

To cite this article: Wiruma Titian Adi, Titi Dewi Rohati, Unpris Yastanti, Dadan Hidayat, Jimmi and Ary Iswanto Wibowo (2024). CHARACTERIZATION OF BRYAN MILLS IN TAKEN 1 FILM, International Journal of Education and Social Science Research (IJESSR) 7 (5): 230-238 Article No. 983, Sub Id 1546

CHARACTERIZATION OF BRYAN MILLS IN TAKEN 1 FILM

Wiruma Titian Adi, Titi Dewi Rohati, Unpris Yastanti, Dadan Hidayat, Jimmi and Ary Iswanto Wibowo

Universitas Bina Sarana Informatika,
Jl. Kramat Raya No. 98, Senen. Jakarta Pusat, Indonesia

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.37500/IJESSR.2024.7516>

ABSTRACT

This research focuses on the characterization of Bryan Mills in Taken 1 Film directed by Pierre Morel. The research adopts a qualitative descriptive method to examine and describe the data. The objectives of the study are to analyze the characterization based on Joseph and Dennis' theory (2002). As the result, 1) Characterization through appearance: Bryan Mills is loving her daughter and he protect the women. 2) Characterization Through Dialogue: Bryan Mills is Friendly Man and a good Father. 3) Characterization through Action: Bryan Mills save a singer and rescue the woman.

KEYWORDS: Characterization, Literature, Taken 1 Film

INTRODUCTION

Film is a work of art in the form of a series of vivid images that played to produce an illusion of moving images which are presented as a form of entertainment. The illusion of a series of images that produce continuous motion in the form of video. The film is often referred to as a movie or a moving picture. It is a form of modern art and popular made for business and entertainment. Producing film has now become a huge industry that is quite popular around the world, in which the films are always eagerly anticipated big-screen presence in cinema theatres. Various largest film industry, among others, Hollywood films, Hong Kong or Bollywood.

A film has a few genres. Genre is the designation to distinguish different types of a film. It may be fictional (made-up) or a true story or a mixture of both. A film's genre is a definitive category based on its narrative elements. The following are some genres of film are adventure, historical, drama, comedy, horror, romance, action, fantasy, science fiction and crime (Malatesta, 2018). Taken 1 is great movie and very interesting action and family story, especially the close relationship between child and father. A father who was very fond of her daughter even though he had been separated from his wife because of the work.

In order to create a three-dimensional character with a well-developed background, the movie has to illustrate the character's sociology, psychology, and physiology (Reich, 2017). The main sociological points of a character are economic class, occupation, education, home life, religion, race, nationality,

position in the community, political affiliation, amusements, and hobbies. Whereas the main psychological points of a character are moral standards, personal premise, ambition, frustrations, chief disappointments, temperament, attitude toward life, complexes, extroversion, introversion; ambivalence, abilities, character qualities, and IQ. The last dimensional character is physiology that points the sex, age, height, weight, posture, appearance, defects, and heredity.

Characterization is the process by which an author or creator reveals the personality, traits, and qualities of a character within a narrative. This can be achieved through a combination of direct and indirect methods, including explicit description, actions, dialogue, thoughts, physical appearance, and interactions with other characters. Effective characterization helps to develop a deep, multi-dimensional understanding of characters, making them believable and engaging for the audience. Characterization helps readers understand and connect with the characters, making the story more engaging and relatable. It also drives the plot forward and adds depth to the narrative.

In addition, characterization is a literary device that is used step by step in literature to highlight and explain the details about a character in a story. It is in the initial stage where the writer introduces the character with noticeable emergence and then following the introduction of the character, the writer often talks about his behavior; then as the story progresses, the thought-process of the character. The next stage involves the character expressing his opinions and ideas and getting into conversations with the rest of the characters. The final part shows how others in the story respond to the character's personality.

The previous research about characterization has been analyzed either through novel or through film. An analysis through novel was revealed by (Annisa, Patmarinanta & Potjut, 2000). They analyzed the characterization of *The Fault of Our Stars* novel. Some examples of characterization analysis through movie were discovered by (Hariman, 2023) and (Fitria, 2021). Furthermore, (Saraswati, 2019) investigated characterization applied in poetry.

Research Questions

Based on background and reason of the problem above, the problem can be stated as follow

1. How does the characterization through Appearance of Bryan Mills in the movie?
2. How does the characterization through Dialogue of Bryan Mills in the movie?
3. How does the characterization through Action of Bryan Mills in the movie?

2. TEORETICAL REVIEW

Characterization

According to (M.H. Abrams, 2015) Characterizing is establishing the distinctive characters of the persons in narrative: showing and telling. Characterization generates plot and is revealed by actions, speech, thoughts, physical appearance, and the other characters' thoughts or words about him. It means characterization exist to effect of plot poetry and drama of the actions described, speech, thoughts,

physical appearance, and the other characters.

(Boggs, 2018) stated that the methods of revealing character in literary work or film include:

a. Characterization through Appearance

Because most film actors project certain qualities of characters the time they appear on the screen, characterization in film has a great deal to do with casting. A major aspect of film characterization is revealed visually and instantaneously. The minute we see most actors on the screen, we make certain assumptions about them because of their facial features, dress, physical build, and mannerisms and the way they move. Our first visual impression may be proven erroneous as the story progresses, but it is certainly an important means of establishing character. Further, details of physical appearance can help to identify a character's age and the general state of physical and emotional health and well-being: whether the character is strong or weak, happy or sad, calm or agitated. By common agreement physical attributes have become identified over a period of time with certain kinds of inner psychological states.

b. Characterization through Dialogue

The task of establishing character through dialogue is not a simple one. Some characters are careful and guarded in what they say: they speak only by indirection, and we must infer from their words what they actually mean. Others are open and candid; they tell us, exactly what is in their minds. Some characters are given to chronic exaggeration and overstatement; other to understatement and subtlety. Character in a fictional film naturally reveals a great deal about themselves by what they say. But a great deal is also revealed by how they say it. Their true thoughts, attitudes, and emotions can be revealed in subtle ways through word choice and through the stress, pitch, and patterns of their speech.

c. Characterization through Action

The character of a fictional person in play or film is judged by her actions. Perhaps the best reflections of character are a person's actions. It must be assumed, of course, that real characters are more than instruments of the plot, that they do what they do for a purpose, out of motives that are consistent with their overall personality. Thus, there should be a clear relationship between a character and his or her actions; the actions should grow naturally out of the character's personality. If the motivation for a character's action is clearly established, the character and the plot become closely interwoven; they are impossible to separate, and every action that the character takes in some way reflects the quality of his or her particular personality. Moreover, there is an inner world of action that normally remains unseen and unheard by even the most careful observer or listener. Yet the dimension of human nature that this world embraces is often essential to a real understanding of a character. Inner action occurs within a character's mind and emotions and consists of secret, unspoken thoughts, daydreams, aspirations, memories, fears, and fantasies. The most obvious way in which the film maker reveals inner reality is by taking us visually or aurally into the character's mind so that we see or hear the things that the characters imagine, remember, or think about.

d. Characterization through Reaction of Other Characters

People learn about person's characteristics by what others say about her. The way other characters view a person often serves as an excellent means of characterization. Sometimes, a great deal of information about character is already provided through such means before characters first appear on the screen.

e. Characterization through Choice of Name

One important method of characterization is the use of names possessing appropriate qualities of sound, meaning, or connotation. This technique is known as name typing. Because a great deal of thought goes into the choice of names, they should not be taken for granted but should be carefully examined for the connotation they communicate. Some characters are given names suggest their dominant or controlling traits. Other characters are given names that reinforce (or sometime are in contrast to) their physical appearance. Names can also contain literary or historical allusions that aid in characterization by association.

f. Characterization through Contrast: Dramatic Foils

One of the most effective techniques of characterization is the use of foils contrasting characters whose behavior, attitudes, opinions, lifestyle, physical appearance, and so on are the opposite of those of main characters. The effect is similar to that achieved by putting black and white together-the black appears blacker and the white appears whiter. The tallest giant and tiniest midget might be placed side by side at the carnival slideshow, and the film maker sometimes uses character in much the same way.

Based on the explanations above, characterization has a lot of technical perfection of movie, this is proven with techniques that are made in such detail on the techniques that have been set in detail a movie will get perfect results and exceptional.

3. METHOD

This paper employs descriptive qualitative research methods to collect data from the internet, journals, and books. Qualitative method is chosen because this approach depends on textual and visual information, encompass distinct stages in data interpretation, and utilize a variety of frameworks. The evaluation in this study will centre on the subject of observation and provide a comprehensive description of it to the readers (Creswell, 2018). The data collection technique used in this research follows a qualitative descriptive research method, which involves gathering data in the form of words, phrases, and descriptive elaboration.

4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Characterization through Appearance

a. Loving his daughter

The writers analyze the characterization through of appearance. It is delivered from clothing, physical appearance, and facial expression. It showed that Bryan Mills is the protagonist and the identity of

Bryan is a former CIA agent. It can be seen in this movie Bryan Trying to save his daughter, Kim from kidnapping.



Figure 4.1 When Bryan in Paris looking for his daughter (00.51.32)

In this scene shows the characterization of the appearance of Bryan. A simple man, tall, middle-aged, clearly visible wrinkles on his face. In this scene also shows the expression of a father with a gloomy eye beam, which is worried that their daughter is kidnapped.

b. Protect a women

This is another supporting characterization data is showing through the appearance of Bryan. Bryan over half aged man, who was very fond of his daughter. In this scene Bryan are doing a job escorting a famous singer named Sheerah, at a concert. However, incidents of commotion at the concert. The swarm of spectators suddenly barged into the back of the stage. In the process save Sheerah, a man appeared with a knife and tried to injure Sheerah but successfully be paralyzed by Bryan. Then Bryan and Sheerah rush into the car and Bryan drop her home.



Figure 4.2. When Bryan became the bodyguard of a singer (00.11.00)

Bryan wears all-black outfit, with a leather jacket, and of course the safety equipment he was wearing. Visible from the face and highlight in his eyes, that Bryan was a good guy, compassionate and

professional of doing his job. Bryan tried to calm Sheerah by giving her a drink and hug her to calm. Because Sheerah is shock, with the events that had just occurred to her at the concert.

4.2 Characterization through Dialogue

a. Friendly man

To get the characterization of the character, the writer also analyzes through dialogue. It can be seen in the movie is not just displayed clearly in the dialogue, but it could also indirectly. The writer concludes from what is spoken, attitudes, and emotions of the character when he said his lines. Here is Bryan scene, with the keeper electronics store. Bryan came to the store to buy a present for his daughter, Kim upcoming birthdays.



Figure 4.3 When Bryan buys a birthday gift for Kim (00.02.00)

- Shopkeeper : “Mr. Mills, how are you?”
Bryan : “I’m fine. How are you?”
Shopkeeper : “Fine. I suppose you wanna see it again?”
Bryan : “If you don’t mind.”
Shopkeeper : “You know where it is.”
Bryan : “Oh, Yeah.”
Shopkeeper : “You know if I charged you a dollar every time. You came to examine the machine. You’d probably own it. It’s the one all the pros use. Mariah Carey, Beyonce, Gwen Stefani.”
Bryan : “Really? Who’s Beyonce? Just kidding. I’ll take it.”

In this scene looks shopkeepers are already familiar with Bryan, they greet each other. It can be concluded, in this scene looks Bryan was a friendly man, courteous, and likes joking.

b. A good father

This is another supporting characterization data is showing through dialogue of Bryan. In this scene featuring a conversation between Bryan and the man who had kidnapped his daughter. Although Bryan still looks calm, but not with feelings. A father who would be very upset and emotional to know that the daughter he loved so much had been kidnapped.



Figure 4.4. When Bryan talking on the phone with the kidnapper (00.27.17)

Bryan : “I don’t know who you are. I don’t know what you want. If you are looking for a ransom. I can tell you; I don’t have money. But what I do have are a very particular set of skills. Skills I have acquired over a very long career. Skills that make me a nightmare for people like you. If you let my daughter go now, that will be the end of it. I will not look for you. I will not pursue you. But if you don’t, I will look for you, I will find you, and I will kill you.”

Marko : “Good luck.”

The picture shows that Bryan is a hero. From the dialogue he said, implying that he certainly loved his daughter and will not let anything bad happen to her daughter. Bryan threatened to kill the kidnappers, of course with the skills he has acquired in his career being a CIA agent. If the kidnapper not immediately return Kim safely.

4.2 Characterization through Action

a. Saving a singer

Characters in a fiction or a movie in the value of his actions. We assume the real character is not just an instrument of the plot. That they are doing something for a purpose. Out of motives that are consistent with their overall personality. Thus, there should be a clear relationship between a character and his or her actions.

In this scene Bryan who was doing a job, which is escorting a famous singer named Sheerah in concert. There was a riot incident and there was a man carrying a knife to hurt Sheerah.



Figure 4.5. When Bryan saves a singer from criminals (00.10.26)

In this scene, seen action when Bryan be paralyzed criminals who seek to hurt Sheerah. With his martial arts skills which is very good, he can easily defeat the criminals. Sheerah then drove to her hotel safely. The young singer was also very grateful to Bryan, who has saved and keeping very well.

b. Rescue a women

This is another supporting characterization through actions of Bryan. In this scene show how the process and tenacious action on a mission to save Kim who was kidnapped, and reveal all that the mastermind of all this. In a construction, there are brothels. Bryan posing as customers and found a woman who uses a Kim's jacket. He tried to save her, take her away and also treat the woman from the influence of drugs. There was a fight and shootout between Bryan and a group of Albanians.



Figure 4.6. When Bryan saves the women (00.46.35)

In this scene, Bryan tries to rescue a woman who became one of the victims of prostitution Albanians. In order to get information and get his daughter back, he was willing to do anything, even lives at stake.

5. CONCLUSION

From this analysis, the writers found three kinds of characterization of the main character, Bryan Mills, they are: characterization through appearance, characterization through dialogue, and characterization through action. In appearance, it can be seen from how he played as a father who loves and misses his daughter. Characterization through dialogue, can be seen from how the dialogue that describes the time his daughter was kidnapped. Bryan was very worried and would seek kidnappers and killed him. Because a father would not let anything bad happen to his daughter. Through action, it can be seen from his attitude, Bryan will do anything to be able to find and rescue his daughter. Although he has to give his own life.

REFERENCES

- Annisa, Patmarinanta & Potjut, E. (2000). A Study on Characterization of the Main Character in “The Fault in Our Stars.” *Research in English and Education (READ)*, 1(1), 26–33.
- Boggs, J. & P. D. (2018). *The Art of Watching Films* (Ninth edit). McGraw-Hill Education.
- Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2018). Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches. In *Journal of Chemical Information and Modeling* (5th ed., Vol. 53, Issue 9). SAGE Publishing.
- Fitria, T. N. (2021). Characterization Analysis of the Main Character in “Hichki” Movie. *Vivid: Journal of Language and Literature*, 10(1), 6. <https://doi.org/10.25077/vj.10.1.6-17.2021>
- Hariman, A. (2023). *The Characterization of the Main Characters in Gábor Csúpó’s Bridge to Terabithia (2007) Movie*.
- M.H. Abrams, G. G. H. (2015). *A Glossary of Literary Terms*. Cengage Learning.
- Malatesta, M. (2018). *Film Book Genre - Complete List of Book Genre*. <https://book-genres.com/film-book-genre/>
- Reich, J. (2017). *Exploring Movie Construction and Production*. Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.
- Saraswati, K. P. (2019). Analysis of Characters and Characterization in the Compilation of Malay Poetry “Mirror.” *Thesis*. <https://lib.unnes.ac.id/34346/>