

Suggested Adaptations

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

According to the Internet Movie Database, the first film adaptation of *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* was made in 1908. It was produced by the Selig Polyscope Company and was a filmed version of a stage play by Thomas Russell Sullivan. No copy of this print or stills from the production are in circulation today.

However, there are many other filmed adaptations that are easily available for your use in the classroom. All of the adaptations listed below are either available on Netflix to watch instantly or on youtube.com, as well as in DVD format. Due to the nature of You Tube and Netflix, they may not all be available in perpetuity.

- *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, John S. Waterson (1920)
Available on Netflix and You Tube. Transformation scene 22:00-25:30. In this silent film adaptation, the camera focuses on Jekyll's hand after he takes the potion and the primary change is in Jekyll's fingernails and hair. The actor also stoops and has a leering look in his eye when he becomes Hyde.

You Tube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P0DK1dl8eRc>

- *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, John Carl Buechler (2006)
Available on Netflix. Transformation scene 8:20-12:20 (there is a very brief flash back to a dead and mangled body in this excerpt). This horrendous adaptation of the novel into a horror movie is interesting to look at in the classroom because Mr. Hyde approaches Dr. Jekyll from outside his body and both characters are on the screen at the same time. The potion that causes the transformation is heart medicine that Dr. Jekyll is testing on himself because he can't wait for FDA approval.

- *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, Paolo Barzman (2008)
Available on Netflix and You Tube. Transformation scene 21:58-25:40. This Canadian made-for-TV adaptation presents the story as a TV crime drama. Very little changes physically when Dr. Jekyll transitions into Mr. Hyde, but the change is quite evident. On the whole, this adaptation is uninspired but the transformation scene is popular with students.

You Tube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3-BB21f4CPo>

- *Jekyll*, Steven Moffat (2007)

Available on Netflix and You Tube. Set up for transformation scene beginning of episode 1 until 4:35, then 22:25-24:22. This UK TV series takes the idea of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde as a starting point for their drama. It is not a literal adaptation of the novel, but raises some interesting interpretive questions none-the-less. There is profanity in the second excerpt, it is possible to start and end the excerpt so as to avoid the profanity but you have to be right on top of the pause button to do so.

Trailer available on You Tube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OAbprwIhWQQ>

First transformation scene available on You Tube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wahKIUZyk-M&feature=related>

- *Mary Riley*, Stephen Frears (1996)

Available on You Tube and DVD. Transformation scene available on youtube.com. Julia Roberts is Mary Riley, the maid to Dr. Jekyll (played by John Malkovich) and she falls in love with Dr. Jekyll, but his propriety will not allow him to act on their love. This transformation scene is interesting and gruesome as Mr. Hyde's head pushes its way out of Dr. Jekyll's stomach.

You Tube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T1Q3Av8Cgx8&feature=related>