

# DARCY ARCHER AS A MIND-WANDERER IN MELISSA HILL'S *A GIFT TO REMEMBER*

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**ABSTRACT:** The study which entitled Darcy Archer as a Mind-wanderer in Melissa Hill's *A Gift to Remember* discusses mind wandering portrayed in Darcy. Mind wandering can shift one's problem-solving efforts to unconscious processing, which has been theorized to facilitate new associations and combinations of existing knowledge. Mind-wandering can be defined as a special case of spontaneous thought that tends to be more-deliberately constrained than dreaming, but less-deliberately constrained than creative thinking and goal-directed thought. This study uses qualitative method. The analysis shows that the symptoms of mind wandering portrayed in Darcy are lack of awareness, lack of attention, risky behavior in activities, and mostly her inability to focus. The symptoms of mind wandering portrayed in Darcy affect her and surrounding. A man named Aidan Harris suffered temporary amnesia due to an accident caused by Darcy.

Keywords: *mind wandering, unconscious, spontaneous thought.*

## INTRODUCTION

An important characteristic of the human mind lies in its tendency to spontaneously produce thoughts when some of its resources are left idle. For example, when engaging in tedious or excessive activities, relatively often thoughts drift away from current tasks and wander towards memories, future plans, personal problems and other thoughts whose contents are not a direct reflection of the immediate stimulus environment. The core characteristic of such thoughts, generally labeled as mind wandering (Smallwood, 2009; Smallwood & Schooler, 2006) or daydream (Klinger, 1990; Singer, 1975), is that the content is both separated

from the stimuli present in the current environment and not related to the activities carried out at the time of the occurrence.

Mind wandering has been defined as a shift of attention from the main task to internal information (Smallwood and Schooler, 2006: 946). It often occurs without intention and may even occur without explicit awareness, making it a special challenge to be observed and measured. People can continue to move their eyes across pages of text without openly paying attention to the viewed stimuli (Smallwood, 2011).

Mind wandering is an unconscious form of guidance due to

cognitive control. Mind wandering can shift one's problem solving efforts to unconscious processing, which has been theorized to facilitate new associations and combinations of existing knowledge (Schooler et al., 2011; Mooneyham & Schooler, 2013; Zedelius & Schooler, 2015; Dane, 2018). Mind wandering can be defined as a special case of spontaneous thought that tends to be more deliberately constrained than dreaming, but less deliberately restricted than creative thinking and goal-directed thinking. In addition, mind wandering can be clearly distinguished from contemplation and other types of thought that are characterized by a high level of automatic obstacles, such as obsessive thoughts.

Mind wandering is usually defined in a broad sense, encompassing all kinds of spontaneous and task-unrelated thought. Mind wandering is a common daily experience where one's attention is detached from the immediate external environment by inadvertently switching to internal trains of thought that is independent on stimulus. Generally, mind wandering has been defined as a state that occurs when attention moves away from the current context and engages in internal stream of thoughts, ideas, and imagery.

Mind-wandering tends to occur when someone is driving (Lin, C., Chuang, C., Kerick, S. et al., 2016). This is because driving in optimal conditions becomes an almost automatic activity that requires minimal use of task positive network, the brain network

that is active when a person engages in activities that demand attention. In situations where vigilance is low, people do not remember what happened in the surrounding environment because they are preoccupied with their thoughts. Studies using the potential associated events have quantified the extent that mind wandering reduces cortical processing of the external environment. When the mind is unrelated to the task at hand, the brain processes sensory information that is relevant to the task and is not related in less detail.

### **Mind wandering symptoms**

According to Lisa M. Jonkman et al. (2017), mind wandering has several symptoms.

- 1) Lack of awareness of the surrounding environment due to preoccupation with own thoughts.
- 2) Comprehension failure during reading and listening.
- 3) Inability to focus.
- 4) Lack of attention or having a short attention span in following instructions or executing a plan.
- 5) Depression.
- 6) Sleep disturbances.
- 7) Continually losing or misplacing things due to forgetfulness.
- 8) Inability to deal with stress.
- 9) Risky behavior in activities.

This problem is also illustrated in the novel entitled *A Gift to Remember*. The main character, Darcy Archer, has a habit of mind-wandering. This habit sometimes leads to unavoidable events. In the story Darcy crashed into a man known to be named Aidan Harris when she was cycling on the streets of New

York while mind wandering about past events at the bookstore where she worked. This accident made Aidan Harris lose his memory. He doesn't remember his identity, his friends, and all the things he had done before. Darcy tried to help him by finding people who had connections with him. She did that to make up for her guilt because of her carelessness that she made others hurt. On her journey to meet people who have connections with him, Darcy always wonders what kind of life Aidan has.

This research focuses on how mind wandering habit portrayed in Darcy. The writer is interested in studying mind wandering, because the researcher wants to learn more and in order to have better understanding on this novel which is about mind wandering, the symptoms of mind wandering, and how it affects Darcy and her surroundings.

## **RESEACRH METHOD**

This study applies qualitative research to observe and analyze the data that are shown by the character Darcy which are mentioned in the novel *A Gift to Remember*. Qualitative research is a form of systematic empirical inquiry into meaning (Shank, 2002: 5). Furthermore, qualitative research is also called a form of social action that stresses on the way of people interpret and understand the social reality of individual experiences.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **The Symptoms of Mind Wandering Portrayed in Darcy**

The writer will discuss the symptoms of mind wandering portrayed in Darcy. This problem is divided into several sections according to the symptoms that Darcy portrayed in the novel which is entitled *A Gift to Remember*. There are four symptoms found in the novel and will be discussed in this section.

Mind wandering often occurs in everyday life. Mind wandering is also experienced by Darcy, one of the characters in the novel *A Gift to Remember* by Melissa Hill. Darcy has several symptoms of mind wandering in her daily life.

### **Lack of awareness of the surrounding environment**

One symptom of mind wandering is a lack of awareness of the surrounding environment. This symptom is experienced by Darcy that will be shown in the quotation below.

Gradually, Darcy slipped into autopilot, something that happened routinely when she was riding. Her body was so familiar with this route – right and straight up on Sixth Avenue towards Central Park – that she could probably do the journey in her sleep. Her mind started to drift to the list of items to be accomplished at the bookstore that day. (Hill, 2013: 27)

The quotation above says that Darcy is riding her bicycle through the road she was accustomed to when leaving for work. This has become her habit because she is familiar with the route. Mind wandering tends to occur when someone is driving (Lin, C., Chuang, C., Kerick, S. et al., 2016). Darcy's body slips into autopilot and her mind starts to drift to somewhere else. Darcy mind wandering habits indicate that she lack of awareness because if someone is driving, either using motor vehicles or bicycles must pay attention to the road properly to avoid detrimental things. In these circumstances Darcy become unaware when cycling. Darcy's mind wandered towards a number of items that had to be completed in the bookstore where she worked.

Darcy's mind wandered to a moment when she was little. Her mind wandered as she walks Bailey, which is Aidan's dog, back to his home. Her spontaneous thought makes her distracted from what she did, which is to take the dog home. Darcy also becomes lack of awareness due to preoccupation with her own thoughts.

When Darcy is on her way to Aidan's house on a bicycle, her mind wandered again. This is indicated in the quotation below.

As she made her way back uptown, she had the fleeting thought that she had not yet done any of her holiday shopping – most pressingly, found a special gift for Katherine. Four days to

Christmas and she was knee-deep in someone else's affairs. The city landscape blurred as she rode by on her bike, a steady stream of coloured Christmas lights and steamy windows and the scent of freshly baked bread making her stomach rumble as she pedalled past the snooty cafés and ritzy bistros on the Upper West Side – all of them brimming with people, in perfectly cut winter coats and hats, displaying manicured nails, whitened smiles and spa-day hair, showcasing New York's unmistakable winter glamour. (Hill, 2013: 237).

The quotation above explains that Darcy is on her way to Aidan's house by bicycle after she was on a hospital. However, her mind wandered back thinking that she had not done any of her holiday shopping and found a special gift for her aunt. The phrase “The city landscape is blurred as she rides by on her bike” signifies that Darcy has dissolved in her mind when she was cycling. This indicates that Darcy is mind wandering because she lacks of awareness.

### **Inability to focus**

Another symptom when a person is mind wandering is inability to focus (Lisa M. Jonkman et al., 2017). This symptom of mind wandering also occurs when someone is having a conversation with someone else. Darcy often shows symptoms that she is mind wandering when talking with others.

She recalled reading once about how Agatha Christie had apparently disappeared one day, only to reappear eleven days later in a hotel in Harrogate, with no memory of the events occurring during that time-span. When she asked if this was something similar the doctor shook her head. (Hill, 2013: 94)

Darcy connects what is on her mind with what is happening. She wondered if the incident was the same as the one experienced by Agatha Christie who had lost her memory. Darcy's mind wandered about what she had read when the doctor explained Aidan's situation. Darcy's spontaneous thoughts made her lose focus when talking to others.

Darcy meets Aidan at the hospital and talks with him. But her mind is not focused on the conversation. Darcy's mind wandered towards when she was at Aidan's house. She thought who Aidan is and what his life would be like. Aidan's life intriguing Darcy's interest like the first few pages of a good novel and she wanted to read it hoping to find out more about the story.

Aidan gives 2 ballet tickets to Darcy. The tickets are in his wallet but he can't remember why he has those tickets. Aidan gives the ticket to Darcy and invited her friend to come to the ballet performance. Suddenly Darcy remembered Mrs. Henley's white and pink Christmas tree. Darcy's thoughts suddenly appeared when she was having a conversation with Aidan.

It reminded her of one time when she'd met up with Katherine in the Plaza for impromptu drinks. It was a foggy evening around Christmastime and the two of them had sat in the opulent lounge by the window in ornate brocade chairs looking out at the horse-drawn carriages waiting outside a snow-covered Central Park while a white-gloved waiter had served them the finest champagne beneath crystal chandeliers. From that vantage point, it was as if modern life had retreated, and for Darcy it was almost like going back in time, straight into the pages of an Edith Wharton novel, witnessing what old New York might have looked like, back in the early 1800s. (Hill, 2013: 147).

The quotation above occurs when Darcy is having a conversation with Aidan. They talk about the paintings in his house. Most of the paintings are from famous artists and are rare paintings. How could Aidan get the painting. Does the painting have something to do with his work or what he does. She had no idea what sort of promotion would enable someone to suddenly decide to buy such an expensive painting but this was his world, not hers, so she had to try and put herself in his shoes. Darcy thinks that Aidan has the privileged New York society lifestyle that so many people dream about when they first come to the city. Who can eat in famous restaurants and invited to incredible parties held in the most prestigious buildings. Then

Darcy remembers the time when she was about to meet her aunt in the Plaza for impromptu drinks.

‘Hey there, why the long face, darling?’ Katherine asked, sitting down and promptly summoning a waiter. They were at the Gramercy Tavern for their annual pre-Christmas lunch date before Katherine left for St Barts; Christmas now only two days away. Darcy raised a smile at her aunt’s all too familiar behaviour and knew that she could always rely on Katherine to behave according to character. ‘Nothing – just daydreaming, that’s all.’ (Hill, 2013: 381).

The quotation above occurs when Darcy is talking with her aunt at a restaurant. Darcy's mind wanders about Aidan's true identity, which is an ordinary man who has a normal life. How guilty she thought about Aidan all this time, a sophisticated, charming book-geek like herself, but with an enviable, glamorous New York lifestyle. A far reality from who he actually was.

### **Lack of attention**

Someone who has this symptom tends to be very easily distracted when doing the task. Darcy several times often mind wandering when in someone else's house. She goes around or just waits in the house. Darcy imagines how life would be in the house or compare it to her apartment. The symptoms of Darcy's mind wandering are indicated by quotations below.

She tried to picture Aidan moving around in this space, trying to imagine if he wandered in here at the end of the day once he was finished with whatever he obviously did so successfully at work. The lack of scribbled drawings on the refrigerator and the absence of any toys in the room suggested it was unlikely any children lived here. (Hill, 2013: 113).

When Darcy is inside Aidan's house, she tries to picture Aidan's life. His daily activities when he finishes his work. Darcy imagined that when she was trying to gather what could bring Aidan's memory back. Her inability to focus on what she is supposed to do is one of the symptoms of mind wandering.

She smiled, acknowledging to herself that she was just snooping, but she had to admit that she was enjoying the experience of being in another person’s domain and trying to figure out how they occupied it. It was a similar sensation to being lost in a story, aware that you weren’t getting the full picture, and feeling compelled to try and work out where it might be headed. (Hill, 2013: 115).

Darcy enjoyed her mind wandering. Imagine how someone's life and run it. According to her it was the same as living in the story. Darcy lost her focus again by doing that. All she has to do is help Aidan restore his memory by looking for objects that might be able to dig up his memory.

The inability to focus on the undertaken activities is one of the symptoms of mind wandering.

When Darcy arrived in the bedroom, she looks around how big the bedroom was in Aidan's house. Darcy thought about how contrasting Aidan's spacious bedroom compared to her small apartment. She wondered whether the mattress in Aidan's bedroom would fit her small apartment. If only there was a miracle that a large mattress could fit in her apartment then there was no room for anything.

Darcy returned to Aidan's house to find his belongings and try to help him recover his memory. Darcy's mind imagined herself playing hostess in the house. Darcy also wondered whether Aidan would often have dinner parties and plan dinner parties. Darcy looks for items that can help Aidan restore his memory but she also always imagines the lives in his home.

Darcy thought of her own place and grimaced, wondering what he would think if he saw the dishes clogging the sink, the discarded clothing on the back of the chair, the pile of ironing in the corner calling out to be tended and, of course, the contents of her book collection gathered on every available surface. (Hill, 2013: 266).

Darcy's mind wandered towards her apartment. Darcy looked at the drawers in the house and how shocked she was to see everything neat and

orderly the contents inside. Seeing that makes Darcy think what Aidan thought if he saw the situation in her apartment where the plates were clogging the sink, clothes that had been worn but were just left behind the chairs, stacks of clothes to be ironed, and her books that filled every available surface.

I thought back to the brownstone and recognised a couple of startling similarities between the two – and then I thought back to my family home in Dublin, my old house, and even some of the apartments that I had lived in over the years. Those were homes. Those were all places where you could hang your hat, put your feet up and let your dog roam around without worrying about making a mess. (Hill, 2013: 333).

Darcy's mind wandered even when Darcy was at Stephanie's house, one of Aidan's friends. Her mind wanders to her family's house in Dublin, her old home and also some of the apartments she had lived in for several years. Seeing the atmosphere in Stephanie's house reminded her of the comfort of her place of residence. The atmosphere where she can hang her hat, lift her legs and let the dog roam the house without worrying about making a mess.

Spotting the Mets keyring, she idly wondered if perhaps Aidan had at one point lived in Brooklyn, Long Island or Queens, where the majority of such fans were from. Being a Brooklyn girl, she herself

was very much a Mets fan, or at least she had been, she thought sadly, recalling how passionate her father used to be about baseball when she was growing up. She used to watch the games with him on TV and he often promised to take her to the team's then home Shea Stadium. But they'd never got the chance. (Hill, 2013: 107-108).

Darcy sees Aidan's key ring in the form of a baseball club logo from Brooklyn. She wondered if Aidan had lived in Brooklyn where most of the fans from the club came from. Darcy's mind wandered remembering how much her father was always excited when discussing baseball. This was done by Darcy when she is in front of Aidan's house and about to go inside to look for items that can help Aidan improve his memory.

*Was she smitten?* she asked herself, trying to get her thoughts in order as she went about restocking shelves. *Was she attracted to Aidan?* Sure, she had immediately thought him handsome on first seeing him at the hospital. And of course she couldn't help but feel a huge affinity with someone who was evidently a book geek like herself; never mind his nice eyes, lovely smile, lilting accent as well as his obvious affection for Bailey. To say nothing of his generosity in trying to pay her back for her help by insisting she take those ballet tickets. (Hill, 2013: 275).

Darcy had conversation with her coworker, Joshua, who asks about Aidan's condition. He asked whether Aidan's memory had improved or not. In their conversation, Joshua said that Darcy is interested in Aidan. When Darcy was about to restocking shelves, suddenly Darcy's mind wandered about how she described Aidan. She thinks Aidan was handsome when she first saw him in the hospital. Darcy feels a huge affinity to the personality of Aidan who is a book geek like herself, his smile, his apparent affection for Bailey, and also when he gives ballet tickets to Darcy to return her help.

Darcy tries to meet people related to Aidan. She met those people by calling them back who had had a phone call with Aidan. She find out from the voice note left for Aidan. Until she heard a voice note in an angry tone that makes Darcy assume that she was Aidan's girlfriend or even his wife. Then Darcy knows that the person named Melanie who is a ballet dancer.

Darcy arrives at a ballet performance with her neighbor, Grace Henley. During on her way to the event, Darcy's mind keeps wandering about whether Melanie, a person known to have anything to do with Aidan, appeared tonight even though Darcy did not see the name on the show list. Arriving at the location, the doorman escorted them to their seats. Grace doesn't know about what Darcy has been up to lately. When Grace felt that Darcy looked uneasy and disturbed, Grace asked what made Darcy look like that. But Darcy was confused whether



she should share her thoughts with Grace.

### **Risky behavior in activities**

This symptom became the last symptom that Darcy showed that he was mind wandering. These symptoms can cause adverse things that will be shown in the quotation below.

Gradually, Darcy slipped into autopilot, something that happened routinely when she was riding. Her body was so familiar with this route – right and straight up on Sixth Avenue towards Central Park – that she could probably do the journey in her sleep. Her mind started to drift to the list of items to be accomplished at the bookstore that day. (Hill, 2013: 27).

The quotation above also shows that the symptoms of mind wandering portrayed in Darcy. The quotation above says that Darcy is riding her bicycle through the road she was accustomed to when leaving for work. This has become her habit because she is familiar with the route. Darcy's body slips into autopilot and her mind starts to drift to somewhere else. Darcy does a risky behavior such as a habit of mind wandering when she rides a bicycle on the road.

As she made her way back uptown, she had the fleeting thought that she had not yet done any of her holiday shopping – most pressingly, found a special gift for Katherine. Four days to

Christmas and she was knee-deep in someone else's affairs. The city landscape blurred as she rode by on her bike, a steady stream of coloured Christmas lights and steamy windows and the scent of freshly baked bread making her stomach rumble as she pedalled past the snooty cafés and ritzy bistros on the Upper West Side – all of them brimming with people, in perfectly cut winter coats and hats, displaying manicured nails, whitened smiles and spa-day hair, showcasing New York's unmistakable winter glamour. (Hill, 2013: 237).

The symptom above can also be categorized as risky behavior in activity, because Darcy rides a bicycle while mind wandering instead of focusing on the road.

### **Mind Wandering Affects Darcy and Her Surrounding**

Darcy is a mind wanderer based on the symptoms discussed in the previous sub-chapter. Darcy's mind wandering turns out to affect her surrounding which will be indicated by the quotation below.

Barely avoiding the van, and instead ricocheting off a mailbox to her right, Darcy came off the bike just as her wheels slammed right into the pedestrian.... Her bike had flown in the opposite direction, and the strap of the messenger bag that she usually draped across her chest now hung awkwardly around her neck and

held her to the ground in a vice-grip. She felt cold seeping through her trousers and realised, too late, that she was lying in the dirty wet slush that finds its way kerbside during snowfalls in traffic-filled Manhattan. (Hill, 2013: 41).

The quotation above shows that Darcy's unconsciousness caused an accident. An accident happens and Darcy falls from her bicycle. However, Darcy is not immediately aware of what happened to her. She heard several people murmuring to see the accident, but Darcy is still trying to gather her consciousness until she realized what is happening to her.

*Am I hurt? What happened?* She focused her eyes once again on the man in the brown coat, and felt relieved when she saw another bystander – an older woman – go over to check on him. Calling out to him, the woman gently nudged his shoulder. But the man didn't move. (Hill, 2013: 43).

A man is unconscious due to the accident. Panic struck Darcy when she sees the man is not moving. She asks several people around the scene and asks someone to call an ambulance. People around there remind each other not to try to move Aidan out of fear that some parts of his body would be broken. Hearing that, Darcy become even more panic and regret what she did before.

If she had only been paying attention . . . If she had only been focused on riding her bike, and

not on everything she had to do that day and daydreaming . . . If only she had set her alarm and got out of bed in time, none of this would have happened. Yes, the guy and his dog might have cut it close with the lights, but there was no denying she had been going too fast if she couldn't stop in time. She felt tears in her eyes and a lump swell in her throat and then told herself sharply to stop. She wasn't the victim here; she had no right to cry. (Hill, 2013: 45).

Darcy regretted her mind wandering habits and makes her not paying attention. Darcy and Aidan's accident was the result of a risky behavior in activity. From the accident they both suffer minor injuries to severe injuries.

'However, stable doesn't necessarily mean one hundred per cent OK either,' she cautioned. 'Often victims of TBI – traumatic brain injury – become disorientated.' The receptionist eyed her. 'Like I said, I can't give out specific patient medical information – even to a family member – without patient consent. Unfortunately, not all of our patients are in a state of mind to provide that consent.' (Hill, 2013: 63).

Aidan is taken to the hospital, but Darcy does not know which hospital. Darcy tries to find out which hospital information Aidan is heading to with his

dog, Bailey. Darcy finally found out the location of Aidan's hospital with the help of her coworker, Joshua. Darcy asks information about Aidan's condition to the hospital receptionist. Darcy knows that the accident makes Aidan suffer a traumatic brain injury.

The woman went on to explain how temporary amnesia was often a side-effect of such a collision, but she believed that Aidan Harris's current condition was actually more down to shock following the accident than a fugue state. ... Mr Harris's condition is more along the lines of simple reversible amnesia, typically characterised by loss of personal identity, individual memories, personality, address, loved ones and other identifying characteristics.' (Hill, 2013: 93-94).

The hospital doctor tells Darcy about Aidan's brain damage. Temporary amnesia that makes him lose his identity, individual memories, personality, address, loved ones and others. However, Aidan Harris's current condition is actually more down to shock following the accident than a fugue state.

Clearing her throat, she said in her best Chaucer's customer service voice, 'Hello, Mr Harris. 'I hope you're feeling better after your accident.'

'Not really,' he replied simply, and there was a world of

frustration behind those two words. Darcy once again felt desperately guilty for running him over and figured that if he wasn't aware of this before now, it possibly wasn't the best time to reveal it. (Hill, 2013: 98).

Darcy realized that Aidan is frustrated by his condition. After all Darcy was the one who caused Aidan to be like that, having an accident to lose his memory. The accident is caused by Darcy when she was cycling to work. But Darcy's mind wandered somewhere and it makes her wary of her surroundings.

Aidan Harris closed his eyes. 'I can picture a dog in my mind, but that's all; why the bloody hell can't I remember anything else?' He slammed an angry fist into the mattress. (Hill, 2013: 99).

Aidan is frustrated and angry until he slammed his fist on the mattress because he could only describe a dog in his memory. He wondered why he could not remember anything else. Seeing Aidan who was very frustrated makes Darcy feel even guiltier.

Darcy then asks Aidan how long he thinks he will be in the hospital. She asks him, wondering just how long her house-guest would be staying.

His expression darkened. 'A few days at least because of the damned concussion and the fact that I have no idea who the hell I am. They say they can't let me out in case I go wandering off

somewhere – for insurance reasons or some other bloody nonsense like that.’ (Hill, 2013: 101).

Hearing Darcy ask that made Aidan frustrated and his expression darkened. He does not know when he will be discharged from the hospital. He does not know who he is. The hospital forbids him to come out of his room just in case if he goes wandering off somewhere and for insurance reasons or other things that Aidan thinks do not make sense.

The damage from the accident not only happened to Aidan, but also to Darcy. Aidan sees Darcy worry too much about himself and tries to explain the incident at that time.

‘But how were you, Miss Archer?’ he asked. ‘After the accident, I mean. I hope you came out of it all OK?’

Touched that in spite of everything, he was chivalrous enough to be concerned about her welfare, she smiled and said, ‘Please, call me Darcy. And I’m fine. Just a couple of bruises, and a few broken spokes on the bike.’ (Hill, 2013: 103).

Aidan knows that the accident not only caused damage to him, but also to Darcy. Aidan asks about Darcy’s condition after the accident. Darcy suffers only minor injuries, a couple of bruises, and parts of her bicycle is broken.

‘I know that,’ Darcy said patiently, ‘but like I said, it’s my fault he is where he is right now. I just want to help him. And besides taking care of his dog, this seems the only way I can.’ For a moment, her voice wavered and she thought she might get blubbery. The drama-filled forty-eight hours were catching up with her. (Hill, 2013: 173).

Darcy knows and realizes that it is she who caused Aidan hospitalized and lost his memory. Darcy tries to help Aidan restore his memory and take care of his dog instead.

## CONCLUSION

Darcy often mind wandering in everyday life. Several symptoms of mind wandering are portrayed in Darcy. Of the nine symptoms mentioned, Darcy has four symptoms of mind wandering. Lack of awareness when she does something like cycling, looking for things that can help Aidan restore his memory. Darcy’s lack of attention when she is easily distracted when doing something like looking for Aidan’s belongings to restore his memory. Darcy does risky behavior in activities such as mind wandering when she is cycling. The most common symptom for Darcy is her inability to focus when she is having a conversation with someone else. The symptoms of mind wandering portrayed in Darcy affect her and her surroundings. Darcy caused Aidan damage to his brain due to an accident caused by Darcy who was mind wandering. Damage to Aidan’s

brain resulted in traumatic brain injury which caused Aidan to experience temporary amnesia. He lost his identity, individual memories, personality, address, loved ones and others. In the light of fact that the accident Darcy makes Aidan feel frustrated coupled with hospital regulations that did not allow him to get out of his room.

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