

Postmodern Aspect and Image of The Alien from Postmodern Perspective in *A Quiet Place* (2018)

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ABSTRACT

This paper discusses postmodern element and the image of the alien according postmodern perspective in *A Quite Place* (2018). This study uses a qualitative descriptive with the aim of providing an overview and explaining the events that are happening without touching or opportunity the variables in careless. The analysis technique is to understand the short story narrative and take an understanding, then the understanding or idea are investigated through postmodern theory in order to get a desired result.

Keywords: A Quite Place, Postmodern, Alien.

INTRODUCTION

Humans are creatures that occupy the top of the food chain and control everything in life on this earth. Humans contain all ecosystems and even make the ecosystem itself. Indeed, humans are monodual beings consisting of physical and spiritual; besides that, humans are also individual beings and social beings. Humans are personal beings who have reason, thoughts, and feelings to develop their abilities. And as social beings, humans will be encouraged to communicate and interact with other individuals because humans are social creatures who need to speak to another individual to meet their spiritual needs (Ratnawati et al., 2013).

Humans are monodual creatures, so humans will continue developing and creating various valuable discoveries for human life. Inventions generated from time to time have arrived in modern times like now, where technological advances have been rapid and advanced, thus enabling things that were not possible in ancient times. Humans can go into space and even know the arrangement of the planets in the solar system. Discover the fact that only planet earth has life in the solar system.

All the achievements that humans can achieve are extraordinary; humans are the ruling creatures on earth and can become the most powerful beings in the solar system because there are no other living beings in the solar system. However, humans aren't the only living beings in the universe; other creatures can be called aliens. Earth and the sun are nothing

special, just satellites that revolve around the sun. There are billions of other suns in the universe with other planets revolving around them, so it is possible, there is another life out there (Hana, 2020).

This possibility has emerged since the 16th century known as extraterrestrial. A heliocentric view says that the sun is the center of the universe, not the earth. The universe is imagined without limits, and there is not only one solar system (Hana, 2020). With the infinity of the universe, it is possible for other life outside the solar system, which may be the existence of aliens who are very far away and cannot be reached by humans.

Human curiosity about Alien will be interesting because of the human interest that Alien is real or not existence. However, many fact trails of them evidence their existence Curiosity about aliens will be exciting because humans do not know whether they exist. Still, with various trace facts proving their existence, it will not be easy to convince humanity of their existence. Therefore there will be multiple debates about their existence, even though these debates have existed for a long time. Many humans also testify to seeing their presence with their own eyes, but all of that cannot be concrete evidence to prove their existence. The debate about the existence of aliens will have its charm because many witnesses claim they are accurate but cannot be ascertained whether it is real or just a fantasy.

When talking about Alien's existence that comes to the earth was narrated in the manuscript *A Quiet Place (2018)*, where aliens who come to the world are predators of humans. Humans who were previously the most powerful creatures on earth must be threatened with extinction because of the arrival of aliens who prey on humans. So that only a handful of humans survive like a small family that stays by not speaking or making sounds so as not to be eaten by aliens because these aliens will only prey on humans if they make a sound even though the slightest they will come and prey on humans. This small family can survive even though it will be difficult for them considering humans are social creatures that require interaction and communication with other humans (Krasinski, 2018).

In this case, the writer formulates two problems. How is the postmodern element in the *A Quite Place (2018)* and how image alien in the postmodern perspective. Researchers used previous research references to determine another research of *A Quite Place (2018)*.

The first researc h entitled An analysis of Gestures Found in "A Quiet Place" Film was made by Putri. The researcher focuses on gesture in *A Quiet Place (2018)*. The researcher found that gesture is a form of non-verbal communication that uses body action to make a message. Gestures organize the brain. A gesture has kind; Iconic, Metaphoric, Deictic, and Beats which is appropriate with David McNeill and Levy 2005 (Putri et al., 2020). This research is not complete because it is just research about gestures to non-verbal communication.

The second research entitled Family Values in the Movie "A Quiet

Place’: A Semiotic Approach made by Ayuniantari. The result of this research is that in movie *A Quiet Place* (2018) evidence five syntagma categories. It is autonomous shot, episodic sequences, scene, alternative syntagma, and descriptive syntagma, which are shown to the audience about the movie's family values (Ayuniantari et al., 2020). The correlation between syntagma and family values is hard enough to understand.

The third reasearch entitled *A Postmodernist Critique of Hashim Nadeem’s Novel “Muqadas”* that was written by Khan. This research shows that *Muqadas* employs various postmodern elements like meta-narrative, intertextuality, alienation from emotions, faction, absurdity, and fragmentation. It is evidence that *Muqadas* is a postmodern piece of text (Khan, 2020). In this research, just research about the *Muqadas* is a piece of postmodern work or not, and it is not enough because many other things can search in this novel related to postmodern theory.

METHOD

This research uses descriptive qualitative which appropriate with the purpose of this research to explaining how and why about the phenomenon and examine problems arranged to get the fascination result. The data used in this study are primary data and secondary data. Primary data for this research is all of manuscript of *A Quite Place (2018)*. The secondary data for this study are journals to strengthening reasons.

The research stage will consist of some sets that are (1) reading the script of *A Quiet Place (2018)*; (2) looking for theories that are appropriate to the issues to be studied; (3) collecting data; (4) writing scientific articles.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Postmodern Culture Aspects

Eclecticism

Characters familiar with contemporary culture in *A Quiet Place (2018)* are described by regularly playing recent games with modern society. The game is widely known throughout the world and has become a classic game for contemporary society. It can be seen from the following quote.

“INT. BARN - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

REGAN and MARCUS lie on the floor playing... Monopoly” (Krasinski, 2018:34).

Monopoly itself is a legendary game from America that teaches players about buying, renting, and exchanging properties. Today 83 years ago, on November 5, 1935, the board game Monopoly was launched by the game company Parker Brothers. Since its launch, this game is widely known

from various circles around the world. Here there is no mixing of cultures or foreign cultures, because the game Monopoly originated in America. However, monopoly has spread globally and is used in almost all countries, so it can be included in eclecticism because the monopoly game has given limitation to other countries. Therefore, the game of monopoly has become an aspect of the culture of eclecticism.

In addition, eclecticism can also be in the form of a global contemporary culture carried out by the world community. *A Quiet Place (2018)* is depicted with characters listening to songs using earbuds while dancing. As in the following quote.

“... She removes the earbuds
from her ear... and seamlessly places it in his, as:
MUSIC RUSHES IN!
The only record on the record player, this is the song they
were married to. This is...
NEIL YOUNG'S HARVEST MOON
Perhaps it's due to the lack of sound thus far in the
movie... or maybe the marrying image of the two dancing, but
the sounds of the song are crystal clear” (Krasinski, 2018:46-47).

In the quote above the actions of characters who listen to music using earbuds were listening to Neil Young's song with the title Harvest Moon. Then proceed with dancing to the strains of the song. It can also be said as eclecticism because dancing to the tunes of songs has become a common culture and is loved by people worldwide. In other words, dance is a contemporary culture that is commonly practiced by the world community.

Parody

Parody is a form of dialogue that aims to express feelings of dissatisfaction, displeasure, discomfort regarding how to criticize, criticize, fight and or make jokes out of it (Syafri, 2012). Regan's character in *A Quiet Place (2018)* is unhappy with his father's actions forcing him to use a hearing aid. It is no longer helpful in the context of the story *A Quiet Place (2018)*. So the character Regan fights against him. Like the quote below.

“ LEE looks at his daughter as she looks at him... her venomous
face, betrayed by the large tears that roll down her cheek.
After a long moment... REGAN snatches the hearing aid from
her father's hand and walks away” (Krasinski, 2018:54).

Regan's character looks at his father and cries, and then he leaves by taking the hearing aid from his father's hand and leaves. Regan's character's behavior is an example of a parody described here seriously. It is more of a

direct character's displeasure without using hyperbole to exaggerate the parody because it fits the genre and context of the story from *A Quiet Place (2018)* with a horror nuance. Therefore, the depiction of parody is done seriously without any element of hyperbole and humor.

Irony

A Quiet Place (2018) is a picture of the irony experienced by humankind. Humans who have the title of the most intelligent and powerful creature on earth must submit and almost experience extinction due to the arrival of aliens to the world, as is the case with Lee Abbot's small family who managed to survive without making the slightest sound.

Home is the safest place for humans in general, but in *A Quiet Place (2018)*, that all changes. Any business is safe as long as it doesn't make noise or louder nature sounds. As in the quote, Regan's character, who wants to enter the house, must be conscientious when entering the house.

“REGAN reaches the front door of the FARMHOUSE... and stops at the threshold. As she looks down at the worn wood floor, scanning, we can notice... deliberately painted markings on the floor.

Just then, REGAN takes a dramatically long step inside, placing her foot down... directly on the first colored markings... silence. Looking almost relieved, REGAN once again scans the floor and then focuses on another marking” (Krasinski, 2018:50).

The quote above explains that to enter the house of Regan's character, you must follow the sign on the floor of her home not to make noise that will invite aliens to come. That is ironic because humans must be so afraid to enter their own homes as the most powerful creatures on earth. It is ironic because humans are top of the food chain on the planet but must submit to and are on the verge of extinction due to the arrival of aliens.

Camp

Camp is a harbinger of identity and masking (Hatija, 2018). In *A Quiet Place (2018)*, man is not himself. Humans are monodual creatures who need to socialize and communicate (Ratnawati et al., 2013). Like the following quote, the family of Lee Abbot's characters has been masking themselves since the Aliens' arrival to survive.

“ MOTHER (SIGNING)

For my tea.

He just keeps looking at her.

MOTHER (SIGNING) (CONT'D)

Fine. I have a sweet tooth” (Krasinski, 2018:9).

In the quote, it can be seen that Mother uses sign language to communicate. What Mother did was a mask of identity. The true essence of humans who share using spoken voice. Humans naturally have this identity; even though Regan's character is deaf, sign language is still a mask from the essence of language and communication from the speaker.

The masking of identity can also be seen in the following quote where the Lee Abbot family jokes with each other and laughs silently.

“The whole family laughs silently as the daughter GENTLY takes another candy bar from a box below the cash register... We can now see why the boxes are almost empty” (Krasinski, 2018:10).

When the family jokes in silence, they have disguised their identity. Humans will laugh as much as possible when joking; naturally, it is like that. But in *A Quiet Place* (2018), humans are forced to laugh in silence and mask themselves.

Alien Image on the Postmodern Perspective

The presence of aliens in *A Quiet Place* (2018) is an irony for human life. Humans who have been at the top of the food chain become rulers since the arrival of aliens to earth. Humans are no longer the rulers; instead, they are made prey and on the verge of extinction because of the arrival of aliens.

Humans are monodual creatures who need to socialize and communicate (Ratnawati et al., 2013). However, the presence of alien makes people scared. If people scared they won't be their self. The presence of aliens also provides a mask of identity to humans. Humans who previously could freely communicate, speak, enjoy loud music suddenly have to be in a life where there should be no even the slightest sound.

CONCLUSION

The conclusion drawn from this research is that the aspect of postmodern culture in *A Quiet Place* (2018) does not have a Pastiche aspect. In eclecticism, it is described by the existence of contemporary culture, which is commonly practiced by the world community, by the fact that monopoly games are commonly known to the world community and listen to music while dancing. Parody is described with displeasure from the character Regan. The irony is the most striking part in *A Quiet Place* (2018) because the presence of aliens is an irony for humanity were those who previously occupied the top of the food chain and became rulers on Earth have drastically changed to become prey of aliens and are on the verge of extinction. Camp or masking can be seen from human behavior that has changed drastically. Humans are naturally monodual creatures who

socialize and communicate freely and have to do it all in silence. The image of aliens through a postmodern perspective is an irony for humankind and at the same time makes humans do camp or mask their true identity.

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