

## The Schizophrenia Mental Disorder Analysis Of The Main Character Elliot Alderson In *Mr. Robot* Movie And Its Implication On Psycholinguistics Study

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### Abstrak

Artikel ini membahas tentang tokoh utama dalam film *Mr. Robot* bernama Elliot Alderson. Ia adalah seorang yang menderita penyakit jiwa yaitu skizofrenia yang menyebabkan dirinya memiliki kepribadian ganda. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi dan mengklasifikasikan karakter Elliot Alderson dalam film *Mr. Robot* serta menganalisis gangguan kejiwaan skizofrenia yang dialami Elliot dan pengaruhnya terhadap orang-orang di sekitarnya. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskripsi kualitatif melalui pendekatan intrinsik dan teori analitik dari Edgar V. Robert. Hasil penelitian bahwa mengidap penyakit Schizophrenia dapat membuat karakter seseorang berubah menjadi orang yang berbeda.

**Kata Kunci :** Karakter, Penyakit, Skizofrenia

### Abstract

This article discusses the main character in the film *Mr. Robot* named Elliot Alderson. He is a person who suffers from mental illness, namely schizophrenia which causes him to have multiple personalities. This study aims to identify and classify the character of Elliot Alderson in the film *Mr. Robot* and analyze the psychiatric disorder of schizophrenia experienced by Elliot and its effect on the people around him. This study uses a qualitative description method through an intrinsic approach and analytical theory from Edgar V. Robert. The results of the study that having Schizophrenia disease can make people's characters change into different people.

**Keywords :** Character, Illness, Schizophrenia.

### INTRODUCTION

There are so many branches of language can be learnt, one of them is psycholinguistics. Psycholinguistics is the study of the mental aspects of [language](#) and [speech](#). It is primarily concerned with the ways in which language is represented and processed in the brain. Branch of [linguistics](#) and psychology, psycholinguistics is part of the field of cognitive science (Colman, 2005) Psycholinguistics is the study of the mental mechanisms that make it possible for people to use language. It is a scientific discipline whose goal is a coherent theory of the way in which language is produced and understood.". According to Granham (2014). A character can be analyzed with psycholinguistics by language and thinking process of the character.

Most people thought that literature is only as an entertainment, but actually it also a part of media to teach. Literature is a creative work that contains the intent and purpose of the author. A literary work does not mean only having ideas, theories or systems of thought. In other words, a

literary work contains various ideas, theories and thought systems (Wellek & Warren, 2022). A movie is an electronic signal of moving [graphics, pictures](#), or [text](#) used to combine a steady stream of images used for entertainment, education, or other uses. Movies, also known as films, is a type of [visual communication](#) which use [moving pictures](#) and [sound](#) to tell [stories](#) or [inform](#). One of the most important element in literary work is the character, especially in novels and movie. Characters in a literary work are created by the author to inform his ideas and feelings about something that happened in this world. Characters have the power to dominate the whole story in a literary work. Character is much more than just personality.

Personality disorder is the type of [mental disorder](#) that can damage lives and relationships if left undiagnosed and untreated. People who have personality disorders can express a wide range of emotions and behaviors that are considered detrimental to relationships, causing friends and family to withdraw from the individual (Nugent, 2016). In [dissociative identity disorder](#), a distinct [personality](#) which takes repeated [control](#) of [behavior](#). The distinct [personality](#) tends to be a well-defined [contrast](#) to the [primary personality](#) and typically has a discrete name; cognitive, speaking, and [fashion](#) styles; and markedly different [behavior](#) patterns and mindset. Schizophrenia is a severe mental disorder, affecting about 23 million people worldwide. Psychoses, including schizophrenia, are characterized by distortions in thinking, perception, emotions, language, sense of self and behavior. Common psychotic experiences include hallucinations (hearing, seeing or feeling things that are not there) and delusions (fixed false beliefs or suspicions that are firmly held even when there is evidence to the contrary). The disorder can make it difficult for people affected to work or study normally.

Sam Esmail is an Egyptian (born September 27, 1977) is an American screenwriter, film and television director, and television producer. He is best known as the creator of the television series Mr. Robot (2015–present). Esmail was born to an Egyptian family in Hoboken, New Jersey. His family is Moslem. He is the creator, executive producer and head writer of the technological thriller television series Mr. Robot, which premiered on USA Network on June 24, 2015 and the production companies are Anonymous Content and Universal Cabel Productions. Sam Esmail create film called Mr. Robot the film it is about Elliot Alderson (Rami Malek) a young man living in New York, working as a security engineer at a cyber security company called Allsafe, in his spare time he was a hacker. Elliot have problems with social anxiety, paranoid and depression, he was always difficult to communicate with others. Elliot feels he can communicate with others only by using the computer and sometimes involved in problems. In the early season we could see very much Elliot was very tormented with feelings of loneliness and depression. An anti social computer expert, experiencing depression and dependence on drugs, having a dream to become a hero saving people from the E. Corp with erase all the data.

### **Review Of Related Literature**

Psycholinguistics or psychology of language is the study of the interrelation between linguistic factors and psychological aspects. Psycholinguistics has roots in education and philosophy, and covers the cognitive processes that make it possible to generate a grammatical and meaningful [sentence](#) out of [vocabulary](#) and [grammatical structures](#), as well as the processes that make it possible to understand utterances, words, [text](#), etc Wundt (2014). Interest in mental processes of language production, Sentence as the primary unit of language and Speech production is the transformation of complete thought processes into sequentially organized speech segments. Psycholinguistics is a branch of study which combines the disciplines of psychology and linguistics. It is concerned with the relationship between the human mind and the language as it examines the processes that occur in brain while

producing and perceiving both written and spoken discourse. The three primary processes investigated in psycholinguistics are Language Comprehension, Language Production and Language Acquisition.

Characteristics or characters in literary works are a general description of human behavior that determines the thoughts, words and actions that come from within humans through dialogue, actions and comments. One of the definitions of Edgar V. Roberts in his book *Writing Themes about Literature*. Said that, a character is an exact copy of humans. This limitation has two meanings, which refers to the nature and behavior of a character as a pattern of overall action and refers to a character in a fiction (Roberts, 1998: 54). Roberts said that it is "character" in literature is a broad oral representation of man, especially in determining himself through speech, and behavior. This theory clearly states that dialogue, actions and comments are human verbal representations in literary works to create some interaction between characters around them. With the definition of the character, the researcher tries to analyze the character in this study by using the theory of Edgar V. Roberts in the same book saying that there are four ways to analyze characters, namely:

1. What the character said about himself.
2. What did the character do.
3. What other figures say about the figures analyzed.
4. What the author said both narrator and observer for each character's actions

The author uses the characterization method, to analyze and describe the characterization, which is directly and indirectly. The author directly tells by explaining or analyzing what the character is like, or other characters in the story that tells us what the character looks like. Indirectly the author shows the character in his actions or actions, so that we can understand the character through what he thinks, says and does. The meaning of the character according to Stanton (2005) can refer to a person in a story or in other words the character or story also refers to the incorporation of interests, emotions and moral principles that shape the character or with words others describe the behavior or nature of the story.

## **METHOD**

This study uses qualitative Research which is intended to deeply explore, understand and interpret social phenomena within its natural setting. By using a qualitative researcher methodology, researcher collects richer information and get more detailed picture of issues, cases or events (Arora and Stoner 2009). They explores the why and how of a situation, not only what, where, when. In this research, the researcher uses qualitative descriptive method. Qualitative descriptive method a type of social science research that collects and works with non- numerical data and that seeks to interpret meaning from these data that help us understand social life through the study of targeted populations or places. Method of qualitative research include observation, interviews, open-ended surveys, focus groups, content analysis of visual and textual materials, and oral history. Researcher also uses an intrinsic approach. The intrinsic approach is used to analyze the movie (*Mr. Robot*) by highlighting characters in relation to other elements such as plots. Edgar. V Roberts theory will be use in this research to analyze the data.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Characterization of The Main Role

#### Eliot :

##### 1. Introvert.

On this movie, it is shown that Elliot is having problem to communicate with other people, he often talks with his dad and imaginary friend only and he says it when he introduces himself to his first victim.

##### **On the first episode scene 00: 01.**

Eliot : *Hello, friend. "hello, friend" ? that's lame. Maybe i should give u a name. But that slip err. You only in my head. We have to remember that. Shit. It actually happen I'm talking with an imaginary person.*

*Episode 1 scene 04:00 Elliot : I understand what is like to be different. I'm very different too. I mean not jerk off to the little kids, but i don't know how to talk to people. My dad was the only one i could talk to. But he died.*

##### 2. Caring

On this movie Mr. Robot shows a scene when he doesn't like his psychiatrist Krista's boyfriend because he is cheating with other girl and he cares Krista so he threats Krista's boyfriend to stop the relation.

##### **Episode 1 scene 56: 30**

Eliot : Lenny Shannon ? Michael Hanson ? which one you playin' tonight ? You gotta stop seeing krista.

Lenny Shannon : What the fuck.

Ashley Madison, online escorts, fake Facebook pages. I own it all.

And if you don't stop seeing her Your wife will know everything. Along with the police.

- The police? - Yeah, one of the escorts was 15.

*That 15 part I made up, but he did have a proclivity for young escorts that helped the lie.*

*But I'm not gonna do any of that.*

*As long as you break up with Krista. Tonight.*

*Done.*

*You're also gonna tell her the truth.*

*You're married, cheat on your wife, you hire hookers.*

*And you never had any intention of being serious with her. Why? That would destroy her.*

*She thinks that we're in love. Exactly.*

*Krista needs to avoid dickheads like you in the future. Her radar needs fixing.*

*I'll know if you skip any detail. So don't.*

*And one more thing.*

*I'm gonna need something from you. Come on.*

*Hmm.*

*I like you, Flipper.*

*Eliot : you've gotta break up with her. You never gonna see her again.*

*Lenny Shannon : You the guy that use my phone.*

*Eliot : You cheating on your current wife with seven different women, I got digital prove of all of it.*

### 3. Temperamental

It shows when Elliot's girlfriend being raped by Fernando Vera a gangster which provide drugs. An angry Elliot reports Fernando to FBI by giving his criminal data that has been hacked from Fernando Vera's personal data as an evidence for the crime.

#### **Episode 2 scene 26: 28**

*Shayla? Yo, Shayla.*

*Yo, bro.*

*Can I help you with something? I, uh just need to talk to Shayla. Oh, your girl. She in the tub.*

*Shayla.*

*Yo, she'll be out in a minute. Can sit and wait if you want.*

*I think we should check on her, make sure she's all right.*

*You a funny dude. I like you. Don't be rude. Sit down and chill. No, that's right. You only do this. Only nigga I know that take withdrawal meds while he using. That's smart.*

*Probably even convinced yourself you ain't an addict. Oh, shit. Forgot to introduce myself.*

*I'm Fernan Fernando Vera, Shayla's supplier. One of the worst human beings I've ever hacked. His password? "eatadick6969."*

*"Aside from the massive amounts of money he spends on porn and webcams, he does all his drug transactions through emails, IMs, Twitter.*

*The fact that the cops haven't caught him yet is beyond me.*

*If they had half a brain cell, they'd be able to crack his gang's simplistic code, if it can even be called that.*

*After only a couple of hours of timing his tweets with related news articles, I figured out that "biscuit" and "clickety" clearly referenced guns.*

*"Food," "sea shells" or "gas" for bullets. And the ultimate: "rock to sleep early.*

*"I haven't made the direct connection to a hit yet, but the math of guns plus bullets usually adds up to one thing.*

*I've thought about turning him in, but he's Shayla's only supplier.*

*I take him down, I lose my drugs, and with everything going on right now, I can't have that.*

*You get that, though? Anyway, bro, I ain't nothing to worry about. Just making a drop for you.*

*What's your name, anyway? Elliot.*

*What it mean? What, you ain't never Googled it? Man, you gotta do that. The meaning of a person's name is important, bro.*

*Yo, she good! She good. Trust me.*

*Took care of that shit myself.*

*You remind me of me when I was younger, depressed and sullen. Matter of fact, tried to kill myself, a couple of times.*

*Never could get that shit right.*

*Biology wasn't my strong suit. I hated myself, man.*

*Still do.*

*Thought that shit was a weakness for a long time. Then I realized that shit was my power.*

*People walk around, act like they know what hate means. Nah, no one does, until you hate yourself.*

*I mean truly hate yourself. That's power.*

*You ain't scared of me, are you? That's good.*

*Means I didn't waste my time making friends with you.*

*You don't really need these, do you? Man of your courage can last through a little withdrawal.*

Ya know, you the only reason why I met Shayla.  
 I'm the only nigga in town carrying everything, including your precious Suboxone.  
 So, in a weird way, I should be thanking you. You brought her to me.  
 Your star orbiting with mine, gravitationally, brought me the love of my life, Elliot.  
 I mean, this, us? Being here? This has beautiful meaning. But make no mistake, that girl in there is mine.  
 I don't know what I'd do without her.  
 Now, I don't know what kind of arrangement you had with her before, but now that we friends I trust you respect this boundary.  
 Feel me? A dude earlier today gave me that same look.  
 Only thing I gotta say is, there's a smart time to be scared, bro And a stupid time. Shayla? The lock pick.  
 Every hacker's favorite sport.  
 The perfect system to crack, mostly because unlike virtual systems, when you break it, you can feel it. You can see it. You can hear it.  
 Shayla. Hey. Shayla. Wake up. Mm.  
 What happened? You okay? Why was that asshole here? Why am I in the tub? I don't know, um I told him I needed your pills.  
 He came over.  
 We smoked a little.  
 You remember having sex with him? What? No. But he definitely does.  
 Okay, let's go.  
 Get your purse, make sure - Stop.  
 I'm not going anywhere, okay? What do you mean? Oh, he's just gonna get away with it? You can't go back to him.  
 Hey, I don't need the pills.  
 Just find someone else.  
 I can't.  
 He gives me a really good deal on the split. I make good money.  
 There it is again, the invisible hand at work, controlling us, even if it pushes us past our threshold of pain.  
 It's not gonna stop.  
 What if he does it again? Promise me you won't do anything? I'm serious, Elliot. There's nothing to be done here.  
 It's not like I have a choice.  
 Hey Would you mind sleeping here tonight? Choices. Maybe Mr.  
 Robot's right.  
 That's what this is all about, the yesses and nos of life.  
 But do we decide them or do they decide us? Fernando Vera. I get rid of him, I get rid of my drug dealer's supplier.  
 I get rid of the morphine.  
 And the pain I've been holding in comes rushing out.  
 Sure, I can try to find another dealer, but like Vera said, no one on the streets deals Suboxone.  
 I could go back to digitally counterfeiting scripts, but pharmas spend a lot of dough protecting their wares.

*Most places only take paper scripts.*

*Continuously getting legit refills isn't realistic, and neither is being a junkie. So I quit cold turkey or let Vera exist.*

*I know what you're thinking. The answer's too obvious.*

*Vera may have been groping Shayla before, but he's graduated to rape. Just like Shayla, he's left me no choice.*

*He can't be allowed to exist anymore.*

*Perhaps we should start with how you're feeling. Not good.*

*What's not good right now? Everything. Humor me with some specifics.*

*How do we know if we're in control? That we're not just making the best of what comes at us, and that's it.*

*Trying to constantly pick between two options. Like your two paintings in the waiting room. Or Coke and Pepsi.*

*McDonald's or Burger King? Hyundai or Honda? Hmm.*

*It's all part of the same blur, right? Just out of focus enough. It's the illusion of choice.*

*Half of us can't even pick our own cable, gas, electric. The water we drink, our health insurance.*

*Even if we did, would it matter? You know, if our only option is Blue Cross or Blue Shield, what the fuck is the difference? In fact, aren't they aren't they the same? No, man our choices are prepaid for us, long time ago.*

#### **Mr. Robot**

##### **1. Wise in making the decision**

*When the allied Dark Army retreated from the attack on Mountain Steel, Mr. Robot wisely decided to postpone the attack because it was too risky but Darlene forced it to return without a liquidity assessment that would occur.*

##### **On episode 5 scene 37: 28**

*What? We lost China.*

*I'm sorry? The Dark Army is bailing.*

*Why? - They don't answer "whys," apparently.*

*That's no problem, we'll just call 'em back, we'll set up another meeting ASAP Dude, did you not hear me? They've gone dark.*

*It's not happening. I know, I know. I get it, okay, I fucked up.*

*Let's not wait, then.*

*Let's do it anyway.*

*Just us.*

*Let's do it. Right now.*

*Okay? We execute now.*

*We execute on our side and trust that the Dark Army gets their shit together and follows.*

*Why do they get to dictate terms? We dictate terms. Shh, shh, shh.*

*We can go now.*

*If we move forward and they don't, China still holds all the redundant information.*

*It will be pointless.*

*And if we wait, it'll also be pointless.*

*Everything you guys did today would be for nothing.*

*Ah, are you crazy! It will have no effect! It'll take down their network for weeks.*



*They'll recover! It would still hurt them.*

*We don't want to hurt them, we want to kill them. And neither will happen if we do nothing, right now.*

*What are you doing? Huh? Take another step, and I'll do it. Think about what you're doing.*

*Okay? All right? In a month, they're gonna be up and running again with even better security.*

*We are not gonna get another shot at this.*

*The revolution that we've always talked about will be gone. Dead and buried.*

*We will have failed because of you. Please, do not do this.*

*Is there anyone here who can communicate with this woman? Please. Tell me it's okay to execute.*

*But we were so close.*

*It's not over. We'll rework it.*

*We'll figure something out.*

*We got this far, we'll find a way. Just not tonight*

## 2. *Loyal*

When they want to attack the E. Corp the effect of the drugs that Elliot consume react to his body so he is not able to do the hacking and the other member prefer to leave him and prepare the plan b rather than stay with Elliot.

### **On episode 4 scene 20: 13**

What are we gonna do? (Romero) We dump him at a hospital, come up with an alternative course of action.

*That's our only option.*

*(Mr.Robot) No. No hospital.*

*(Romero) Then we split. Screw it.*

*I mean, you say it all the time yourself, there's casualties in every revolution.*

*All that matters is the end result. We got no time to haul dead weight.*

*Fine! You wanna leave, leave. Screw this, man.*

*[door closes] I need a hit.*

*[scoffs] - I'll be better. Just to get me through this. I can't let you do that.*

*One hit.You know, just to get me back on the road. We don't have time.This needs to happen now.*

*One hit.[tense music] [grunts] Come on. Let's go.'Scuse me, fella.*

*You lookin' for something? He could really use a helping hand. Yeah, okay, he can go in.*

*But only him.*

*Uh, no can do.*

*I gotta come with.*

*Only if you're partaking, otherwise he goes it alone. Here you go.*

*The guy in the house will set you up right. Long as he doesn't kill you.*

*[laughs] (Mr.Robot) All right, look, the minute you're done you leave. You don't look at anyone.*

*You don't talk to anyone.*

*You take care of business and you get out. Hey.*

*Nod if you understand.*

*[tense music and drums] [muted TV in background] (man) You want? [man coughs] Hey.*

*Big eyes.*

*It's all good, man.Go on. (Elliot) I just I need morphine. Pills.No, man.*

*This is all we got right here. It's better.[whispers] Trust me.*

*Go on.There you go.There you go. (Woman) I'll help.*



*It'll be okay. I'll help.*

*[TV continues in background] [low chatter] (Elliot, voice-over) Have I sunk this low? What must you think of me? Is it spring? Election year? Shall I hibernate? Did we meet? In money we trust.*

*No, I created stop. I can't control thoughts. I need this. You're not gonna do it, are you? Change the world. Figures.*

*You were only born a month ago. You're afraid.*

*Afraid of your monster.*

*Do you even know what it is? It doesn't fit.*

*Why not? [voice distorts] Isn't it obvious? You're not Elliot.*

*You're the [static] (Elliot) Hello? [Child laughs] Hello? [children laughing, voices echo] [silence] [ominous music] (Elliot voice-over) Am I still alone? Is this the face of my only friend? Are you my monster? [Elliot, synthesized voice] I am here.*

*You are alone.*

*[overlapping video game sounds] [bells dinging, volume increasing] They all left. They all left. [mutter] They all left. [voice breaks] I'm alone. I'm alone. [sniffing] [whispering] I'm alone.*

*(Mr. Robot) No, you're not. I'm not going anywhere, kiddo. We're in this to the end.*

### **The Effect of having Schizophrenia mental disorder**

He doesn't know the truth of himself about his own life, it is shown on episode 9 scene 40: 13

Darlene and I'd hide in movie theaters all day.

Darlene would sing, FrÃ¨re Jacques.

*She rode her scooter in front of our house. I'm crazy. I'm crazy. I'm crazy. I'm crazy.*

*She tried to run away in the third grade.*

*How come I didn't remember that? We slept in the same bed when our mom was mean to us.*

*Why did I forget? I remember her voice. How could I forget? I'm crazy.*

*I'm crazy. I'm crazy. I'm crazy. I'm crazy. Are you freaking out? Tell me the truth.*

*Were you in on this the whole time? Were you? Think, God damn it, think.*

*How can I just forget her like that? A whole person, a relationship. Is this amnesia? What else am I not remembering? I'm crazy.*

*I should have stayed on the meds.*

*I'm crazy. I'm out of my mind. I knew it.*

*I should have never created you, I should have listened to Krista. I avoid myself. Why? I'm afraid. Okay.*

*Afraid of what? Finding too much, too little, nothing at all? Do I even exist? See me.*

*Elliot Alderson. I am here. Now I'm gone.*

*We have to hack Me. Nothing. No identity. I'm a ghost. Did I erase myself? I think we should talk.*

On episode 8 the main character Elliot Alderson kisses his own sister Darlene because of he doesn't know that she is his sister, and after that kiss he realizes that Darlene is his sister.

### **Episode 8 scene 36: 20**

*Elliot : How it go (hacking) with the climate control hah ?*

*Darlene : Handlet. I have been really smart and good with that things. nor like you give a shit.*

*Elliot : We should celebrate that. In 43 hours, exactly. Our server will no longer be a honeypot, And that rootkit you wrote, will take down Evil Corp. We did it Darlene it gonna happen.*

*Darlene : We're really doing this(celebrate) ? she screaming to express her feelings happy. You did this. Be happy. Just like that Elliot you gonna change the world.*

*Elliot : We did this*

*Darlene : I would love, to take the credit on this one. But i can't. really this was you. You're seriously the best person i know. You know that ? I love u so much. And he kiss her*

*Darlene : Oh my god Elliot ? what the fuck. Elliot : Im sorry.*

*Darlene : What the hell is wrong with you ?!*

*Elliot : Im sorry. Im sorry. I htought, I just im sorry.*

*Darlene : Oh my god, Elliot. Did you forget again ? did you forget who i am ?*

*Elliot : What do you mean ? forget what ?*

## **CONCLUSION**

It is found that having schizophrenia mental disorder can make people's characterization turn into someone else. From the data, it is found that the main character, Eliot who basically has the characterization such as Introvert, Caring, Temperamental can change when he turns into Mr Robot. Elliot Alderson who feels himself also as Mr. Robot be a wise person in making a decision, loyal, and decisive. It is seen also that having schizophrenia gives the impact to people become uncomfot with the person like Elliot's sister Darlene. The effect that Elliot has in the movie he has problems with social anxiety, paranoid and depression, he was always difficult to communicate with others. Elliot feels he can communicate with others only by using the computer and sometimes involved in problems depends on drugs.

It is an interesting topic to be analyzed related to the psycholinguistics because by learning this, we can know more about the psychology of character. it is suggested to another researcher to make the research like this using another source. Beside that, by doing this research, people can learn how to handle the problem related to having schizophrenia mental disorder.

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