

Bernard is one of the main characters of Virginia Woolf's "The Waves" as he is a character that grapples with himself as he uses language and "making phrases" in order to keep together his fragmented sense of identity. This makes Bernard a compelling vessel for both Woolf and the readers in order to explore dissociation as well as reflect the disintegration and reconstruction of self that Bernard goes through in the story, offering a unique perspective on the theme of dissociation. Bernard's inner thoughts, along with his interactions with other characters, show how fragile Bernard's sense of identity is as he uses language in order to control his actions as well as his sense of reality. This showcases Bernard's dissociation as not a mere detachment from reality but also an effort for him to navigate the depths of his own mind in order to comprehend his existence made up of encounters with Jinny, Rhoda, Louis, Neville, and Susan.

Now, Bernard is a complex character with his stream of consciousness being a core part of who he is. This reflects the author, Virginia Woolf and her fascination with the intricacies of human consciousness. While there may be elements of Woolf herself in the character, as is often the case in an author's work, Bernard also serves as the lens through which Woolf examines the themes of identity, interconnectedness, and the passage of time in the book. It shows that dissociation both characters have as Bernard and Woolf contemplate the fragility of the human psyche through various ways as Bernard seeks through language while seeks through her characters in writing.

In conclusion, Virginia Woolf's "The Waves" uses the character of Bernard to delve into the theme of disassociation. Bernard's disassociated state through language is not a retreat from reality but a courageous exploration of the intricacies of human experience. In Woolf's hands, disassociation becomes a lens through which she views consciousness, showing how everybody is connected to one another through Bernard and his actions.