be what they are thinking they want to be. Since Kevin’s identities believe that The Beast exists, the 24th identity starts to form slowly within him.

In the end, the 24th identity finally comes out. When Dr. Fletcher pays a visit to Kevin’s home and finds that he locks a girl, she is crushed by the beast later. He also rips off Marcia’s and Claire’s stomach and eats the organs. Luckily when the beast kills her friends, Casey is wandering to find a way to get out of the place. On her way out, she finds Kevin’s computer and it shows journal videos of him with 23 different names. Casey also finds a paper which contains a message on how to bring back the real Kevin. It is Dr. Fletcher’s handwriting which she writes when the beast about to crush her to death.

Casey meets the beast and she calls out Kevin’s full name and it makes him turning himself into the real Kevin. Not any longer, he transforms into the form of a beast and chases Casey. In this scene, the movie shows what The Beast is capable of. He can crawl on the wall, punch lamps, resist a gunshot, and bend iron. When The Beast is about to get Casey, he sees her body which full of scratch. It shows how Casey hurts herself and it stops him from chasing her. The Beast states that Casey is different from others and leaves. Casey is found by a man and later it shows that she was held in the basement of a zoo.
THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

3.1 Intrinsic Aspects

This chapter will consist of a brief definition of the intrinsic aspects which are found in the movie. The aspects are closely associated with the thesis discussion. The intrinsic aspects are highly essential in a film since it informs the characters, environment, situation, social condition, and other aspects which form in the inside of a story. Several elements of intrinsic aspects are character, theme, setting, plot and narrative perspective.

3.1.1 Character & Characterization

Abrams (1988:22) defines:

Characters are the person presented in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with moral, dispositional, and emotional qualities that are expressed in what they say, the dialogue, and by what they do, the action.

Almost all literary works have characters. Characters are an essential part of the story because, as the statement above, they are figures or persons who involved in it. A character can be living things or non-living things. The non-living things, such as
flowers, grass, and wind, should have human qualities which make it recognizable to the viewers.

In a story, character is divided into two; that are major and minor character. Major character which often called the main character or protagonist is a character who dominates the story. This character usually portrays as a good one, but in some works it describes contrary, yet the character still has goodness on it. Minor character is simply the opposite of the other one. It is a character who is against the major character in the story.

Characterization refers to the techniques which are used by the author to create characters in a story. According to Michael Meyer, the methods by which a writer creates people in a story that they seem actually to exist are called characterization (2001:99). It simply defines that characterization is the production of fictional characters so they look real.

Characterizations in a story are created by the author to make an illusion that they are real. With such illusion, the author is trying to bring the viewers into the story and leave reality where they can meet fictional worlds, such as the murder scene, royalty members, and countryside. The character which is brought by the author allows us to view and experience new things that consist in the story. A story can be much more interesting because we are curious about what will happen to the character.

3.1.2 Theme
Meyer states that theme is the central idea or meaning of a story (2001:247). It is the core that united elements of a story, such as plot, characters, setting, and point of view. The theme in some stories is stated explicitly and implicitly. There are literary works that clearly describe the theme as the beginning of it and the rest are stated implicitly. Most modern authors write their work with an implicit theme. The author who presents the theme implicitly gives the chance to the viewers to decide the theme according to their self-judgment. It requires a close analysis of all the elements that consist inside of the story to decide the theme since theme merges within the story.

3.1.3 Setting

The context which portrays the occurrence of events in the story is called setting (Meyer, 2002:150). Setting leads the reader to know the situation happen in a story. Setting helps to build a certain world and situation of a character. Some stories are started with background detail and it helps us to understand the behavior and actions of a character. Setting can be a means to build a mood or atmosphere which leads the viewers to prepare what is coming through the story. On the contrary, not every story uses setting to create a mood or to build a character. There are stories which do not have a particular setting, such as stories which have two characters and we can notice the setting through their conversation.

There are three major elements of setting; they are setting of time, place, and social environment which are related to the characters (Nurgiyantoro, 1998:227-233). The setting of place is places or locations where actions of the story happen. It uses
places that can be found in the real world, such as New York and England; but sometimes the author is only describing the condition of the place used. The setting of time is related to ‘when’ the occurrences of events happen whether in the present, past, or uncertain times. The setting of social environment refers to the social conditions where the events of the story take place.

3.1.4 Conflict

Conflict is one of narrative elements which is necessary to build the viewer’s interest in what may happen to the characters in the story. Kurt Vonnegut states every story is about characters that get into trouble and then tries to get out of it. According to Holman, conflict is the struggle which grows out of the interplay of the two opposing forces in a plot (1936:105). The struggles which experience by the characters are the main reason a story can be amusing to the viewers. It keeps them engaged and entertained of the plot. Conflict can be broken down into two types, internal and external conflict.

Internal conflict or known as psychological conflict is a condition when the major character experiences struggle within him/her. They usually have two opposite emotions or desires, such as good and evil inside. In a different case, internal conflict occurs when the character needs to make a decision or a weakness he/she has to overcome. This situation forms torment within a character and it helps to develop a particular tension in the story.
External conflict is the opposite form of internal conflict. Characters deal with outside forces which get in his/her way. The most common of an outside force in a story is where a character against another character physically. Other external forces which can be found in a story are a character against nature, society, technology, and god.

3.1.5 Distance

Camera distance plays an important role in a movie. The distance which shows by the camera’s viewpoint affects the viewer’s reaction to a certain scene. When the camera is far away from or close to the objects, figures, or backgrounds, it displays enormous information about the movie’s scene, context, and the action of the figures.

According to Bordwell and Thompson in film art, distance in cinematography can be broken down into seven; extreme long shot, long shot, medium long shot, medium shot, medium close up, close up, and lastly extreme close up. In the extreme long shot, the camera is framing for scenery or a wide view in the movie. The human figures are imperceptible in this shot. On the contrary, figures are more visible in the long shot; however, the background view is still dominating.

Another camera shot’s technique is medium long shot. In this shot, it shows a harmony between the figures and surroundings. The camera frames the knee up to the head if the object is human. While the shot which frames the human body from the waist up is called medium shot. As for the medium close up, the human body from the chest up will appear in the screen.
The last two techniques of camera shots are close up and extreme close up. The close up shot is simply focusing on a particular part only, such as feet, hands, head, or small object. The main point of this technique is to emphasize the details of a gesture and facial expression. Lastly, the extreme close up points out a part of the face, nose or eyes, shows detail and enhance the minute (1990:176).

3.1.6 Angle

Camera angle in cinematography is divided into three; that are straight-on angle, high angle, and low angle. The straight-on angle, this technique is commonly known as eye-level angle. It displays a straight-on angle of characters, objects, and background views. The high angle is a camera angle that positions us as if we are looking down at the objects or figures inside the frame. In this technique, it tends to make the objects look fragile or shabby. The low angle is simply the opposite of high angle. It positions us looking up at the frame. The technique creates the objects seem forceful or powerful (Bordwell and Thompson, 1990:175).

3.1.7 Mise-en-scene

Mise-en-scene which pronounced meez-ahn-sen are words origin from French which means staging an action (Bordwell and Thompson, 1990:127). For the very first time, the term is used for directing plays. Then, film scholars extend the terms and use it for film directing as well. The main purpose of this term is to take control of what appears in the film frame by the director. Similar to the elements of plays or theaters,
the term deals with setting, lighting, costume, and behavior of the actors which exist in a film.

Setting is an important visual element in a film. It informs time, space, and place in which actions of the movie occur. Setting also creates a mood and it affects to character’s emotional state of mind. It can be entirely fabricated, stylized, and decorated within a studio, such as the condition of an office in the 90s, or an already existing locale.

Another important visual element in the film is a costume. It is the most easily noticeable aspect of the visual elements of a film. Costumes portray the social position or status of characters according to their role in the movie. It also depicts the differences between characters and signifies the film’s era. A hint of character development in a film can be also seen through costumes. Also, the costume can be a prop that supports and creates certain effects on character, such as a cross pendant that commonly relates to Dracula.

Make-up is pigments or materials which apply to actors to construct their character in the movie. It uses to enhance the appearance of them in various ways. Make-up is closely related to the costume. It helps the actors to express the mood and situation of their role. In the movie, make-up between men and women is used differently. According to Bordwell and Thompson in Film Art, women often wear make-up that looks like ordinary street cosmetics currently in fashion, and most men’s make-up is designed to look on the screen as if they were not wearing any (1990:133).
Lighting is illumination which allows viewers to see the objects within the frame. The same as other visual elements, lighting is used as a means to convey special meaning about characters or the background in the movie. It can describe the setting of a certain scene or the behavior of the actors. The most important thing about lighting is the filmmakers use it as a tool to complete their cinematic statement.

According to Bordwell and Thompson, there are four major features of film lighting; that are quality, direction, source, and color (1990:134). Lighting quality deals with the relative intensity of the illumination; its hardness or softness. The direction of lighting is the path of light from its source to the object lit, such as front, under, top, and back. The terms source lighting is used to refer to how many points of light illuminate objects in the frame. While the last, color lighting refers to the light’s tone through filters, for instance, soft yellow, white, or tinted.

3.2 Extrinsic Aspects

The writer will explain the theory used for this thesis and the characteristic of dissociative identity disorder in this sub-chapter.

3.2.1 Theory of Dissociative Identity Disorder

The writer uses an American psychologist Gerald C. Davison’s dissociative identity disorder theory. Davison states the people with dissociative identity disorder has two or more distinct and fully develop personalities, each with unique memories, behavior patterns, and relationship (1998:177). According to the statement mention before, it
can be simply defined that DID which used to be more colorfully known as multiple identities (MPD) is a mental illness where an individual has more than one personality. Another statement regarding dissociative identity disorder comes from National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) as cited in healthline.com, NAMI declares DID is a disorder which is created when an individual wants to escape unpleasant experience, such as abuse.

From the statement above, trauma is mostly mentioned as the main cause of DID. According to post-traumatic model, as cited in psychology an international perspective, Gleaves states:

Dissociative identity disorder occurs as a result of childhood abuse and other traumatic events, with the formation of multiple personalities helping the individual to separate off the traumatic experiences of childhood from conscious awareness (2004:109)

The trauma is way too unbearable that a person creates multiple identities to deal with it. The multiple identities help people with DID to cope with stress by expressing resentment or help calm the main personality. The traumas which commonly trigger DID are physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. It is recorded that 90% of DID cases in America appear as an effect of abuse. Many factors in developing DID are not only by some history of abuse, but also can be caused by traumatic events, as Glaves states above, such as accidents, natural disaster, and war.

The people who suffer from DID shift between several identities that he/she creates inside to escape horrible experiences or trauma. The term alters or alternate personalities are used to define the multiple identities in DID. A clinical psychologist
in Cleveland, Dr. Peter Barach, states alters as parts of the self that experience themselves as separate people. The personality which is found in the people with DID may have its name, gender, behavior, and mannerism. They may also have different talents and tendencies which way different from their main personality. When an alter takes control over the person’s body, they may experience amnesia or memory gaps.

It is believed that the people with DID escape reality through making alters as a defense mechanism against certain traumatic experiences. It is a way for them to break the relation with the outside world and make a distance from reality which is happening at the moment.

### 3.2.2 Characteristics of Dissociative Identity Disorder

The same as any other illness, dissociative identity disorder has its symptoms and characteristic. It exists to narrow the definition of DID and to make differences toward other forms of dissociative disorder. According to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (1994:487), the characteristics of DID are:

a. The presence of two or more distinct identities or personality states;

b. At least two of these identities or personality states recurrently take control of the person’s behavior;

c. Inability to recall important personal information that is too extensive to be explained by ordinary forgetfulness;

d. The disturbance is not due to the direct psychological effects of a substance, such as a blackout, or a general medical condition.
According to the characteristics of dissociative identity disorder above, it can be seen whether an individual suffers from DID. The most obvious characteristic of the illness is the presence of more than one identity in a person. However, not every person suffers from DID when they have two or more different identities, they should have all the characteristics of the disease to be announced as one; since having more than one identity is also a condition of people who suffer from bipolar disorder.
ANALYSIS

4.1 Intrinsic Aspects

4.1.1 Character and Characterization

4.1.1.1 Kevin Wendell Crumb

Kevin is the major character of Split who suffers from Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID). The DID causes him to have 24 different identities. He is depicted as a mysterious man who seems normal. Picture 1, which is captured by using medium shot, portrays Kevin’s appearance. The color lighting used in the picture is soft yellow to emphasize the tense when Kevin’s original personality finally comes out to the surface for the first time. The camera technique applied in the picture defined as straight on angle.

In the movie, Kevin is the original fragile personality. He experiences memory gap when other identities of him take over the body, as a result, he does not notice that he suffers from DID. His traumatic childhood memories turn him into a fragile and weak-hearted person. It is one of the main causes of his multiple identities. He develops different identities to escape the traumatic experience and cope with it. Kevin as the original personality is only appeared once at near the movie’s ending. It shows how kind-hearted his personality is, but fragile at the same time. The conversation between Kevin and Casey displays Kevin’s original personality.
Kevin: Who are you? What’s happening?
Casey: Something horrible.
Kevin: What’d I do? Did I hurt you? Dr. Fletcher, Dr. Fletcher, Who did that?
Casey: You did.
Kevin: There’s a shotgun I bought. It’s in the bottom cabinet, hidden behind things. The shells are in my uniform closet out in the service hall. Kill me... Kill me...
Kevin as Jade: Wait.. no! Don’t do that! He can’t handle reality. My name is Jade.

(Split (2016), 1:34:22- 1:35:46)

From the dialogue above, it presents the real character of Kevin aside from his different identities. After realizing the terrible things he has done, such as kills Dr. Fletcher and finds out Casey in his room, he feels sorry and asks Casey to kill him instead. Kevin wants Casey to stop him doing bad deeds so that he cannot hurt people anymore. Then for a mere second, another personality takes ‘the light’ (the terms when Kevin shifts personality), Jade states that he does not want Casey to kill him. He also adds that Kevin cannot face the reality that is why he wishes to be killed.

Picture 1: Kevin’s appearance
(Split (2016), 1:34:47)
4.1.1.2 Casey

There are two major characters in *Split*. Besides Kevin, the other main character is Casey Cooke. She is the only survivor and witness of Kevin’s dissociative identity disorder tragedy. She is a mild beautiful young girl with long black hair and fair skin. Picture 2, which is taken with straight on angle, shows the description of Casey’s appearance from the waist up to her head since the camera distance applied is named as medium shot. The camera distance also gives an effect that Casey is a lone wolf. She seems to have a difficult time blended with her friends. She hopelessly stares outside instead of talking and having fun with her friends at a birthday party. The costume and makeup of Casey in the picture are simple and casual. She does not dress too feminine as the other girls.

It shows at the beginning of the movie. Claire also voices her thoughts about Casey to her father since she does not like the idea of driving Casey home and acts as if they are comfortable with Casey’s presence. Marcia declares the same intention that no one comfortable befriends Casey due to her personality which they assume by her character and behavior. The following dialogue between the three of them depicts what people think about Casey.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Claire</th>
<th>: She gets detention a lot and she yells at teacher sometimes. There was that rumor that went around that she kept running away from home.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marcia</td>
<td>: Maybe she can uber.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claire</td>
<td>: I seriously believe that we can go home now.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claire’s father</td>
<td>: Did I mistakenly convey this was a democracy? We are not going till she gets picked up.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*Split* (2016), 00:01:28- 00:01:45)
4.1.1.3 Claire

Claire is the birthday girl and one of the minor characters of the movie. She throws the party in a restaurant inviting her whole classmates. Claire is a bright girl; the type of those who can easily get along with everyone. She portrays with long blonde-brown hair and has that feminine fashion sense. Picture 3, which is portrayed by medium shot, shows Claire’s physical built. The lighting of the picture is a bit dark since the scene displays dramatic tenseness between Claire and Dennis after she gets caught from hiding in the closet. The camera angle used in the picture is named as straight on angle.
Claire’s character in the movie is described as a brave girl. She has a great will for escaping the place where the three girls captivated. She is also confident about her skill in self-defense since she attends Kenpo karate class. Claire keeps offering many possibilities on how to get them out of the place. It reveals from the dialogue which shows Claire’s braveness.

*Claire*: He’s gonna come in here again, in any second, and we are not letting him take one of us out again. We just cried and screamed and we didn’t hurt him because we were afraid to get him upset. God, that’s victim shit. Jesus! we should fight him. We should drop a crazyass bomb on him.

*Casey*: I saw him carry one of you and lay you on the bed like you weighed nothing. One punch from him will knock one of us out.

*Claire*: I took six months of Kenpo karate class. and you distract the assailant with pain.

*Casey*: Everything is so easy for you guys. You do one thing, you can predict the next thing. It’s not the way it’s gonna be in this situation.

*Claire*: We are not getting out of here. You’re saying that you aren’t gonna fight with everything in you? You know the only chance, the only chance we have is if all three of us go crazy on this guy. We have to hurry.

*Marcia*: We need you Casey. Claire’s smart. Let’s listen to her. I’ll do it, if you’re gonna do it, too. We can win.

(*Split* (2016), 00:11:20- 00:12:39)

### 4.1.1.4 Marcia

Another minor character of *Split* is Marcia. Marcia is one of the three teenagers alongside Casey and Claire who is kidnaped by Kevin as Dennis. She is Claire’s best friend. Marcia illustrates as a black girl who has curly dark hair. She is the first one to die between the three girls because The Beast eats her organs. As the movie goes on, Marcia seems following Claire’s idea to get out of the room. Marcia tends to cry and
fright, but she tries to escape to be captivated again by Kevin in the form of Ms. Patricia. Picture 4 displays the portrayal of Marcia, which is captured by straight on angle. The picture shows the description of medium shot.

Picture 4 The portrayal of Marcia
(Split (2016), 00:43:45)

4.1.1.5 Dr. Karen Fletcher

Dr. Karen Fletcher is a psychologist who tries to help Kevin with his dissociative identity disorder. She is a minor character who studies Kevin and his DID. Dr. Fletcher has short white hair and wrinkles on her face since she is an old woman. Picture 5, which is framed by medium close up shot, depicts Dr. Fletcher’s appearance. The color lighting of the picture is bright. It represents her character when she is glad to talk with Kevin. The camera angle used in the picture is defined as straight on angle.

Dr. Fletcher keeps on meeting Kevin as Barry regularly to discuss the other identities of him. Barry will send her emails to inform his condition or when he needs something to ask. She also concerns about Kevin’s condition and truly wants to help Kevin to heal. Dr. Fletcher portrays as a good doctor. She is a caring woman without
fear, but it leads to her death after visiting Kevin’s house. The dialogue below shows her caring character.

**Dr. Fletcher**: Hello, Dennis. One of the others emailed me just now. Is everything okay?

**Kevin as Dennis**: We are fine.

**Dr. Fletcher**: Dennis, Kevin is really lucky to have you. You’re quite extraordinary. I just don’t want you guys to get hurt.

**Kevin as Dennis**: you think we are extraordinary?

**Dr. Fletcher**: I like you Dennis. May I come in? and can we talk? I know you wanna tell me something. Why don’t you just tell me.

*Split (2016), 01:11:30- 01:12:18*

Picture 6 also supports the dialogue above. Dr. Fletcher is quite worried about Kevin’s psychology condition. She is afraid something bad may happen. After receiving a bunch of emergency emails of Barry, she immediately comes straight to his house. Even when the taxi driver tells that the place is not open at night, she still insists on going inside to make sure there is not something wrong with Kevin and his other identities.

*Picture 5 Dr. Fletcher’s appearance (Split (2016), 00:43:45)*

*Picture 6 She pays a visit to Kevin’s house (Split (2016), 01:11:20)*
4.1.1.6 Penelope Crumb

Penelope Crumb is Kevin’s abusive mother. She is a minor character who appeared through flashback in the movie. The scene represents that Kevin suffers from dissociative identity disorder due to his mother. From the flashback memory, it can be concluded that Mrs. Crumb has Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) which forces the sufferer to keep things in order and clean.

In the flashback scene, she is quite angry with little Kevin and physical abuses him to the state that he scares to death hiding under the bed. Being an abusive mother, she yells at Kevin while trying to get Kevin out of his hiding place. That is the main causes one of Kevin’s different identities, Dennis has appeared. Dennis comes to rescue Kevin’s original personality to please his mother on cleanliness so that he does not get beaten up. As a result, Dennis also suffers from OCD. Picture 7 represents the abusive character of Mrs. Crumb, which is captured by straight-on angle. The color lighting used is dark. The purpose of the color is to emphasize the horrifying of Mrs. Crumb when she gets angry.

Picture 7 Mrs. Crumb as an abusive mother
(Split (2016), 01:33:53)
4.1.2 Theme

Split is a movie which depicts the life of Kevin Wendell Crumb who has 24 identities. Trauma and mental illness appear as the theme of the movie. From the beginning of the movie through the end, it shows the strange behavior of Kevin and his mental illness which called dissociative identity disorder. Due to the illness, Kevin acts violently. He kidnaps and kills people for his own purpose. Although the DID of Kevin is dominating the story, it can be interpreted that trauma is the cause of his DID. The movie gives a hint on what is causing Kevin into that state.

Trauma is not only experienced by Kevin, but also another major character named Casey. If Kevin’s trauma leads to his DID, Casey is a different state. The traumatic experience of Casey manages her to survive from the tragedy of Kevin’s 24th identity that is The Beast. She learns to be realistic and calm if she wants to escape safely. The same as Kevin who has trauma which is physical abuse, Casey has experienced sexual abuse.

4.1.3 Setting

4.1.3.1 Setting of Place

The places in the movie Split are not very varied. There are about three main places which repeatedly occur in the frame. Those are the basement of Philadelphia zoo where the three teenagers captivated, Dr. Fletcher’s house where she meets her patients and the woods where the little Casey along with her uncle and late father used to go camping to hunt animals. Most of the movie takes place in the fabricated
house of Kevin which an abandoned basement. The zoo’s basement is revealed at the very end of the movie after one of the workers finds Casey and brings her out of the place. The zoo also represents why the 24th identity of Kevin has a similar strength of animals that is The Beast. Picture 8, 9, and 10 use camera distance called medium shot. The positions of the camera applied are straight on angle. The three pictures reveal the three major places of *Split*.

Picture 8 Casey’s memory of hunting
(*Split* (2016), 00:49:34)

Picture 9 Dr. Fletcher’s working room
(*Split* (2016), 00:37:51)

Picture 10 The front view of Philadelphia zoo
(*Split* (2016), 01:49:47)
4.1.3.2 Setting of Time

The setting time of the movie is around 2014 and above. It reveals through Kevin’s dialogue when he asks Casey the exact of today’s year since he does not remember how long he has been out of the light.

Kevin : I swear I was on a bus. I don’t remember anything after that. This is still September 18, 2014, right?
(Split (2016), 01:34:56-01:35:05)

Also, Dr. Fletcher gives a lecture via Skype. It shows the setting time of the movie is in high technology modern era. Picture 11 shows Dr. Fletcher when she gives a lecture to The University of Paris, which is taken with long shot. The camera distance applied by the cameraman is named as medium shot.

Picture 11 Dr. Fletcher lectures via Skype (Split (2016), 00:35:57)

4.1.3.3 Social Setting

Many different types of abuse still exist in today’s era. Physical and sexual abuses are several of them. It can be done by our closest person in life and usually, it comes from them. The movie describes the after effect of abuse which gives a huge impact on the victims. In the story, Kevin and Casey experience traumatic childhood.
As for Kevin, he is physically abused by his mother who suffers from Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) and it leads to her obsession keeping things in order and clean. His mother will punish him and spit harsh words when little Kevin makes a mess. Generally, children tend to mess up their toys or things because they cannot take care of themselves yet. Parents will clean their mess and else, but it is different from Kevin. Mrs. Crumb will not hesitate to punish Kevin for it. As a result of the traumatic experience, Kevin develops multiple identities. The dialogue below informs that his mother turns into an abusive person when she gets angry.


Kevin’s mother becomes abusive due to the pain of losing his husband in a rail accident. Kevin’s father died in the middle of his business trip. Mrs. Crumb takes his anger on little Kevin. Picture 12 completely shows the description of medium long shot. The camera position that existed in the picture named straight on angle. Picture 12 illustrates Mrs. Crumb who tries to hurt Kevin with a wire.

On the contrary, Casey experiences sexual abuse. She is sexually abused by his uncle when her father dies due to a heart attack and lefts her no choice, but to live with him. In society, orphanages usually will be taken care of by their related family if the family wants it. Although in certain cases they will get mistreatment. Picture 13 describes her uncle threatening little Casey which is taken with medium close up.
Equally important, the picture depicts the application of camera position technique which is defined as straight on angle.

Picture 12 Kevin’s mother tries to hurt him (Split (2016), 01:33:53)

Picture 13 Casey’s uncle threatens her (Split (2016), 01:40:44)

4.1.4 Conflict

4.1.4.1 Internal Conflict

Internal conflict of the major character is the main problem of Split. It is all about the strange occurrence of a man with his Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID). The conflict between Kevin and himself causes him to develop 24 distinct identities. He cannot cope with his traumatic childhood memories and it makes the struggles within him grow stronger in a state that he cannot stand reality. Kevin’s distinct identities even destroy innocent life to feed the so-called unborn identity which he believes way stronger than his various identities. Kevin is not feeling secure for having 23 different identities. He assumes they are not strong enough to protect him and it leads to the development of his 24th identity that is The Horde or The Beast who has fascinating power as its name.
4.1.4.2 External Conflict

External conflicts of *Split* are various. Most of them are physical conflicts between characters. The first conflict occurs between Kevin as Patricia and Marcia. Marcia throws a chair to Patricia’s back so that she can make a run to escape. Picture 14 depicts Marcia’s attempt to escape, which is portrayed by medium shot. The second conflict arises between Casey and Kevin as Hedwig. After snatching a walkie-talkie, Hedwig attacks Casey with a baseball bat to stop her to make the call. It makes Casey slaps him and gets away avoiding the bat. Picture 15 shows the strike of Hedwig, which is framed by medium shot.

Dr. Fletcher’s physical conflict with The Beast appears near the end. When she is about to get crushed to death, she tries to stab The Beast using a fruit knife which she finds there. Unfortunately, it cannot make The Beast stop and leads to her death. Picture 16, which is captured by high angle, shows Dr. Fletcher stabs The Beast but the knife broke into two pieces. The last external conflict between characters is Casey and The Beast. Casey shots him with a gun, but it does not hurt The Beast. She keeps on trying to defeat The Beast physically by shooting him twice. Picture 17 depicts Casey when she shots The Beast, which is taken with medium long shot. The picture used dark color lighting due to the crucial scene which shows Casey’s self-defense.
4.2 Extrinsic Aspects

4.2.1 Dissociative Identity Disorder of Kevin

According to Davison, the person with dissociative identity disorder has two or more distinct and fully develop personalities, each with unique memories, behavior patterns, and relationships (1998:177). Related to the theory states before, Kevin as the sufferer of DID develop 24 distinct identities. His different identities have their behaviors, tendencies, and memories that are different from each other. Even so, there are only seven dominants identities that have made an appearance in the movie. The
The rest identities expose in one scene when Casey goes through Kevin’s computer and she finds out 23 files with various names which consist of video diaries of each identity. The seven identities which take the light are Barry, Dennis, Patricia, Hedwig, Jade, Orwell, and the Beast. Hence, this sub-chapter will describe each of the dominant identities.

4.2.1.1 Kevin as Barry

Barry is a sketch artist who has an outstanding sense of fashion design. He usually brings his portfolio of dress sketches when he has an appointment with Dr. Fletcher and he likes to show them off. Picture 18 and 19, which are captured by straight-on angle, present Kevin as Barry and his sketches. Barry is in charge of visiting the doctor regularly to keep his other identities in check. He also will send Dr. Fletcher tons of emergency emails to warn her when other dangerous identities take the light.

His joyful, bright, and lively personalities are the closest to normal people in general among the other alters. He has a consistent job and a great personality. The most remarkable habit of him is he tends to wear a dark beanie hat. As the story goes on, it can be interpreted that Barry is the one who takes control over which other identities should come out and possess Kevin’s body. But later on, his role is replaced by others whose personality way more dangerous than Barry. The following dialogue represents the role of Barry as one of Kevin’s distinct identities.

    Dr. Fletcher : Who are you?
    Barry : Barry
Dr. Fletcher: I don’t think you are. I’ve developed a nose for sensing whom I’m talking to and whom I’m not to.

Barry: Have I’ve done something?

Dr. Fletcher: You’ve emailed for an unscheduled appointment two days in a row.

Barry: We are just feeling overwhelmed. Garden-variety issues.

Dr. Fletcher: I think Orwell or Jade or Samuel or Heinrich had the light for a moment and emailed me. And you’re here to tell me everything’s okay.

Barry: I emailed you.

Dr. Fletcher: May I talk to one of them, please?

Barry: That can’t happen. I told them that I want to spend the session with you today.

(Split (2016), 00:37:52-00:38:50)

As stated before, one of the roles of Barry is to send emails when he feels things going wrong due to the rest identities and it can be seen through the dialogue. Dr. Fletcher senses the strange behavior of Barry because he keeps on sending emergency emails. The statement of Dr. Fletcher about Barry is going to inform her that everything is going to be alright explains another role of Barry. He is in charge of keeping the identities in check. From the dialogue above, it also shows that Barry refuses the demand of Dr. Fletcher to talk to others. He implies that he wants to spend the session as what he usually does.

Picture 18 Kevin as Barry (Split (2016), 00:14:25)  Picture 19 The dress sketches of Barry (Split (2016), 00:14:32)


4.2.1.2 Kevin as Dennis

Dennis is the first identity to make an appearance in the movie. He is the one who kidnaps the three young girls and captivates them in the fabricated house of him. Dennis is a temperamental identity. He easily gets angry when things do not go as he expects to be. Similar to his late abusive mother, he suffers from Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) and obsesses with cleanliness. It can be said that when little Kevin tries to keep things in order and clean so that his mother does not yell or get angry is the main reason why he suffers from the same mental illness and develops an identity with OCD. Several scenes show his OCD, the following dialogue between Dennis and the girls is one of them.

\[
\text{Dennis} \quad : \quad \text{No. Please, keep your area neat. The bathroom is unacceptable. To make it easy, I’ve color-coded these. Use the blue bottle for the floor and the pink bottle for the ceramic surfaces. Patricia has reminded me that I was sent to get you for a reason. That you are sacred food. And I promise not to bother you again.}
\]

\[
\text{Marcia} \quad : \quad \text{Maybe he has a dog or something. You think he is gonna feed us to his dogs?}
\]

\[(Split (2016), 00:22:30-00:23:39)\]

The dialogue shows how Dennis obsesses with cleanliness in the state that he has two different products to keep the bathroom clean. Dennis cannot stand disordered places. That is one of several scenes which consist of the movie that shows his OCD. He also gets bothered when the girls’ shirts or skirts get dirty. Dennis will eventually ask them to take those off and get that clean. The following order of Dennis represents his OCD.
Dennis: You take off your skirt. You take off your shirt. Clothes you got all dirty from the dust.

(Split (2016), 00:35:20-00:35:25)

Dennis is not only suffering from OCD but also tends to watch young girls dance naked for him. That explains the scene at the beginning of the movie when he chooses Marcia to dance for him, but she pees on herself and as a result, Dennis sends her back to the room. The tendency of him knows from Dr. Fletcher’s statement. The dialogue between Dr. Fletcher and Barry proves that.

Dr. Fletcher: I’m gonna take a professional guess based on the description of all 23 identities that live in Kevin’s body, that I’ve gotten from Barry. I think I’m talking to Dennis. But he’s been banned from the light because, among other reasons, he has a proclivity to watch young girls dance naked, which he himself know is wrong and has fought against with little success. I’m encouraged we can finally meet. And I’ve guessed this because you’ve adjusted the chocolate dish twice since you come in here and I understand you have OCD.

Barry: I see. Now, I see. That’s clever. That’s clever but I’m not Dennis.

(Split (2016), 00:39:11-00:40:00)

4.2.1.3 Kevin as Patricia

Patricia is an identity who acts as a motherly figure woman. She wears a long skirt, high heels, and a pendant that make her elegant. Picture 20 reveals Kevin as Patricia, which is taken with medium shot. Patricia talks with a soft tone and behaves politely. She treats the girls as if they were her daughters; she makes sure that they are not starving and even comb their hair. Picture 21, which is portrayed by medium close up, shows her motherly figure.
Through the movie, this identity has a great influence to control others. There are several scenes where Dennis and Barry mention Patricia’s dominant character. However, Patricia has a flaw. She seems to be a perfectionist person and will not tolerate any flaws in everything. It portrays in one scene when she is cutting a sandwich. The dialogue between Patricia and the two girls, Marcia and Casey, explains it.

\textit{Patricia}: I’ll make you a second sandwich. Do you know, a family of lions can eat 35 pounds a day?\newline
\textit{Casey}: A buck can lose 30\% of its weight during mating season, chasing does around.\newline
\textit{Patricia}: They are crepuscular, right? It means they are travel around during dusk and dawn. Good for you. It’s crooked, forgive me. (Split (2016), 00:45:29-00:46:18)

Patricia decides to take the girls out to the dining room to make them another sandwich. While working on the second sandwich, she gets upset and slams the table because it does not perfectly divide into two slices. That makes the two girls startled. It shows that Patricia’s personality is unstable. She also cannot take the light often because her perfectionism considered being dangerous to the other identities.

Picture 20 Kevin as Patricia (Split (2016), 00:20:12)  
Picture 21 Patricia motherly figure (Split (2016), 00:44:00)
4.2.1.4 Kevin as Hedwig

Hedwig, a nine-year-old child, is another alters of Kevin’s identities. He speaks and acts like a naive little child in Kevin’s adult body. When Hedwig takes the light, He has tendencies to wear sports outfit, adds the word ‘etcetera’ while he speaks, and dances to Kanye West song because he states that he is a fan. Picture 22 describes Kevin when Hedwig takes the light framed by long shot. Hedwig and Casey are friends. Casey decides to befriend him so that she can figure the way out of the place when Hedwig possesses Kevin.

This identity also likes to draw using crayons. There is one scene when Hedwig takes Casey to his room and shows a drawing window which he draws colorfully using the crayon. Picture 23 depicts the tendency of Hedwig as a kid who likes to draw, which is captured by straight on angle. Hedwig is also an identity who is not stable, but he can take the light as he wishes. He keeps on repeating words that he has red and blue socks which out of context. It can be seen through the conversation below between Hedwig, Casey, and Marcia.

Hedwig : My name is Hedwig. I have red socks. He’s on the move.
Casey : What?
Hedwig : He’s on the move.
Casey : Who?
Hedwig : Someone’s coming for you. And you are not gonna like it. you guys make noises in your sleep.
Marcia : We’re his food?
Casey : How old are you?
Hedwig : Nine.
Casey: So you’re not the guy that took us?
Hedwig: No.
Casey: You’re not the lady?
Hedwig: What are you, blind?
Casey: You don’t know how they think?
Hedwig: No, they don’t tell me much. I just ate a hot dog.
Casey: Could you help us, Hedwig?
Hedwig: No, I’m not even supposed to be here. I stole the light from Mr. Dennis, but he’ll be back real soon. I can’t steal the light for too long or he’ll know and get angry. Etcetera.

(Split (2016), 00:24:36-00:26:13)

From the conversation, it shows the tendencies of Hedwig. He does not only keep mentioning red and blue socks out of nowhere but is also adding ‘etcetera’ at the ending of his sentence. Based on the dialogue above, Hedwig says ‘etcetera’ for once but he states that again when he makes an appearance in the next scene. The fact that he keeps mentioning things that unrelated to the topic show he is one of the unstable identities. Hence, the unstable identities cannot take the light for too long and they are not in charge to take care of other identities.

Picture 22 Hedwig in sportswear (Split (2016), 00:24:35)
Picture 23 His room full of drawings (Split (2016), 01:01:06)
4.2.1.5 Kevin as Jade

Jade is an identity that appears in a video diary of Kevin’s identities. Jade’s age, gender, and character are not clearly explained. Besides, occur in the video logs, Jade shows up after Kevin’s original identity disappeared; the identity which refrains Casey not to listen to Kevin’s demand about killing him. From the video log, it clearly shows that Jade has diabetes which requires him to take insulin shots to manage it. The dialogue of Jade in the video displays below and it proves he has diabetes.

\[
\text{Jade: I hate my insulin shots. No one else around here has to take them. Why do I have diabetes? All the doctors, besides Dr, Fletcher, says that we’re the same person. Just personalities, huh? How do you explain I’m the only one that only needs these, you motherfu...}
\]


Picture 24 Jade’s appearance in the video log, which is taken with medium close up (Split (2016), 01:23:24)

4.2.1.6 Kevin as Orwell

Another identity which is only appeared in the video log is Orwell. He tends to wear big transparent glasses. Orwell shows up to be a historian with a highly intelligent
personality; it shows when Casey plays the video. He talks about some historical war and relates it to The Beast. Orwell highly welcomes The Beast and assumes that The Beast should come in advance. The following dialogue of Orwell well describes his character as a historian.

*Orwell*: With regard to Chahamana’s defeat and Muhammad of Ghor’s conquests between 1192 and 1200, I would liken it to Muhammad’s brazen ultimatum that Prithviraj either apostatize or fight. Like Prithviraj’s defiance, we should stand up The Horde advances. In the face of their scare tactics, we should show...


Along with the video which keeps playing, The Beast slowly makes an appearance. It is the beginning of the movie’s climax. The frame depicts Dennis in the train station and about to transform into the infamous 24th identity that is The Beast.

### 4.2.1.7 Kevin as The Beast

The infamous Kevin’s 24th identity is called The Beast or The Horde. Through the movie, the dominant identities keep mentioning him as the most powerful one. They always tell how The Beast will appear and protect them all. The Beast arises near the end of *Split*. He occurs as an identity that has superhuman strength.

Kevin finally transforms into the form of The Beast in a train station. He runs barefoot from the station straight to his house where the sacred foods, the girls, get locked. In the form of The Beast, Kevin can crawl in the walls, run swiftly, resist gunshots, and bend iron bars. Picture 25, which is taken with long shot, portrays The
Beast as he crawls on the wall after arriving at the house. The Beast is not completely turned into the form of a monster. He is in the same state of Kevin as a human, but he develops more muscles and strengths.

The Beast successfully eats his sacred food which prepared by Dennis and the rest identities. He has an appetite for human flesh that is why he rips off Marcia’s and Claire’s stomach. Picture 26 shows The Beast having a human flesh that is portrayed by medium close up. His very first victim is Dr. Fletcher, but he does not eat her flesh. While The Beast is trying to chase Casey to eat her, he reveals his superhuman strength which mentioned before. He again crawls upside down on the wall, punches lamps, and shockingly bends iron bars where Casey is trying not to get attack by locking herself in a big iron cage. Picture 27, captured by medium close up shot, portrays the ability of The Beast.

The Beast states something which related to the ‘impure’ when he knows that Casey is in the same state as him. After seeing Casey’s body that full of scars from self-harm, he leaves Casey in the cage and it makes her the only victims that are surviving Kevin’s dissociative identity disorder tragedy. Picture 28 shows Casey’s scars on her body, which is framed by close up shot. The following dialogue of The Beast represents that he has a belief about the ‘impure’ and ‘pure’.

*The Beast*: We are glorious! We will no longer be afraid. Only through pain can you achieve your greatness! The impure are the untouched, the unburned, the unslain. Those who have not been torn have no values in themselves and no place in this world! They are asleep! Your gun cannot hurt me. Can’t you see I’m not human? Kevin is a man, I am much more. You are different from the rest. Your heart is pure! Rejoice! The broken
are the more evolved. Rejoice.
(Split (2016), 01:41:11-01:45:14)

Besides the dialogue above, it means that Casey is pure because she has experienced suffering and The Beast refers to the impure as those who never feel what suffering is. That also explains the reason Dennis prepares the girls as the sacred food for The Beast. It is because the two girls are having such a happy and joyful life. They get what they want and have supportive parents who are ready to fulfill everything they need, for instance, the birthday party at the beginning of the movie. The fact that Casey also gets kidnaped along with the two girls is the unpredictable plan of Dennis. At first, Dennis will only kidnap Marcia and Claire, but unluckily Casey accepts Mr. Benoit’s offer to drive her home and it leads her to the kidnaped accident.

Picture 25 The Beast crawl on the wall
(Split (2016), 01:33:01)

Picture 26 The Beast eats human flesh
(Split (2016), 01:31:42)

Picture 27 The Beast bends iron bars
(Split (2016), 01:43:59)

Picture 28 Scars on Casey’s body
(Split (2016), 01:44:20)
4.2.2 Characteristic of DID in Major Character

4.2.2.1 The presence of two or more distinct identities or personality states

Kevin Wendell Crumb as the sufferer of Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) is not only developed two distinct identities but 24 of it. His dominant alters are seven which make an appearance in the movie and repeatedly take the light. They are Dennis, Barry, Patricia, Hedwig, Jade, Orwell, and The Beast. The rest alters will occur in the next sequel of the movie that is Glass which released on January 18, 2019. However, the movie shows the names of the rest alters of Kevin through his computer. There is one scene that displays all the identities’ names except The Beast who does not occur yet. Picture 29 reveals the name of 16 identities that is portrayed by straight on angle; they are Heinrich, Samuel, Mary Reynolds, Ian, Norma, Mr.Pritchard, Luke, Goddard, Bernice, Polly, Rakel, Felida, Ansel, Jalin, Kat, B.T.

Picture 29 Kevin’s alters in his computer
(Split (2016), 01:21:54)
4.2.2.2 At least two of the identities recurrently take control of the body

As stated before, Kevin’s body repeatedly takes control of the seven dominant alters. Among the seven, Barry is in charge to decide which identities can take the light and which one is not. It shows through the conversation between Hedwig and Casey. Hedwig informs her how the alters take a turn to have Kevin’s body. The following conversation presents it.

\[\begin{align*}
\text{Kevin as Hedwig} & : \text{Do you know who Dennis and Ms. Patricia are?} \\
\text{Casey} & : \text{No.} \\
\text{Kevin as Hedwig} & : \text{Everyone of us has to wait in a chair, and Barry he decides who stands in the light. But Barry lost that power because of me. I can wish myself into the light anytime I want. It’s a special power. Barry just has to keep sitting in his chair if I want him to. That’s why Dennis and Miss Patricia said I could be with them. (Split (2016), 00:50:18-00:50:52)}
\end{align*}\]

The conversation reveals that one identity that is Barry is the one who takes control over the alters, even though he will replace by Dennis and Patricia who force Barry not to take the light. It is a fact that the seven alters have their behavior when they possess Kevin’s body. For instance, Kevin will act like an innocent little kid who loves drawing and dancing when Hedwig comes to the light.

4.2.2.3 Inability to recall important personal information

According to DSM IV, one of the characteristics of people with DID is they cannot remember anything when other identities have their bodies. Each of identities has separated memories that differ from others. It leads to memory gaps between the original identity and the alters. It happens to Kevin’s main identity. He does not get
any clue in what year he is now. The dialogue of Kevin and Casey proves that he does not remember anything before the alters take a turn to possess his body.

Kevin: Who are you? What’s happening?
Casey: Something horrible.
Kevin: What’d I do? Did I hurt you? Dr. Fletcher, Dr. Fletcher, Who did that?
Casey: You did.
Kevin: I swear I was on a bus. I don’t remember anything after that. This is still September 18, 2014, right?

(Split (2016), 01:34:21-01:35:05)

From the dialogue, it depicts that Kevin does not remember the present time and even he does not know who kills Dr. Fletcher. He confuses about the sudden fact that he encounters in the room. Kevin also asks Casey who she is and why she can be in the room with him along with the dead body of Dr. Fletcher.

4.2.2.4 The disturbance is not due to direct psychological effects of a substance

Kevin does not take any general medication. The mental illness of him, DID, comes from his psychology state and it urges him to keep in check from a psychologist about his multiple identities. The fact that he wants the world or people to acknowledge his existence and not to make fun of him is one of the sources of his mental illness.

The disturbance which causes by Kevin does not come from direct psychology effects of a substance. He shifts personalities due to his traumatic childhood. Also, when he shifts personalities, he does not experience a blackout. It is the effect of his dissociative identity disorder which called depersonalization. Depersonalization is a condition when people with DID are feeling disconnected from
one’s thoughts and body. Kevin can shift personality in any second as the following
dialogue. He keeps on changing alters while trying to talk to Casey.

\[\text{Kevin} \quad : \quad \text{Kill me. Kill me. Then kill me.}\]
\[\text{Kevin as Jade} \quad : \quad \text{Wait, No! Don’t do that! He can’t handle reality. My name is Jade. Has Dr. Fletcher been getting our emails? This is what we have to do.}\]
\[\text{Kevin as Orwell} \quad : \quad \text{As in 1008, when Anandapala suffered the Shahis’ most crushing defeat and Mahmud overran the entirety of the Punjab region, taking the famed Temple of Kangra, we have been wronged by this alliance, this horde of Patricia, Dennis and the boy. Their actions do not represent us. They are every..}\]
\[\text{Kevin as Barry} \quad : \quad \text{Everybody, just take a minute! Oh, baby girl. They have been stealing control of the light from me. But the group are gonna work through this. Honey, my name is Barry.}\]
\[\text{Kevin as Hedwig} \quad : \quad \text{You shouldn’t have used the walkie-talkie. They almost caught us.}\]
\[\text{Casey} \quad : \quad \text{Stop it, Hedwig!}\]
\[\text{Kevin as Hedwig} \quad : \quad \text{They were right. Look at you. You’re so frightened of us. Dennis and Miss Patricia are in charge because of me. I’m gonna give the light to them now. No one’s allowed to make fun of me anymore.}\]
\[\text{Kevin as Patricia} \quad : \quad \text{Thank you, Hedwig. Everything’s fine now.}\]
\[\text{Casey} \quad : \quad \text{Kevin Wendell Crumb.}\]
\[\text{Kevin as Patricia} \quad : \quad \text{Kevin is asleep. We’ve made him sleep far away. You can call his name all you like, dear, but he’s not going to hear you. The Beast has shared with us his dreams of a larger group to sustain him.}\]
\[\text{Casey} \quad : \quad \text{No.}\]

\((\text{Split (2016), 01:35:28-01:37:49})\)

### 4.2.3 The cause of Kevin’s dissociative identity disorder

Generally, every illness has things which triggered or caused it to happen, the same as Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) as one of the various mental illnesses that truly exist in reality. As for DID, it can occur due to a traumatic experience, war, accident,
etc. The people with DID are usually in the state that they cannot cope with the unpleasant experiences and lead to the development of alters. The alters create as a form of their defense mechanism.

The character of Kevin in *Split* suffers from DID due to a traumatic experience. As stated in the character section, Penelope Crumb as Kevin’s mother is an abusive person. She is the main cause of Kevin’s multiple identities. The movie shows Kevin’s flashback memory when he was a child. The scene depicts a little kid who is hiding from his angry mother under the bed. Mrs. Crumb screams Kevin’s full name with rage as if she is about to kill him at the moment.

It also tells the way Kevin can be back to his original personality by calling his full name, Kevin Wendell Crumb, continuously and stops The Beast or whoever who possesses his body from doing bad things. That makes Casey can buy the time and figure out how to get a weapon to fight The Beast and finally be the only one who survives from Kevin and his alters.
CONCLUSION

*Split* depicts the story of Kevin as the major character who suffers from Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID). He experiences a traumatic childhood which causes him to develop multiple identities. His mother tends to abuse him physically and it is the main reason why Kevin suffers from DID. Based on the theory of DID used in this thesis, it happens due to severe trauma which is experienced by the sufferers. They create multiple identities to cope with trauma and reality.

Kevin as the sufferer of DID develops 24 distinct identities. The various personalities which called alters have their role and behavior. Kevin creates different alters to protect himself. He believes that his alters are stronger than his original personality. There are 8 dominant alters including Kevin’s original personality, who keep taking ‘the light’ to possess Kevin’s body and influence his behavior.

The first personality which is quite important is Dennis. Dennis is an alter who occurs because of Kevin’s abusive mother. His mother suffers from Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) and obsesses with cleanliness. She will abuse Kevin because of the mess he has created. As a result, he develops an identity that can manage cleanliness in the house. Dennis also has the same illness as his mother that is OCD.
The rest dominant identities such as Barry, Patricia, Hedwig, and The Beast have their tendencies and even different gender from the main personality of Kevin. The alters are created as his defense mechanism. The distinct alters act differently according to what Kevin’s needs, for instance, a loving mother as Patricia. They reflect each of Kevin’s unconscious desires.

The conflict in *Split* comes from Kevin’s DID. He creates an alter, The Beast, who has superhuman strengths and prepares sacred food which is the three young girls to welcome the 24th identity. Unexpectedly, one of the victims manages to survive from getting eaten by The Beast. Casey survives the tragedy of Kevin’s alters and reveals that Kevin develops The Beast to make people taste the suffering as what he has experienced.

Based on the conflict, the writer concludes that Kevin Wendell Crumb suffers from DID due to physical abuse done by his mother. He creates 24 alters to protect him and to cope with the traumatic experience. The seven dominant alters are taking care of his body while the rest do not show up in the movie, but they make an appearance through Kevin’s computer which shows the names of each 23 identities.
REFERENCES


