

Relationship Between Scene and Sountrack of Teenager's Frustration and Anger Reflected on *The End of The F*ing World Series (2017)***

Ahmad Aufarul Lutfi

(aufarul.lutfi@gmail.com)

Universitas Sains Al-Qur'an, Wonosobo, Indonesia

Atinia Hidayah

(atiniahidayah@unsiq.ac.id)

Universitas Sains Al-Qur'an, Wonosobo, Indonesia

Abstract

*This study is aimed to analyze: (1) The scenes in The End of the F***ing World Series (2017) that depict teenagers' frustration and anger. The study uses a qualitative method to analyze the film entitled "The End of the F***ing World" as the objective research. The researcher analyzes the data by using semiotics and takes some steps of watching, reading the subtitle, identifying, classifying, and selecting data. Afterward, the step is continued by analyzing data through the process of displaying, explaining, and interpreting the data. The result shows that the scenes portrayed teenagers' frustration and anger caused by their personal, family, and social problems.*

Keywords: *semiotic, scene, soundtrack, teenager's frustration and anger*

Introduction

Series is a noun that indicates a series of stories of one unit where one story is related. So, if there is a part that is not followed it will make it difficult to understand the next story. One of the most interesting series is *The End of the F***ing World*. The series is based on the book of the same name and is aired on Netflix. The series, which averages 25 minutes every episode, has a very complex meaning in each scene, starting from lighting, the use of colors for clothing, and settings where the selection is done in accordance with the issue or message to be conveyed. Many scenes imply teenage frustration, sexual harassment, and family issues.

Scenes of teenage frustration are seen a lot in this series. During Alyssa and James' journey across England, many scenes reveal teenage frustration and

these are significantly affected by the problems they faced. The frustration and anger also develop throughout the story and, therefore, this is what the researcher is interested in.

Literary Review

Semiotics

Semiotics or semiology comes from the Greek, that is, semeion meaning sign. Terminologically, semiotics can be defined as a science that studies a wide array of objects, and events of an entire culture as signs. The notion of semiotics or the science of signs or the study of semiotics is the study of the meaning of decisions. These include the study of signs and sign processes (semiosis), indications, designations, similarities, analogies, metaphors, symbolism, meaning, and communication.

Semiotics is also recognized as a discipline and method of analysis to study the signs that exist on an object to know the meaning contained in the object. A sign that signifies something other than itself and its meaning is the relationship between a particular object or idea of something significant. According to Zoest, everything that can be observed or made observable can be called a sign. Therefore, the sign is not limited to objects. There are events, not only if structures are found in something, and a habit can all be called a sign (Zoest, 1993: 18).

Film Semiotics

Film is built with many signs and it includes various sign systems that work well together to achieve the expected effect. An even more important semiotic system in the film is the use of iconic signs, that is, signs that use something. Roland Barthes stated that semiology is the goal of taking various sign systems such as substance and boundaries, images, various kinds of gestures, various musical sounds, as well as various objects, which are fused in a system of significance.

Barthes created a map of how signs work and it refers to important points, such as; the denotative sign (3) consisting of the marker (1) and the sign (2). At

the same time, however, the denotative sign is also a connotative marker (4). The semiology of Barthes, and Barthes's followers, explained that denotation is a system of the signification of the first level, while connotation is the second level, in this case, denotation is precisely more associated with the immediacy of meaning. As a reaction to countering the validity of this oppressive denotation.

Research Methodology

The method used in this research is a qualitative method. The qualitative method is a research method that is descriptive, uses analysis, refers to data, and utilizes existing theories as supporting materials. According to Creswell (1994), a qualitative method is determined as an inquiry process to comprehend the social problem that takes the basis on a complex, holistic picture formed with words, providing the result of the detailed report related to informants' views and it is held in a natural setting.

The object of the analysis used by the researcher is *The End of the F***ing World* series which was released on October 24, 2017. *The End of the F***ing World* series is created by Charles S. Forsman. This series is distributed by Netflix. The researcher uses English subtitles and elements of cinematography as the main data to be analyzed.


The analysis started by collecting data from *The End of the F***ing World* Series through some steps of watching, reading the subtitle, identifying, classifying, and selecting data. Afterward, the step is continued by analyzing data through the process of displaying, explaining, and interpreting the data.

Finding and Discussion


In this chapter, the researchers display the data used in the study related to teenagers' frustration and anger. At this point, researchers present chosen data based on the causes and effects of teenagers' frustration and anger. Causes are things that make or produce a scene related to a teenager's frustration and anger. Meanwhile, effects are the result that occurs of a cause, which produces a scene related to teenagers' frustration and anger.

A. Scene 1 (Season 1, EP 1,00:13:45 - 00:15:00)

Picture 1 (Cause)

Signifier	Signified
	Sexual abuse.
Denotative Signs	
Sexual abuse Alyssa received from her stepfather.	
Connotative Signifier	Connotative Signified
The picture of father's hand rubbing Alyssa's behind.	Sexual abuse.
Connotative Signs	
The conduct of sexual abuse on stepdaughter. Alyssa is one example of a child who is a victim of a parent's divorce and she is sexually abused by the father. It triggers the frustration in her.	

Picture 2 (Effect)

Signifier	Signified
	Anxiety
Denotative Signs	

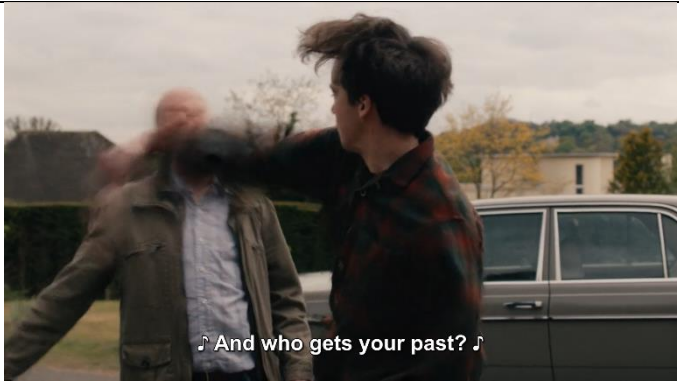
Alyssa's Anxiety because of her frustration.	
Connotative Signifier	Connotative Signified
The picture of Alyssa facial expression.	Anxiety
Connotative Signs	
Anxiety due to getting unpleasant behaviors. Alyssa is one example of a child who experiences anxiety due to experiencing sexual abuse behaviors that frustrate her shown in the series	

In this scene, Alyssa suffers from sexual abuse by Tony, Alyssa's stepfather. Alyssa was also kicked out of the house by him. Alyssa's mother who saw this incident did not care and ignored Alyssa. The flat look on the face and the blank eyes show a deep whiteness. The background that is made blur aims to focus on Alyssa's gaze, which aims to make the audience a better understanding of the feelings she felt. It leads to a gloomy atmosphere that is conveyed well.

The meaning of denotation in this scene is the destruction of Alyssa's feelings because her mother does not care even after seeing Alyssa being abused by Tony, the stepfather. Furthermore, the meaning of the connotation in this scene is Alyssa's biological mother has a bad nature because she does not provide enough support and care to her child and prefers her new husband.

B. Scene 2 (Season 1, Ep 1, 00:16:00 – 00:17:30)

Picture 1 (Effect)

Signifier	Signified
	Anger.
Denotative Signs	
James's anger is the realized his frustration.	


Connotative Signifier	Connotative Signified
The picture of James hit his father.	Anger.
Connotative Signs	
Unsalted anger can explode at any time. James is one example of a child who harbors anger and ends up exploding with frustration. This triggers negative behavior.	

In this scene, James initially wanted to kill Alyssa and stabbed her, in fact, went in with her to escape the city. James stole his father's because Alyssa told him to. In addition, James hit the father in the face. This was done because his father was considered unable to take care of the child and had abnormal behavior.

The meaning of the denotation in this scene is James's obedience to listening to Alyssa's suggestion. The connotative meaning of this scene is the bulge of James's attitude of hitting the father because of the situation and purpose.


C. Scene 3 (*Season 1, Ep 2, 00:13:00 – 00:15:30*)

Picture 1 (Cause)

Signifier	Signified
	Sexual abuse.
Denotative Signs	
The sexual abuse James received from an unknown man.	
Connotative Signifier	Connotative Signified
The picture of a man kissing James' hand.	Sexual abuse
Connotative Signs	
Sexual abuse of boys. James is one example of a child who has an	

inharmonious family in his home and traumatizes a lot. This is what keeps him from resisting when dealing with sexual harassment from strangers.

Picture 2 (Effect)

Signifier	Signified
	Desperate.
Denotative Signs	
James and Alyssa felt desperate because of circumstances.	
Connotative Signifier	Connotative Signified
The picture is from the conversation between James and Alyssa sitting together.	Desperate.
Connotative Signs	
The despair that the child experiences. James and Alyssa are examples of children who have many family problems, and both get an unpleasant treatment that results in despair. This affects their negative attitudes and behaviors	


In this scene, it is known that James was abused by a man. Alyssa, who caught the incident, could not accept this and threatened the harasser to give back the suspect's wallet. James and Alyssa pondered about the bad incident that had just been experienced. James just received sexual abuse from a man who kissed James's hand and then pointed James's hand at the man's while peeing. James also explained to Alyssa that when it happened, James could not fight back, and it had to do with past trauma.

The meaning of denotation in this scene is Alyssa's courage to defend James who was sexually abused and this makes James humiliated, frustrated, and


angry. However, the connotation meaning that appears from this scene is the effect of the unpleasant experience which is Alyssa's courage and fairness as a friend.

D. Scene 6 (*Season 1, Ep 4, 00:12:50 – 00:19:00*)

Picture 1 (Effect)

Signifier	Signified
 <p>♪ To cry their troubles away ♪</p>	Down.
Denotative Signs	
Alyssa felt down because of the bad incident that happened to her.	
Connotative Signifier	Connotative Signified
The picture of Alyssa walking alone in the middle of the evening.	Down.
Connotative Signs	
A worsening feeling of down. Alyssa experienced feelings of down after various bad events that happened. With increasingly complicated problems, Alyssa decided to leave James alone.	

Picture 2 (Effect)


Signifier	Signified
	Resentful.
Denotative Signs	
James felt resentful towards himself.	
Connotative Signifier	Connotative Signified
The picture of James sitting silently in the middle of the forest.	Resentful.
Connotative Signs	
Resentful feelings towards oneself. James is a person who feels very resentful because of the deeds he has done to Alyssa. This made James very frustrated.	

In this scene, Alyssa and James altered their appearances to prevent people from recognizing them. However, Alyssa was still worried about the murder case. Alyssa and James quarreled because of disagreements about Clive's murder. Alyssa, who was upset and wanted to forget the case, left James alone in a café.


The meaning of the denotation in this scene is Alyssa's anxiety over the murder of Clive committed by James, although James's goal was to help Alyssa from getting raped. The meaning of the connotation in this scene is Alyssa's uneasy feeling of being involved in a murder case and this is what made Alyssa leave James in the café.

E. Scene 7 (Season 1, Ep 4, 00:18:30 – 00:20:00)

Picture 1 (Effect)

Signifier	Signified
	Weepy.
Denotative Signs	
James felt weepy about the events that happened.	
Connotative Signifier	Connotative Signified
The picture of James sitting on a cliff with a flat face.	Weepy.
Connotative Signs	
Feeling weepy when frustrated. James felt very anxious to weep when he was in Alyssa's residence. This makes James very frustrated and feels difficult to breathe.	

Picture 2 (Effect)

Signifier	Signified
	Depressed.
Denotative Signs	
James felt depressed by what had happened to him.	


Connotative Signifier	Connotative Signified
The picture of James lying on the ground with a bruised face.	Depressed.
Connotative Signs	
Unsalted depression. James is an example of someone who is severely depressed but does not know how to express it. This made James tell people to beat him up.	

In this scene, James, who is very frustrated, tried to make himself angry. James walked down the street and met a group of people. James's feelings of frustration culminated and James paid a group of people to beat himself up. This resulted in James's face being covered with blood and battered.

The meaning of the detonation in this scene is the frustration that James had been suffering from finally blew up. The meaning of connotation in this scene is the expression of the frustration that James expressed as a way to channel his emotion and feeling after Alyssa left him.

F. Scene 8 (*Season 1, Ep 5, 00:02:48 -00: 04:50*)

Picture 1 (Effect)

Signifier	Signified
	Hesitant.
Denotative signs	
James felt hesitant about the decision that would be made.	
Connotative Signifier	Connotation Signified
The picture of James sitting pensively daydreaming.	Hesitant.
Connotation Signs	

Hesitant in making up mind. James felt very hesitant between turning himself into the police or going back to fight for Alyssa. This makes James more mature.

In this scene, James was pensive and indecisive about what to do while he was in a police station. James who initially felt like a psychopath finally realized that in fact, he was someone who still had human feelings and was not a psychopath. James also remembered Allyssa and wanted to meet her again. James was frustrated with all the events to the point of not caring about his own body. It can be seen from the blood spots on the face that have not been cleaned and treated.

The denotative meaning in this scene is about the excessive frustration which could not be channeled. This gives impacts to James as he was unable to recognize his own condition. The connotative meaning of this scene is that James's battered face is full of blood and that it reflects his anger and frustration. This frustration got worse as implied through the beating which had been carried out for quite a while.

Conclusion

Based on the analysis in Finding and Discussion above, the researcher concludes that the teenager's frustration and anger are reflected in the series of *The End of the F***ing World*. Teenagers becoming frustrated and angry, as shown throughout the film, can occur due to various causes. The emergence of personal, social, and family problems influences the characters' frustration and anger from time to time. Unconsciously, buried feelings can become reasons for sufferers to do many negative things, as done by Alyssa and James.

References

- Creswell, J. W. (1994). *Research design: Qualitative and quantitative approaches*. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications.
- Eagleton, Terry. 2010. *Teori Sastra, Sebuah Pengantar Komprehensif (Edisi Terbaru)*. Yogyakarta: Jalasutra.

Forsman, Charles S., 2017. *The End of the F***ing World*. Streamed through Netflix.

Wellek, René; Warren, Austin. (1949). *Theory of Literature*. New York: Harcourt, Brace, and Company.

Wierzbicki, James. (2009). *Film Music A History*. New York: Routledge.

Zoest, A. van. (1993). *Semiotika: Tentang Tanda, Cara Kerjanya dan Apa yang Kita Lakukan Dengannya*. Jakarta: Yayasan Sumber Agung