

**HANNAH BAKER'S SUICIDE REFLECTED IN JAY ASHER'S  
*13 REASONS WHY***

**THESIS**



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## ABSTRACT

Addawany, A. B. H. (2022). *Hannah Baker's Suicide Reflected in Jay Asher's 13 Reasons Why*. English Department, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisor: Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A.

Keywords: suicide, three-step theory, new criticism.

This study examines how are Hannah Baker's personality and suicide reflected in Jay Asher's *13 Reasons Why* novel. To discover the answer, it utilizes new criticism and Klonsky and May's three-step theory which involves a combination of psychological pain and hopelessness, absence of connectedness, and capacity to suicide. The descriptive qualitative method is used as the method of this study.

This research discovers that Hannah Baker is a typically friendly and delicate new girl. Eventually, she faces unsympathetic conflicts with her peers that make her get reserved. As a result, it increases her vulnerability to committing suicide.

Furthermore, this research discovers that the first step associated with the suicide ideation emerged stemming from her combined psychache and hopelessness as a response to being ridiculed, false rumors, betrayal, and juvenile delinquencies: traffic offenses, thefts, the trespass of privacy, physical and sexual assaults committed by the minor characters. Her suicide ideation is considered strong as a response to the next step which is the absence of connectedness: her parents, Clay Jensen, Mr. Porter, school, home, and poems that she considers not her safe havens anymore. In the last step, her capacity is sufficient to commit suicide with a practical contributing factor. A handful of pills is eventually chosen as her means to suicide. Understanding the stages of suicide ideation-to-action is noteworthy to determine what efforts should be taken to avoid the ideation proceeding to a suicide attempt.

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## ABSTRAK

Addawany, A. B. H. 2022. *Bunuh Diri Hannah Baker yang Tercermin dalam Novel 13 Reasons Why Karya Jay Asher*. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Pembimbing: Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A.

Kata kunci: bunuh diri, teori tiga langkah, kritik baru.

Penelitian ini membahas bagaimana kepribadian dan bunuh diri Hannah Baker yang tercermin di dalam novel. Untuk menemukan jawabannya, penelitian ini menggunakan teori kritik baru dan teori tiga langkah oleh Klonsky and May yang meliputi kombinasi rasa sakit psikologis dan keputusan, tidak adanya keterhubungan, dan kapasitas bunuh diri. Metode deskriptif kualitatif digunakan sebagai metode dalam penelitian ini.

Penelitian ini menemukan bahwa Hannah Baker adalah tipikal gadis baru yang ramah dan lembut. Akhirnya, dia menghadapi konflik tidak simpatik dengan teman-temannya yang membuatnya menjadi pendiam. Akibatnya, hal itu meningkatkan kerentanannya untuk bunuh diri.

Penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa sebagai langkah pertama, ideasi bunuh diri muncul dari kombinasi rasa sakit psikologis dan keputusan yang disebabkan oleh cemoohan, rumor palsu, penghinaan, dan kenakalan remaja: pelanggaran lalu lintas dan privasi, pencurian, kekerasan, dan pelecehan seksual yang dilakukan oleh tokoh-tokoh pembantu. Langkah selanjutnya, Ideasi bunuh dirinya terbilang kuat sebagai respon atas tiadanya keterhubungan dengan orang tuanya, Clay Jensen, Tuan Porter, sekolah, rumah, dan puisi yang dia anggap bukan tempat berlindung yang aman lagi. Sebagai langkah terakhir, kapasitasnya terbukti cukup untuk melakukan bunuh diri dengan adanya faktor pendukung praktis. Segenggam pil akhirnya menjadi pilihannya karena mudah di akses dan dianggap cara yang tidak terlalu menyakitkan. Memahami tahapan ideasi hingga percobaan bunuh diri penting untuk menentukan upaya yang tepat untuk menghindari percobaan dilakukan.

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Background of Study

Suicide is a deliberate attempt to end one's own life by someone who prefers death over life (Mulyani & Eridiana, 2018). According to WHO data from 2019, up to 703,000 individuals die by suicide each year. This means that every 50 seconds, someone commits suicide. The data does not include patients who fail when trying to commit suicide. This amount outnumbers HIV/AIDS, Malaria, war, and murder. Suicide becomes crucial in adolescents because it is the fourth leading cause of mortality among adolescents and adults, both men and women, aged 15 to 29 years (World Health Organization, 2021). Although rates vary by country, suicide is one of the major causes of death amongst young people in Europe as well as many other Western countries. Given this information, it ought to be taken seriously as a matter of importance. However, the specific causes of a suicide have been being a mystery (Anggraeni, 2017). Understanding and being aware of the triggers and circumstances that lead to suicide may significantly reduce the likelihood of similar cases occurring in the future.

Suicide does not merely occur in the actual world, but it also appears in literary works. It is because suicide is one of the phenomena that occurred in this world, while literature serves as a life imitation and a reflection of society (Wellek & Warren, 1949). Hence, this study attempts to evaluate a suicide case that occurred in a literary work to understand how a suicide case is mirrored within it.

Some of the popular novels that put suicide as the main theme are *The Sorrows of Young Werther* by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, *All the Bright Places* by Jennifer Niven, *My Heart, and Other Black Holes* by Jasmine Warga, and *13 Reasons Why* by Jay Asher.

Jay Asher's young adult novel *13 Reasons Why* was published in 2007. This is a narrative of Hannah Baker, a young high school girl who becomes depressed as a result of juvenile delinquencies and then eventually commits suicide. In a set of audio recordings given to a high schoolmate two weeks following her death, she explains 13 Reasons Why. Jay Asher, an American writer, invented Hannah Baker as a fictional character. *13 Reasons Why*, a 2007 mystery novel, is about her. Hannah is presented as a freshman in a fictional high school, and her endeavors to acclimate to life in an unsympathetic educational environment are highlighted. Hannah, who is still a teenager and has been a victim of juvenile delinquencies including bullies, portrays the endeavors of a bully victim in a very factual manner.

As the subject, some researchers conducted studies utilizing Jay Asher's *13 Reasons Why* book. Lidya P (2018) analyzed the bullying that happened in the novel and its impacts on Hannah Baker as the victim. Moreover, more researchers conducted the same bullying-centered studies on the book. Martani (2017) used New Criticism's formal elements to study the types and impacts of bullying that affected Hannah Baker as the main character. Similar research was conducted by Maulida (2019) but slightly deeper with the identification of Baker's reasons for

committing suicide using the Objective approach and Durkheim's Egoistic Suicide theory.

The foresaid researchers analyzed the bullying as the cause and the suicide as the aftermath, but none explained the suicide reflected within. Hence, this study intends to analyze how Hannah Baker's suicide is reflected in Jay Asher's *13 Reasons Why* using the three-step theory (3ST) by Klonsky and May.

## **1.2. Problems of the Study**

Hence, based on the above research focus, the research issues can be formulated as follows:

1. How is Hannah Baker's personality described in Jay Asher's *13 Reasons Why*?
2. How is Hannah Baker's suicide reflected in Jay Asher's *13 Reasons Why*?

## **1.3. Significance of the Study**

Regarding the research's background and problem, the researcher expects this research to contribute academic and practical significance. The research finding will, in academics, give the other literature researchers sufficient additional information concerning Jay Asher's *13 Reasons Why*, psychology of literature, and the three-step theory. Practically, for readers in general, the researcher hopes that this finding will be a helpful insight to increase awareness about suicide. Moreover, the researcher hopes that the readers to be more considerate towards the society surrounding them, so they can have the possibility to prevent another suicide case.

#### 1.4. Scope and Limitation

The scope of this research is a psychological approach to literature. To avoid a broad discussion, the researcher must limit the discussion because many elements in this research can be analyzed. The researcher limits his study to Hannah Baker's personality and the behaviors that affect her state of mind and the three-step theory by E. David Klonsky and Alexis M. May. Jay Asher's *13 Reasons Why* is the only subject to be analyzed by the researcher.

#### 1.5. Definition of the Key Terms

- **Psychache:** An intense psychological pain stemming from feelings of shame, guilt, fear, anxiety, anguish, humiliation, anger, and loneliness.
- **Personality:** A person's collective unique traits, including their thoughts, feelings, and behaviors that contribute to someone being socially appealing.
- **Suicide:** An act of intentional self-murdering due to the lack of willingness to continue living.
- **Juvenile delinquencies:** All the acts of violating either legal laws or social norms carried out by minors under the age of eighteen.

## **1.6. Research Methods**

In a study, the research method was crucial since it was a means or strategy for conducting research. According to Faruk (2017, p. 55), the research method was a means of gaining knowledge about a certain subject, and therefore, it must be consistent with the nature of the subject's being as defined by the theory. Obviously, without proper research methodologies, the anticipated results would not be scientifically strong. This chapter discussed how the research was conducted which involved four main points consisting of research design, data sources, data collection, and data analysis.

### **1.6.1. Research Design**

This research used a descriptive qualitative method as it required data collection to explain the existing condition. This method focused on cultural, social, and personal identity, and its objective was more descriptive than predictive, according to VanderStoep and Johnston (2009, p. 167). No quantification or analytical methodology was used to accomplish qualitative research. It could provide nuanced descriptions of particular phenomena that were difficult to express using the quantitative method. Thus, qualitative research results would not be in the form of statistical data that were usually part of quantitative research. For this research, as it represented what the researcher had researched, qualitative methodology was chosen as the correct method.

### 1.6.2. Data Source

The sources of this study were drawn from the library's written materials. The primary data source of this research was the entire narrative of Jay Asher's *13 Reasons Why* novel by Razorbill (2017). The secondary data source were suicide, new criticism, and three-step theory-related theories which were drawn from books, articles, journals, previous studies, and the internet to get a distinct point of view and also to gain a clearer knowledge concerning the topic.

### 1.6.3. Data Collection

Regarding the topic, subject, and data sources of this research, the researcher assessed this study as library research. The overall data sources were drawn from the library's written materials. The collected data were in the form of quotations within the narrative, statements, and information gained from the related theories of literature. Thus, the data collection process was made up of the following steps.

- [1]. The first step was to obtain and take notes on knowledge of related suitable theories to investigate the narrative.
- [2]. The next step was thoroughly reading the novel to gain understanding and major issues of the narrative whilst taking notes on data matched with the concept of the theory.
- [3]. Collecting the quotations within the novel as the data and classifying them into five categories: Hannah's personality, psychache, hopelessness, connectedness, and suicide capacity.

#### 1.6.4. Data Analysis

After completing the data collection procedures, the data were finally ready to be analyzed. There was an inseparable correlation between data collection and data analysis. This indicated that the researcher had started to perform data analysis when collecting the information. Then the remaining data analysis steps were defined as follows:

- [1]. The data were analyzed and classified into five categories which were Hannah's personality, psychache caused by the minor characters, hopelessness, connectedness, and capacity to suicide.
- [2]. Once they were categorized, the data from Jay Asher's *13 Reasons Why* were discussed and elaborated on using new criticism and three-step theory (3ST).
- [3]. The researcher drew a conclusion based on the findings and discussions.
- [4]. After making sure the problems of the study were answered, the last step was to present and report the results of the research.

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## **CHAPTER II**

### **THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

#### **2.1. New Criticism**

New criticism works by carefully examining the formal elements of a literary work (Tyson, 2015, p. 131). Formal elements include characterization, setting, plot, point of view, and so forth. Culler (2002, p. 138) mentioned that literary works are autonomous whose meaning is not determined by things outside the literary work. A literary work is viewed by new criticism as a timeless, independent verbal object. It implies that new criticism excludes the author's motives and the readers' interpretation. Despite potential changes in readers and readings, the literary text remains constant.

##### **2.1.1. Character and Characterization**

Characters are the people depicted in literary works that the readers interpret as having certain moral, intellectual, and emotional attributes (Abrams & Harpham, 2009, p. 42). They can communicate the similar experiences and emotions actual people have through dialogues and narratives. There are several categories of characters:

- [1]. Major and Minor Character
- [2]. Protagonist and Antagonist
- [3]. Flat and Round Character
- [4]. Dynamic and Static Character

How a character is developed by an author throughout its narrative is called characterization. Abrams (p. 43) divides methods of characterizing into two categories which are by showing and telling. The author shows the underlying motives and dispositions of the characters through their actions and dialogues. On the other hand, the author can tell the motives and dispositions of the characters through his descriptions and evaluations. This study utilizes a new criticism concept to examine Hannah Baker's personality described in *13 Reasons Why* by Jay Asher.

## **2.2. Psychology of Literature**

Endraswara (2011, p. 96) stated that the psychology of literature is a literary study that views work to be a psychological activity. Literary works that are viewed as psychological phenomena will show psychological aspects through the characters' traits and behaviors in the narrative. It implies that the psychology of literature does not treat the problem of a literary work as a literal case. However, it is used to deepen the issue portrayed as it mirrors actual life. A literary work connected to psychology is crucial to discuss as Wellek and Warren (1949, p. 88) stated that psychology for some authors may have tightened their sense of reality, honed their abilities of observation, or allowed them to fall into hitherto undiscovered patterns. It is believed that, hopefully, the readers will be able to attain them as well.

Ratna (cited in Br Perangin Angin, 2019) proposed that there are two techniques to research literary psychology: [1] by firstly understanding a

psychological theory and then employing it in a literary work [2] initially determining a literary work as the subject of research then determining the psychological theory considered relevant for analyzing it. This study employs the second approach, in which Jay Asher's *13 Reasons Why* is chosen as the subject of study and is analyzed using the concepts of the three-step theory.

### **2.3. Three-step Theory**

Sigmund Freud (cited in Anggraeni, 2017) mentioned that humans have an instinct to harm themselves which is known as *thanatos*. In individuals who suffer from mental disorders, this urge will be difficult to suppress. Although many definitions explain suicide, suicide does certainly not only have a single reason behind it. In addition, a deep reason is needed when someone decides to end his life.

Suicide is the intentional behavior of an individual to end his life. Quoting Hawton (2014), experts from year to year have tried to define suicidal behavior. Several countries report that individuals with psychiatric disorders are individuals who are most likely to commit suicide (Dougall et al., 2014), but Shneidman (1985) argued that the combination of stress, physical pain, and disturbance is the result of a person committing suicide.

There are three types of suicidal behavior. The three are completed suicide, suicide attempt, and suicide ideation. Complete suicide is a suicidal behavior in which a person has committed a fatal suicide, causing rapid death. A Suicide attempt is a behavior in which individual attempts to commit suicide, but it is not

fatal, in other words, it does not result in the person's death. Usually, individuals who have committed suicide attempts are still confused either wanting to live or wanting to die. Furthermore, there is suicide ideation which is an individual's idea to commit suicide, but it is only a thought and has not been done (Klonsky, May, & Saffer, 2016).

Therefore, suicide is the act of an individual with full awareness to end his life. Suicide is caused by various factors but the main one is because a person wants to get rid of or get away from the pain he is feeling. An individual will decide to commit suicide if he feels there is no way out of all the suffering he feels. In the three-step theory (Klonsky & May, 2015), it is explained that the formation of an idea to commit suicide develops into an act of suicide.

### **2.3.1. Step 1: Development of Suicidal Ideation**

The first step of suicidal ideation begins with pain which occurs psychologically. According to Durkheim (2005), psychological pain can arise from the experience of social isolation. Forms of social isolation include feelings of loneliness, withdrawal from society, living alone and lacking social support, living in a non-intact family, losing a partner due to death or divorce, and living in a special prison cell for one person. Joiner (2007) also has the opinion that feeling bored with life also causes psychological pain. Furthermore, feeling lost and trapped (O'Connor, Platt, & Gordon, 2011) and negative self-perceptions also result in psychological pain (Baumeister, 1990). Furthermore, the three-step

theory explains that the combination of pain and hopelessness drives a person to develop suicidal ideation.

### **2.3.2. Step 2: Strong versus Moderate Ideation**

The second step explains the stage that leads a person to fatal suicidal behavior. It occurs when the pain one experiences is greater than the connection to the world surrounding. Connectedness is meant by interest or attraction to something, attachment to other people, and goals that keep a person choosing to live. According to this theory (Klonsky & May, 2015, p. 118), if a person is experiencing pain and despair and then considers suicide but has a stronger connection to the world around him, he will only end up with moderate suicidal ideation. If the pain experienced over time increases, the suicidal ideation will be stronger. In the three-step theory, connectedness acts as a protector so that suicidal ideation does not increase in those at risk.

### **2.3.3. Step 3: Progression from Ideation to Attempts**

In this step, it is explained how the conditions that cause strong suicidal ideation develop into a suicide attempt. In this case, Klonsky and May (2015) concur with Joiner (2007), who believes that the key is the capacity of individuals to attempt suicide because humans have a natural desire to avoid pain, injury, and death, making it difficult to attempt suicide even when suicidal ideation is intense. There are three categories of variables that have more specific contributions to suicide, namely dispositional, acquire, and practical. Dispositional refers to things that are more controlled by genetics such as

sensitivity to pain (Young, Lariviere, & Belfer, 2012). Acquire refers to getting used to experiences associated with pain, injury, and death that over time gives a person the capacity to commit suicide. Lastly, practical refers to factors that make suicide easier. For example, a person has knowledge of and access to objects that can cause death such as firearms and drugs (Swanson, Roberts, & Chapman, 2003, p. 440).

In short, the steps of suicidal behavior start when an individual feels excruciating pain within himself. Then the pain he felt was accompanied by a feeling of loneliness that hit. This will foster thoughts of committing suicide. When an individual has thoughts of suicide, then the individual will consider whether to decide to end his life or process his thoughts into just thoughts. When the individual feels that he does not have a strong bond with the world, then the individual will decide to commit suicide. Therefore, the three-step theory emphasizes pain, hopelessness, connectedness to the world, and the capacity for a person to commit suicide, but this does not exclude psychological disorders, states of mind, personality traits, temperaments and tendencies, and experiences as factors that affect the emergence of ideation to suicide attempts. Some things such as depression, self-criticism, borderline personality, negative emotions, and experiences of losing something valuable are recognized to be related to suicidal ideation and behavior. However, in the three-step theory, some of the above factors also contribute to pain, hopelessness, and connectedness to the world.

## 2.4. Previous Studies

As a subject, numerous studies were conducted on Jay Asher's *13 Reasons Why*. Lidya P (2018) analyzed the bullying that happened in the novel and its impacts on Hannah Baker as the victim. Hannah Baker has had behavioral and suicidal effects as a result of bullying. In the meantime, she has experienced behavioral changes, depression, various forms of self-mistreatment, and avoidance behavior. As the suicidal impacts, Hannah Baker's looks have changed, and she has experienced trauma, given away personal belongings, and threatened suicide.

Moreover, more researchers conducted the same bullying-centered studies on the book. Martani (2017) used New Criticism's formal elements to study the types and impacts of bullying that affected Hannah Baker as the main character. Similar research was conducted by Maulida (2019) but slightly deeper with the identification of Baker's reasons for committing suicide using the Objective approach and Durkheim's Egoistic Suicide theory.

The aforesaid researchers analyzed the bullying as the causes and the aftermaths, but none explained the suicide reflected within. Hence, this study intends to analyze how Hannah Baker's suicide is reflected in Jay Asher's *13 Reasons Why* using the three-step theory (3ST) by Klonsky and May.

Next, Seruni (2021) utilized the theory of Kinnier et al. (2000) which divides moral values into four types. The research found that there were three kinds of moral values discovered, each with certain aspects. The first is a commitment to something bigger than oneself. Self-respect with humility, self-

discipline, and responsibility is the second type. Respect and care for others are the last types.

Another research investigating the intrinsic elements of a literary work was done by Rahmatiah, Simaibang, and Sari (2021). The researcher opted to investigate and analyze the novel's intrinsic elements using Simaibang's latest proposed theory, as well as the motives for teen suicide portrayed in it using a scientifically verified scale by Alexis M May namely The Inventory of Motivations for Suicide Attempts (IMSA) (2016), and the method to teach it in school utilizing Reader-Response approach. The findings of this research explained some interesting things about this novel. Firstly, it is about how Jay Asher depicts each element in this work, not just visually, but also in terms of how the characters perceive the elements. Throughout the novel, Jay alternates between two narrations from Hannah and Clay, which adds to the novel's intrigue. Secondly, Hannah's statements contain 7 out of 10 IMSA components that scientifically justify her decision to end her life. Lastly, this novel could be used by teachers in high schools as a tool to educate empathy, mental health, and suicide prevention.

The sixth study was finished to find out how slut shaming was undergone by Hannah Baker and the effects of slut shaming on Hannah's life utilizing Jessica Ringrose and Emma Renold's slut-shaming theory (2014). Havina (2019) discovered that, firstly, Hannah Baker has been subjected to slut shaming by a close friend. She told the entire story across thirteen recordings as the main character, and she has a few people on her special list. Being labeled as a slut and



false rumors indicate that she is treated differently at school by her peers. The second result concerns the psychological effects of slut shaming on Hannah Baker's life. Here, Hannah has a significant impact till she considers suicide.

The next research was from Idayu (2021) who opted to reveal the symptoms of depression that the character Hannah Baker shows, and how the causes of depression affect her life in *Thirteen Reasons Why* using a theory by Bhowmik, et al. (2012). Within the research, she found that Hannah Baker had six symptoms: irritation or ire over trivial issues, insufficient decision-making capacity, diminished focus, losing interest or enjoyment in daily activities, feelings of worthlessness or blaming when things did not go as planned, frequent thoughts of death or suicidal ideation, and less sex drive. The causes of depression from Hannah Baker are classified as stressful life events that are grouped into three categories: oppression, social isolation, and sexual harassment. These events affected Hannah Baker's life, leading her to commit suicide.

Another research was conducted by Kurniati and Pangestika (2020). The objective of the research was to analyze how peer victimization affected the main character, Hannah Baker who was described utilizing the theory of Finkelhor's Peer Victimization (2012) and the Interpersonal Theory of Suicide by Joiner (2005). They discovered that Hannah Baker was the victim of a variety of violent acts perpetrated by her peers, including physical assault, sexual victimization, and psychological/emotional. This research also demonstrates that one of the effects of Peer Victimization that occurred in the novel is suicide, which was caused by the main character's sense of thwarted belonging and perceived burdensomeness. The

ramifications of peer victimization varied depending on the situation, and suicide was a prevalent solution chosen by the characters in literary works.

Lastly, Wibowo (2019) investigated Clay Jensen's psychosocial development and how he coped with the psychosocial issues as part of his journey to adulthood. To get the answer, he used the theory of Bucher and Hinton's *Developmental Characteristics of Young Adults* (2010). The result showed that Clay Jensen developed psychosocially because he struggled with some psychosocial issues; anxiety and low self-esteem, but he manages to deal with them. Clay Jensen was likewise a round character who grew from a selfish to a sympathetic individual.

The researchers vary the center of their studies. Some of them put Hannah Baker in the spotlight, whilst the others focus on either the whole narrative or Clay Jensen, the main character along with Hannah Baker. The foresaid previous studies have similarities with the recent study in which all of them are using the same subject to investigate, and some of them place Hannah Baker as the center of their research. Several foresaid researchers are analyzing the causes which are committed by the minor characters and the effect on Hannah Baker. On the other hand, some of them investigate the state of her mind psychologically, and another analysis of her psychosocial development of Clay Jensen. Whilst, none of them explained how Hannah Baker's suicide was reflected chronologically. Hence, the recent study intends to analyze how Hannah Baker's suicide is reflected in Jay Asher's *13 Reasons Why* utilizing the three-step theory (3ST) proposed by Klonsky and May (2015).

## CHAPTER III

### ANALYSIS

#### 3.1. Hannah Baker's Personality

##### 3.1.1. A Typical Friendly New Girl

Hannah Baker is the main character and protagonist of the novel *13 Reasons Why* by Jay Asher. She is a typical new girl in the town, and she is still two months away from school. Therefore, She solely makes friends with Kat, a girl as the same age as her from next door. She is also described as someone pretty based on Clay Jensen's perspective.

“God. I thought she was so pretty. And new to this town, that's what really got me.” (Asher, 2017, p. 17).

“New town. New school.” (p. 19).

“We're both new to this town and we'd like to know who you were staring at. It's important.” (p. 61).

In her new school, she makes friends with Jessica Davis and Alex Standall.

She gets along with Jessica Davis really well that they hang out a few hours following their first encounter. She mentions that she silently thanks Ms. Antilly for introducing them (p. 61).

“We walked past my turnoff, but I didn't say anything. I didn't want to stop our conversation, but I also didn't want to invite her over because we really didn't know each other yet. So we continued walking until we reached downtown. I found out later that she did the same thing, walked past the street where she lived in order to keep talking with me.” (p. 58)

Not only that, but she also states that “at that moment, I would have paid dearly for Jessica's friendship. She was the most outgoing, honest, tell-it-like-it-is girl I'd ever met” (p. 61). In other words, she is friendly towards her friends

including Alex Standall. They encounter him when they have chats at Monet's following their meeting with Ms. Antilly.

Unfortunately, Hannah is soon betrayed by both of them. Alex puts her in a difficult spot according to her perspective. She is chosen by him of being in the 'WHO'S HOT', and it inspires the following accidents to hurt her even more. It includes the moment when Jessica accuses her of cheating with him and then attacks her.

"Hannah," you said. "I know the rumors."

...

I remember a bunch of guys joking with Alex in the locker room. 'Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake, Baker's man.' Then someone asked him, 'Pat that muffin, Baker's man?' and everyone knew what was being said.

...

So tell me, Jessica, which did you mean to do? Punch me, or scratch me? Because it felt like a little bit of both." (pp. 65–67).

Furthermore, Hannah is described has other friendly relationships. They are Courtney Crimsen and Ryan Shaver. She talks to Courtney when they have a plan to catch her 'Peeping Tom'. And for Ryan, she meets him in the poetry club that she attends.

"At school the next day, after Tyler's visit to my window, I told a girl who sat in front of me what happened. This girl's known for being a good listener, and sympathetic, and I wanted someone to be afraid for me. I wanted someone to validate my fears." (p. 84).

"See, someone else was in that group. Another high schooler with a perspective adored by the older poets. Who was it? The editor of our school's very own Lost-N-Found Gazette.

Ryan Shaver." (p. 183).

And it is another misfortune that they cannot make it. Courtney betrays her by telling another rumor that Hannah hid something sexual in her drawer, and Ryan steals and publishes one of her poems that comes back stabbing her (pp.

114, 185). Despite all, Hannah is described as having the intention to make friends.

### 3.1.2. Delicate

In the book, Hannah is described as a delicate girl. When she has her first week at school, she dreamt of her first kiss with Justin Foley. She does not want it to be full of flowers.

“I think that’s the reason, in my dreams, my first kiss took place at the rocket ship. It reminded me of innocence. And I wanted my first kiss to be just that. Innocent.” (Asher, 2017, p. 24).

“‘See? We were made for each other,’ you say. Then you lean in to kiss me. Your lips getting closer . . . and closer . . . and . . . I wake up.” (p. 26).

Yet, Hannah wants her first kiss to be sole innocent. Their kiss happens in Eisenhower Park which has a rocket ship similar to her old town park. It matches what she has dreamt of.

Moreover, there is proof that Hannah has a soft personality. It is described that she likes to look at the night sky through her window blinds. She likes to do it before the ‘Peeping Tom’ spoil it.

“The window blinds were kept at an angle exactly as I liked them. On clear nights, with my head on the pillow, I could fall asleep looking at the stars. And on stormy nights I could watch lightning light up the clouds.” (p. 81).

And even after all of the spoils, Hannah likes to pour her feelings into poems. She mentions that she likes to write a poem and then decipher it on her own. Poems are also considered by her as a therapy to make her issues more bearable.

“The same person who taught me to appreciate poetry also taught me the value in writing it. And honestly, there is no better way to explore your emotions than with poetry.

...

I did that for a while. Poetry, not a therapist.

...

Just knowing I'd be going to Monet's to write poetry made the days more bearable. Something funny, shocking, or hurtful might happen and I'd think, this is going to make for one fascinating poem.” (pp. 176–177).

When she is having a bad day, she likes to exchange it into a poem. All of her anguish, anger, and love is poured into words. By writing them into poems, she seems to not have someone to tell about her sad days, and it will be discussed in the next sub-section.

### 3.1.3. Reserved towards Other People

Before Alex and Jessica start to ‘peel away’, they and Hannah like to tell each other’s feelings about their days with their ‘Olly-olly-oxen-free’ agenda (Asher, 2017, p. 62). After they avoid Hannah, she does not have a haven to tell about her miseries and worries. As a response, she chooses a poem over someone to talk to. Including all of the bad events, they make her a reserved person.

“The kisses felt like first kisses. Kisses that said I could start over if I wanted to. With him.

But start over from what?

And that’s when I thought of you, Justin.

...

And then I remembered how you ruined it.

...

I shut my eyes so tight it was painful.

...

And what I saw was everyone on this list ... and more. Everyone up to that night.” (p. 215).

She decides to be closed to Clay when she should have not been. But not for nothing, she states that it is too painful to have a glimpse of everyone spoiling her

life. However, Clay states that she should have reached out and talked about everything she has passed through. He mentions that he is willing to help her.

“... My parents love me. I know they do. But things have not been easy recently. Not for about a year. Not since you-know-what opened outside of town.

...

When that happened, my parents became distant. There was suddenly a lot for them to think about. A lot of pressure to make ends meet. I mean, they talked to me, but not like before. When I cut my hair, my mom didn't even notice.” (p. 169).

Even, she does not talk about what has happened to her parents. It is described in the novel that there is a big store open which will put their store out of business. She mentions that it will be burdensome for her parents if she talks about her issues to them. Furthermore, Hannah does not want to press charges and testify that she has been raped by her senior Bryce Walker (pp. 277–278).

In conclusion, Hannah Baker is a round and dynamic character. She comes from a typical friendly soft new girl to the town and school. Soon, there are rumors and unfortunate events that make her even more reserved towards other people. It makes her vulnerable to the risk of committing suicide beside the bad events experienced her.

### **3.2. The Stages of Hannah Baker's Suicide**

#### **3.2.1. Suicide Ideation Emersion**

*13 Reasons Why* book begins with a mysterious package delivered anonymously to Clay Jensen containing a bundle of seven loose audiotapes which are will-be-known Hannah's voice recordings about thirteen stories underlying why she committed suicide. The ones who receive the package are certain accused

of someone involved in Hannah's suicide. Before the suicide, someone—who is believed as Hannah—anonynously sneaks in to put a city map with red stars on it.

### **3.2.1.1. Hannah's Psychache**

#### **3.2.1.1.1. False Rumours**

A chain of events started with Hannah having a crush on Justin Foley, a sophomore at her school, and her first kiss. She follows him around because she knows every class he attends and even photocopies his schedule as she works in the school attendance office. They do not share any classes but she affords to manage to see him.

After exchanging phone numbers, Justin already calls her by the time she goes from school. He lies to Hannah's mom that he intends to ask some mathematics queries which leads them to plan to meet at Eisenhower Park. As with what other couples do, they have fun and simply kiss similar to what she dreams of nights leading to their meeting and then going home separately (Asher, 2017, pp. 28–29). A week after the meeting, Hannah hears rumors about what happened between her and Justin Foley that have her feel sad and uneasy because the rumors are too distant from the truth as is manifested within the following quote.

“Oh. So sorry. You wanted something sexier, didn't you? You wanted to hear how my itchy little fingers started playing with his zipper. You wanted to hear . . .



Well, what did you want to hear? Because I've heard so many stories that I don't know which one is the most popular. But I do know which is the least popular.

The truth.

Now, the truth is the one you won't forget." (Asher, 2017, p. 29)

There are many varied rumors about that night she does not know which one is the most heard among the other ones. Within the audiotape, she stresses a statement that the truth as said as 'the least popular' rumor is not like what they, other students, think or hear. They disrupt her due to the scattered rumors around something sexual making her labeled obscenely (p. 23). The kiss she has with Foley is her first kiss (2017, pp. 12, 28, 30) so the labels put on her are not corresponding.

Hannah is a freshman at the school and new to the city she lives in now. The rumors overshadow her impression as a new student. Ironically, they begin because of her lovely boyfriend bragging about what happens at the park (p. 30), which she calls, "Betrayal" (p. 13). At school, Justin congregates among his friends talking about her, and they stop talking while averting their eyes when she walks by them. The moment she passed by them, the talking turned into silence and turned into laughter towards her (p. 29). There is no exact proof about what he is bragging about to his friends, but it is believed that it is something sexual beyond a simple kiss because the rumors spread are not far from obscenity as follows:

"I know what you're all thinking. Hannah Baker is a slut ... Can't say that anymore ... Hannah Baker is not, and never was, a slut." (2017, p. 23).

"Hannah took off her shirt and let Justin put his hands up her bra." (p. 25).

“You didn’t shove your tongue down my throat. You didn’t grab my butt. We just held our lips together . . . and kissed.” (p. 28).

“Then, later, I heard about her getting felt up at the rocket slide.” (pp. 29–30).

So many rumors make her wonderful dream turn into an undesirable memory. They also start her reputation to go down lower. At the moment this happens, she feels everything seems not so bad without acknowledging if the rumors of Justin Foley’s betrayal have a snowball effect. A situation in which a small issue brings a bigger following issue with more effect will proceed in the next sub-section.

“Ready for this, everyone? Our sweet little Miss Crimsen told this guy, and whoever else was standing within earshot, that I’ve got a few surprises buried in my dresser drawers.

My breath stops like I’ve been sucker punched in the stomach.

She made that up! Courtney completely made that up.” (Asher, 2017, p. 114).

A bigger issue Courtney make is making her fake completely apparent.

After coming out of the bathroom, a sophomore Bryce Walker walks up to her saying that he overhears Courtney spreading rumors about her having “stuff” in the drawer. The dialogue does not explicitly state what stuff they are talking about. It is believed that it is somewhat sexual regarding what they are doing when Tyler peeping is sensual and sexual. Even worse, Clay states that Courtney completely makes it up, which means the rumors are not merely heard by whoever within earshot but a wider range regarding him is absent at the party.

Concerning what Hannah has heavily experienced since moving to the town—rumors, abuse, and sexual harassment, she discovers that she is sick of the

town and everything involved in it (p. 118). At this moment, the psychological pain she feels is arousing. Yet, there is still no idea of quitting in Hannah.

### 3.2.1.1.2. Being Ridiculed

Along with Hannah Baker, two freshmen are new to the town either, Alex Standall and Jessica Davis (Asher, 2017, p. 55). They are close to each other due to they share a commonality that they are feeling lonely as a newcomer to the area. Hannah initially has known Jessica for a while. Ms. Antilly gets them to her office to introduce them to each other, and unexpectedly they share a memorable moment when conversing (pp. 56–58). After an awkward moment they have at Ms. Antilly's office, they decide to hang out at Monet's Garden Café & Coffeehouse.

“Then, at one point, you lean across the table. ‘I think that guy’s checking you out,’ you whispered. I knew exactly who you were talking about because I’d been watching him, as well. But he wasn’t checking me out. ‘He’s checking you out,’ I said. In a contest of who’s-got-the-biggest-balls, all of you listening should know that Jessica wins. ‘Excuse me,’ she said to Alex, in case you haven’t figured out the name of the mystery man, ‘but which one of us are you checking out?’” (p. 60)

Jessica tells Hannah that one of the customers is looking at her, but she denies it and states that Jessica is, Alex, looking. As result, they think that they ought to come to him to clarify who he is looking at. That little action and conversation lead them to know each other regarding all of them are new to both town and school.

At school in the morning, the freshmen have a class led by Ms. Strumm with tedious documentaries they have to watch. Whilst she all ears to the documentaries, Hannah is disrupted by whispering sounds surrounding—one of the whispers comes from Jimmy Long, “You bet it is”. The moment she looks up, the whispers turn into silence and then respond to him by asking whom he means (2017, p. 38).

“Jimmy, who’ll drink up the attention any girl gives him, gave a half-smile and glanced down at the paper on his desk. Again came the ‘idiot’ whisper—this time repeated across the room as if no one wanted me in on the joke.” (p. 38).

Without responding to her with any sound, he glances at a piece of paper, containing a list, as if he is pointing and manifesting it which “FRESHMAN CLASS—WHO’S HOT / WHO’S NOT” written on it. By the time another whisper is heard, she feels not accepted to join the joke. By stating the preceding dialogue, it underlies that she is ironically the one to joke.

Hannah Baker is selected in the “Who’s Hot” column as she has the best backside along with Jessica’s name in the other column which is “Who’s Not” (p. 40). In this case, Alex’s list has gotten a “victim” and one to be blamed by the victim, Jessica Davis and Hannah Baker, which will be explained in the next subsection. Alex is not aware of what is coming by putting her on the list and thinks that it will be fine because she is on the “Hot” side (p. 37). Unexpectedly, it goes the other way round, several occurrences happen as repercussions of the list.

“... Jimmy was taking a sneaky-peek over the back of my chair, wasn’t he? That’s all I could picture as he whispered, ‘You bet it is.’” (2017, p. 38).

“Later that day, passing Hannah in the halls, I took a look back as she walked by. And I had to agree. She definitely belonged in that category.” (p. 39).

Because of what Alex does toward Hannah, she has become a sexual object.

At the moment the list comes to a desk behind her, she already had a repercussion.

The list is walking passed the whole class, so basically, her backside is looked at by the entire class. Even after the class is over, some people are still paying attention to her backside which is very disrupting and terrifying.

Hannah stated, “But let me put it this way, I don’t think my a\*\*—as you call it—was the deciding factor. I think the deciding factor . . . was revenge” (2017, p. 40). He needs someone to put on a side against Jessica when she is having affair with Alex. After Hannah’s prior reputation, he thinks that she is perfect for the place, and the snowball effect plays its role after Justin Foley.

She also stated that she survives because the list is not quite traumatizing and considers it a joke (p. 44). On the other hand, an effect of the list makes its way to the surface. When Hannah is buying a candy bar at Blue Spot Liquor, a boy cups his hand towards her backside while saying, “Best Ass in the Freshman Class, Wally. Standing right here in your store!” (p. 48). Bryce Walker does not have a right to put his cupped hands on her backside. Without her consent, she feels harmed sexually by him. He says that he does it as he is playing and is telling her to relax. She feels psychologically hurt by his action and him considering her backside as a toy.

### 3.2.1.1.3. Physical Attack

As has been explained in the previous sub-section, Jessica Davis is also a freshman in the school and town along with Hannah and Alex, and Monet's is their safe space to gather and talk to each other when whoever having a bad day by saying, "Olly-Olly-oxen-free" (Asher, 2017, p. 62). Rather, it merely happened for a few weeks. Alex is the first one to drop, then Jessica follows not long from his. On the other hand, Hannah still goes to Monet's a few times hoping one of them will show up to talk to her.

One day at school, Jessica out of the blue walked up to Hannah suggesting that she wants to talk to her without a clue. Hannah states, "So I sat down and slid my hand into the middle of the table. 'Olly-olly-oxen-free?'" (p. 64). Looking up to the dialogue, she is still hoping for the routine to back to the table. Instead of putting a hand on the table, Jessica puts and slaps a paper which is Alex's ridiculous list.

"He did not choose me over you, Jessica,' I said. 'He chose me to get back at you and you know that. He knew my name would hurt you more than anyone else's.'" (p. 65) indicates that Hannah consoles and convinces her that Alex only wants to revenge on Jessica, sort of lovers little bickering. Hannah's name will hurt her more rather than someone else'. Yet, she denies Hannah's defense, rather she accuses her of the rumor. Another rumor comes to her again which makes her feel another grief.

"I remember a bunch of guys joking with Alex in the locker room. 'Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake, Baker's man.' Then someone asked him,

‘Pat that muffin, Baker’s man?’ and everyone knew what was being said.”

...

“Tightening his shoelaces, and without looking at me, Alex denied the rumor. ‘Just so you know.’” (p. 66).

Looking up the dialogue, Clay Jensen inadvertently hears him being joked over him and Hannah. His friends think that he has an affair with her and done feeling her up obscenely. The rumors from Justin’s imagination and his list make this another rumor indisputable.

After getting her defense, Jessica still has not accepted it and blames her. Jessica gets up from her seat and swung her hand upon Hannah’s above eyebrow. Hannah subsequently asks her, “... which did you mean to do? Punch me, or scratch me? Because it felt like a little bit of both” (p. 67). On account of Alex’s list, she gets an abusive action done by Jessica which results in leaving a tiny scar above her eyebrow.

“Or maybe you’ve never seen it. But I see it every morning when I get ready for school. ‘Good morning, Hannah,’ it says. And every night when I get ready for bed. ‘Sleep tight.’

...

But it’s more than just a scratch. It’s a punch in the stomach and a slap in the face. It’s a knife in my back because you would rather believe some made-up rumor than what you knew to be true.

Jessica, my dear, I’d really love to know if you dragged yourself to my funeral. And if you did, did you notice your scar?

And what about you—the rest of you—did you notice the scars you left behind?

No. Probably not.

...

Because most of them can’t be seen with the naked eye.” (p. 68).

The scar Jessica has left is merely not physically on her eyebrow.

Nevertheless, along, it leaves psychological pain which felt more than a punch and scratch. The psychological pain she felt is described blatantly by her. She

states that it cannot be beheld with bare eyes. The statement is not only addressed to Jessica but also to the rest featured in the tapes.

#### **3.2.1.1.4. Trespassed Privacy Right**

At night when Hannah goes home with Clay Jensen, Tyler takes a peek at her room (Asher, 2017, p. 79). He is standing in front of her bedroom window while she is having her peace. It is terrifying to reckon him standing there with equipment; a camera. The click sound of the camera feels like a terror to her. At that moment, the shutter sound means matters more than a merely trivial sound.

“After your visits, I twisted my blinds shut every night. I locked out the stars and I never saw lightning again. Each night, I simply turned out the lights and went to bed.

Why didn’t you leave me alone, Tyler? My house. My bedroom. They were supposed to be safe for me. Safe from everything outside. But you were the one who took that away.” (pp. 88–89)

As a consequence, there is a feeling of being exposed and unsound.

Previously, Hannah likes to keep the window blinds open to enjoy looking at stars and lightning on stormy nights. Eventually, as the result of Tyler’s sneaks, she does not manage to be fond of the night sky.

As fore-uttered by Hannah, she is supposed to be feeling safe at home, under her bedroom light. The next following night, she has to at least keep the blinds shut and lights off to feel better. In other words, he is responsible for seizing her safety and violating her right to privacy, which bears a broad meaning for a right to be let alone. Furthermore, when he is caught in the act by Hannah and Courtney Crimson who screams, “He’s cramming his d\*ck in his pants”,



while abruptly running down from them (p. 88). In this case, they are meant to be objects of his sexual fantasy, then it makes Hannah feels uncomfortable.

“‘What do you want, Tyler?’

He told me I was right about the party. ‘The party does suck.’

‘No, Tyler. It doesn’t,’ I said. Then I asked why he was following me.

His eyes dropped to his camera and he fiddled with the lens. He needed a ride home, he said.” (p. 117).

There is no exact date when the party is held, however, it follows the nights when he peeps Hannah—and Courtney. That night, she goes to the party along with Courtney. After finding out that the party is sickening, she decides to leave during the ongoing party. Tyler unexpectedly follows her to her car to ask for a ride.

“At that, I really started laughing. Not specifically at what he said, but at the absurdity of the whole night. Did he really have no clue that I knew about his night prowling—about his nocturnal missions? Or did he sincerely hope I didn’t know? Because as long as I didn’t know, we could be friends, right?” (p. 118).

Hannah is frankly taken by surprise at how the party night goes. After what Courtney does to her which will be explained in a later sub-section, Tyler innocently asks her for a ride without feeling guilty about what he has done to her. Indeed, he is still unaware that she witnesses, also as a victim, his action peeping at her private space. Yet, she is still being kind by agreeing to his request for asking lift.

“‘Fine,’ I said. ‘But we’re not stopping anywhere.’ A few times on the ride home he tried talking to me. But each time I cut him off. I did not want to act like everything was okay, because it wasn’t.” (p. 118).

She is kind enough to let him come in her car with her leaving the party. On the way, he attempts to talk to her, yet she kills the conversation right away as a

result of her feeling sickened by him and his actions. According to what she says, she does not and cannot forget what he has been doing nights at her house. Again, she is sickened by him not feeling guilty at all.

### 3.2.1.1.5. Betrayal

Speaking of the Peeping Tom—Tyler Down, Courtney Crimsen is one of Hannah’s acquaintances who is likewise there where Tyler has his action. At school after being aware of being peeped at by him, she initially asks mere Courtney’s thought of her being peeped at. Eventually, Courtney requires her to take her experience of what is being peeped which results in getting him caught in action.

“Posed. What an interesting word to sum up Courtney’s tale. Because when you’re posed, you know someone’s watching. You put on your very best smile. You let your sweetest personality shine.

...

And in high school, people are always watching so there’s always a reason to pose.” (Asher, 2017, p. 94).

“You’re definitely one of the most popular girls in school. And you . . . are . . . just . . . so . . . sweet. Right?

Wrong.” (p. 93).

“Yes, my dear listeners, Courtney is nice to whomever she comes in contact with or whomever she’s talking to. And yet, ask yourselves—is it all a show?

...

I think it is.” (p. 94).

“I mean, you are who you are and everyone wants to go to a party with you. To at least be seen entering a party with you. Everyone! Boys. Girls. It doesn’t matter. That’s the kind of admiration people have for you.” (p. 99).

In an initial conclusion, Hannah describes Courtney’s “contribution” to her note tapes as “posed” or in other words fake. This sub-section will explain the reasons underlying her so-called posed action. In other eyes, Courtney Crimsen is

a nice girl who always puts her shiniest smile on everyone she passes by in the school halls. However, the impression of her has a contrary image to Hannah, and it will likewise to everyone listening to her tapes.

“Let me be very clear. I do not hate you, Courtney. In fact, I don’t even dislike you. But for a time, I thought you and I were becoming friends.

...

It turns out you were just grooming me to be another tally mark under People Who Think Courtney Crimsen Is a Really Neat Girl. Another guaranteed vote for Most Liked in the senior yearbook. And once you did it to me, and I realized it, I watched you do it to others.” (p. 95).

Hannah expects her to be more than merely an acquaintance, while Courtney does not think like her. It turns out that she assumes Courtney is being nice toward her only to save her nice image. She is nice for saving image not only towards her but also the rest of the school. By that, she manages to take privileges for her benefit.

“I asked why you wanted to hang out after ignoring me for so long. But of course, you denied ignoring me at all. You said I must have misread things. And the party would be a good chance to get to know each other better.

...

‘Great!’ you said. ‘Can you drive?’  
And my heart tumbled a bit.” (p. 100)

At that moment, Hannah asks Courtney why she wants to leave the party together after avoiding her at school. To save her image, Courtney denies it and says that she merely overthinks it. She assumes that the party is a good occasion to know each other. Eventually, what Hannah doubts beforehand gets to the surface.

“You opened the passenger door, sat down, and buckled up. ‘Thanks for the lift,’ you said.

...

A lift? Already having doubts about why you invited me, that was not the hello I wanted to hear.

...

I wanted to be wrong about you, Courtney. I did. I wanted you to see it as me picking you up so we could go to a party together. And that is very different from me giving you a lift.” (p. 101)

On the day party is coming, Hannah goes to Courtney’s house to take her to the party together. When she is already in the car, she says gratitude towards Hannah for giving her a “lift”, and it is not something she wants to hear. She expects her not to say that because it implies that she only takes her to the party and then says goodbye. It is not similar to picking her up and then getting into the party together.

“Then you said we should split up. And do you want to know my first thought when you said that, Courtney? Gee, that sure didn’t take long. You said there were a few people you needed to see and that we should meet up later. I lied and said there were some people I needed to see, too.

Then you told me not to leave without you. ‘You’re my ride, remember?’” (p. 103)

After getting off the car, her doubt is getting higher on the surface. Courtney proposes for them to split up which is not what Hannah wants to be as they are supposed to get to know each other better. Courtney could have taken her together—not leaving her. The next words coming from Courtney are frankly seen as she uses Hannah for her benefit when she states, “But did I feel used? Absolutely.” (p. 110).

“Disgusting.” (p. 111)

“Watching those guys pummel each other so no one would suspect them of being weak was too much for me. Their reputations were more important than their faces. And Courtney’s reputation was more important than my reputation.” (p. 112)

At this moment, she witnesses some boys fighting each other with their fists which makes her want to vomit. They are willing to get their faces full of bruises rather than be seen as someone weak. She does not feel "... physically sick. But mentally ...” (p. 111). She is still not able to get over Courtney whose reputation is more important than anything else.

#### **3.2.1.1.6. Self-blame**

The setting of this issue also happens in the party. Hannah is previously with Clay Jensen in a bedroom of the house party. Now she is alone in there, then suddenly there are sounds of a couple coming into the bedroom. Jessica Davis' arms lay upon the shoulders of Justin Foley when they are coming in. After having a one-sided kiss on Jessica's, he left her to rest concerning that she is heavily drunk and not in a romantic mood.

When Hannah thinks that she will finally escape out of the bedroom, there is another pair of shoe shadows coming to Justin's apartment from the bottom door gap. Bryce Walker urges him to let go of the door knob to come and take advantage of Jessica Davis sexually. He lets go of the door for Bryce to come in after hearing him lying that he merely needs a few minutes because he has a night shift.

“In that brief moment—the moment you said nothing—I fell on my knees, sick, covering my mouth with both hands. I stumbled toward the closet, tears blurring the light from the hall. And when I collapsed into the closet, a pile of jackets on the floor caught me. When the bedroom door opened, I pulled the closet doors shut. And I shut my eyes tight. Blood pounded in my ears. I rocked back and forth, back and forth, beating my forehead into the pile of jackets.

But with the bass pumping throughout the house, no one heard me.”  
(Asher, 2017, p. 226)

As a result of hearing a single ridiculous reason to easily let him come in, Hannah feels sickened. The feeling of sadness and anger that cannot be expressed makes her cry while hiding in the closet. She is unable to accept the facts that happen in front of her eyes: Bryce rapes Jessica after being easily let by Justin for a single ridiculous reason. Hannah also states, “... my throat felt so scratched. So raw and burning. Had I been screaming?” (p. 227) which has been going on for several songs played there.

“And I could have stopped it. If I could have talked. If I could have seen. If I could have thought about anything, I would have opened those doors and stopped it.

But I didn't. And it doesn't matter what my excuse was. That my mind was in a meltdown is no excuse. I have no excuse. I could have stopped it—end of story. But to stop it, I felt like I'd have to stop the entire world from spinning. Like things had been out of control for so long that whatever I did hardly mattered anymore.” (pp. 226–227).

“Justin, baby, I'm not blaming you entirely. We're in this one together. We both could have stopped it. Either one of us. We could have saved her. And I'm admitting this to you. To all of you. That girl had two chances. And both of us let her down.” (p. 229).

“And you have no idea how much I wish I didn't ruin that girl's life. But I did.

At the very least, I helped. And so did you.

No, you're right, you didn't rape her. And I didn't rape her. He did.

But you ... and I ... we let it happen.

It's our fault.” (p. 230).

For the second time, Hannah feels Tonic Immobility similar to what she felt when she was sexually harassed by Bryce Walker some days ago. The fore given data indicate that she not only blames Justin for letting it happens. She states that she was also responsible for what has happened to Jessica. The self-blaming statements are verbally stated by her a little frequently within the tape which adds more grief to her.

As a result, she states, “Like things had been out of control for so long that whatever I did hardly mattered anymore. And I couldn’t stand all the emotions anymore. I wanted the world to stop ... to end” (p. 227). In this case, the act of self-blame increases an amount of grief towards her psychache which has been growing within her.

The sorrowful night at the party does not stop there, and another event happens following consecutively. After witnessing the thing between Justin, Bryce, and Jessica, Hannah staggers to sit on a piano bench while thinking to get out of the party. Then Jenny Kurtz offers her a ride home which makes her feel good that there is still someone giving her a hand.

While they are on the way home, Jenny who is driving unintentionally runs over and hits a stop sign. Hannah suggests calling the police and letting them handle it. As a result, she is told to get out of the car instead. She then decides to call the police from a payphone at a petrol station, and they calm her down by telling her that Clay Jensen has already called them. Unfortunately, he does not call to report a fallen sign yet a fatal accident that is caused by the fallen sign. The next day, a senior at her high school is reported died because of the accident.

“I asked if I could use your phone. I saw it sitting there right below the stereo.

‘Why?’ you asked.

I’m not sure why I told you the truth. I should have lied. ‘We need to at least tell someone about the sign,’ I said.

...

And once again, I could have stopped it ... somehow.” (Asher, 2017, p. 245).

“There must have been something I could have said. At the very least, I could have taken your keys. Or at the very, very least, I could have reached in and stolen your phone to call the police.” (p. 246).

“Because on that corner, there wasn’t a Stop sign that night. Someone had knocked it over. And someone else ... yours truly ... could’ve stopped it.” (pp. 247–248).

The data indicate that at that point, Hannah once again blames herself for the death of her senior at the high school. Similar to what she feels after what has happened to Jessica Davis. The thought of ‘I could have done this and that’ keeps spinning in his mind, although she has suggested Jenny park her car and call the police to report the accident.

### **3.2.1.1.7. Sexual Harassment**

Hannah Baker experiences sexual harassment not only once which is the result of Standall’s trivial joke in choosing her as having the best back side. Hence, every time she passes through the school hall, her eyes turn to her. Bryce Walker is one of the boys who looks at her differently after the joke has been spread.

“Hey Wally, guess what?” His breath came from just over my shoulder.

...

A cupped hand smacked my ass. And then, he said it. “Best Ass in the Freshman Class, Wally. Standing right here in your store!”

...

Did it hurt? No. But that doesn’t matter, does it? Because the question is, did he have the right to do it? And the answer, I hope, is obvious. I knocked his hand away with a quick backhand swipe that every girl should master.” (Asher, 2017, pp. 47–48)

The incident occurred at Blue Spot Liquor when she comes to buy a candy bar. Then, in a minute, Bryce comes in not only to buy goods but also to harass her. The dialogue states that he is harassing her by touching Hannah’s part of the body without her consent. The term ‘Best A\*\* in the Freshman Class’ is based on the list Alex Standall has created, which indicates that Bryce’s act is the following



effect of Standall's joke. Moreover, Hannah states that she throws Bryce's hand away from her back as a response to an unconscious touch towards her.

Instead of expressing an apology for his disturbance, he says that he is only playing and tells her to remain calm (p. 50). On the other hand, she quietly feels offended by his saying while on her way home. She disagrees with it meaning her back as it is a toy to play with, and she cannot remain toned down as it is not a big matter (p. 51). Eventually, she does not assess it as his mere fault but also as a consequence of Alex's list as has been previously described.

Bryce's sexual harassment of Hannah is not stopping here. Another is committed by him after some time, and it is described by her as the closing act which contributes to her self-homicide.

"Because isn't that what I'm doing? Giving up?

Yes. As a matter of fact, I am. And that, more than anything else, is what this all comes down to. Me ... giving up ... on me.

Before that party, I'd thought about giving up so many times.

...

Because every time something bad happened, I thought about it." (p. 253).

"It? Okay, I'll say it. I thought about suicide.

The anger, the blame, it's all gone. Her mind is made up. The word is not a struggle for her anymore.

After everything I've talked about on these tapes, everything that occurred, I thought about suicide. Usually, it was just a passing thought.

I wish I would die." (p. 254).

"I won't be around anymore ... tomorrow." (p. 256).

Before telling the story about him, she concedes that she is in a state of despair proceeding to live. Previously, the thought of giving up merely passes through her head. Her decision is eventually fixed after every event disgust and sickens her.

“That’s why you did it. You wanted your world to collapse around you. You wanted everything to get as dark as possible. And Bryce, you knew, could help you do that.

...

I waited a second. Should I?

No ... but I will.

You knew what you were getting into, Hannah.” (Asher, 2017, pp. 261–262).

“Wait, don’t answer that. Let me say this first: I was not attracted to you, Bryce. Ever. In fact, you disgusted me.” (p. 265)

After her mind is already made up, she needs a reason to make it worse so there will be no turning back and ensure it goes as planned. She acknowledges exactly that she comes to a ‘black hole’ trap. She also states that coming to him is not because of her attraction towards him, but is merely to make her more disgusted and sickened with life.

“Bryce, you had to see my jaw clench. You had to see my tears.

...

For everyone listening, let me be clear. I did not say no or push his hand away. All I did was turn my head, clench my teeth, and fight back tears. And he saw that. He even told me to relax.

...

But in the end, I never told you to get away ... and you didn’t.

...

You were touching me ... but I was using you. I needed you, so I could let go of me, completely.” (pp. 264–265).

This case is put and described in this subsection despite the consent sensual touching towards her by Bryce. Deep in her heart, she does not allow his hands to travel on her body, however, she remains unspoken and does not tell him to put his hands off. Moreover, she intentionally comes in there to receive such sensual behavior even though she knows what will be coming. She miserably succeeds to disgust and sickening herself which makes her more certain to end her life tomorrow.

### 3.2.1.2. Hannah Feeling Hopeless

#### 3.2.1.2.1. Sexual Harassment

In the school, there is an event that is described by the students as a mere fund-raiser held by Cheer Camp (Asher, 2017, pp. 119, 123). Oh, My Dollar Valentine has succeeded in matching Hannah with Marcus Cooley by filling out a personal profile and wished-match description survey. The issue starts when he is reaching out after the results of the survey are distributed. They plan an ice cream Valentine date at Rosie's Diner.

“He sat down on the stool next to me and apologized. I told him that I'd almost given up and left. He looked at my empty milkshake glass and apologized again. But in his mind, he wasn't late. He wasn't sure I would even be there.

And I'm not going to hold that against him. Apparently, he thought we were joking about the date. Or he assumed we were joking about the date. But halfway home, he stopped, thought about it, and headed to Rosie's just in case.

And that's why you're on this tape, Marcus. You turned around just in case. Just in case I, Hannah Baker—Miss Reputation—was waiting for you.” (pp. 139–140).

Hannah has been waiting for him at Rosie's for thirty minutes long which she considers long for Valentine's date (p. 139). Nevertheless, he eventually shows up there and apologizes to her for not making it in time. He thought that his date with Hannah is not serious and arrived there 'just in case she is serious about it. Moreover, Marcus does go there along with Zach Dempsey and plans to move her towards the corner booth (p. 142). When it comes to a corner somewhere on a date, it indicates that a pair of lovers will commit sexual acts.

“And that's when his hand touched my knee. That's when I knew.

...

I stopped laughing. I nearly stopped breathing. But I kept my forehead against your shoulder, Marcus. There was your hand, on my knee. From out of nowhere. The same way I was grabbed in the liquor store.” (p. 141).

“... And I couldn’t look away as your fingertips caressed my knee . . . and started moving up.

‘Why are you doing that?’ I asked.

...

Your shoulder rotated and I lifted my head, but now your arm was behind my back and pulling me close. And your other hand was touching my leg. My upper thigh.” (p. 142).

After dealing with talks and laughter for some time, Marcus suddenly travels his hand onto her knee. According to her monologue, Hannah stops her laughter and barely breathes which indicates that it takes her by surprise. It is considered sexual harassment because it gets her to recall what she has experienced in the liquor store where Bryce Walker harasses her. During the harassment, Hannah experiences what-so-called Tonic Immobility which makes her feel immobilized as the result of the harassment. Despite the effect on her, He keeps on touching her without consent of her.

“I looked over the back of the booth to the other booths, to the counter, trying to catch someone’s eye. And a few people glanced over, but they all turned away.

Below the table, my fingers were fighting to pry your fingers off. To loosen your grip. To push you away. And I didn’t want to yell—it wasn’t to that level yet—but my eyes were begging for help.

...

But everyone turned away. No one asked if there was a problem.

Why? Were they being polite?

Was that it, Zach? Were you just being polite?” (p. 142)

Still, under the influence of Tonic Immobility, Hannah keeps on being quiet, yet giving everyone a glance of needing help. Sadly, Marcus is still in his persistence to caress her body in the absence of her consent. She is also determined to fight for her dignity while persisting to glance begging for help

from everyone surrounding including Zach Dempsey, who decides to avoid her eyes.

“So I rammed both of my hands into your side, throwing you to the floor.

Now, when someone falls out of a booth, it’s kind of funny. It just is. So you’d think people would’ve started laughing. Unless, of course, they knew it wasn’t an accident. So they knew something was going on in that booth, they just didn’t feel like helping.

...

Anyway, you left. You didn’t storm out. Just called me a tease, loud enough for everyone to hear, and walked out.” (pp. 143–144).

After having a little disputation and him going way much sexually wilder, Hannah forcefully pushes him away out of the booth onto the floor, which makes eyes beholding them. In the tape, she proceeds to state that everyone witnessing neither takes an act nor gives sympathy towards her. On the other hand, Marcus eventually leaves her alone and shouts calling her a tease while every eye watching. After getting those experiences, they make her contemplate her loneliness and life since she has moved to the town including the events committed by her friends (pp. 144–145).

“Then come to realize that you’re making mountains out of molehills. Realize how petty you’ve become. Sure, it may feel like you can’t get a grip in this town. It may seem that every time someone offers you a hand up, they just let go and you slip further down. But you must stop being so pessimistic, Hannah, and learn to trust those around you.

So I do. One more time.

...

And then . . . well . . . certain thoughts begin creeping around. Will I ever get control of my life? Will I always be shoved back and pushed around by those I trust?

...

Will my life ever go where I want it to?” (p. 145).

As a result of it, Hannah starts to wonder is there anyone to put full trust. She is merely exhausted by the way her trust towards everyone does not give a good deed in return. She has been perpetually holding out hopes in the town and has been taken for granted by them.

### 3.2.1.2.2. Stealing

Zach Dempsey meets Hannah at Kat's going-away party where he stumbles and falls on Kat's lawn along with Justin Foley. Not only that, but he is also spotted coming together with Marcus when he is on Valentine's date with her. He is there where she is sexually harassed by Marcus at the corner booth of Rosie's Diner. A few minutes away from Marcus' leave, he remains stays instead of leaving with him. Instead, he comes to the rescue and apologizes for whatever has happened.

“I pretended not to notice him. Not because I had anything against him, but because my heart and my trust were in the process of collapsing. And that collapse created a vacuum in my chest. Like every nerve in my body was withering in, pulling away from my fingers and toes. Pulling back and disappearing.” (Asher, 2017, p. 159).

He tries very hard to console her who is still feeling collapsed by ensuring she is okay even offering her another beverage to drink. Nevertheless, what she gives him is not a proper response, yet she is barely responding with a nod. Hannah, deep in her heart, however, appreciates what he has been doing to her (p. 160), but a montage of the chronological events has happened to her makes her feel collapsed. Furthermore, she states that he does those merely to hit on her with the fact that she is now alone (2017, p. 160).

“Or was it a dare? Did they dare you to ask me out?

...

When I broke out of my daze, and before I left, I listened in on you and your friends. They were teasing you for not getting that date you assured them was in the bag.” (p. 162).

“I can tell you this, at that table, the worst thoughts in the world first came into my head. It’s there that I first started to consider... to consider... a word that I still cannot say.” (p. 161).

The statement she says is proved with foreshown dialogue which states that she overhears what he has been teased by his friend. He is captured embarrassed for not succeeding in hitting on her. The more she thinks about those, the more tears come down her face.

At this moment, suicide ideation, which she thinks is the worst thought in the world, first comes to her mind. Although she says that she cannot say the word, Clay confirms that suicide is the word she cannot say yet (2017, p. 164). The suicide ideation comes into her mind because of the combination of psychological pains she has been surviving and hopelessness which will be featured soon in the next paragraphs. Yet, the ideation is still considered low.

“But you must have a slow boil, getting more and more angry—taking it more and more personally—the longer you thought about my nonresponsiveness. And you chose to get back at me in the most childish of ways.

You stole my paper bag notes of encouragement.” (p. 162).

Hannah states that Zach is the type of person who has a slow temper with the thought of revenge. He stole the entire letters of encouragement which is addressed to her daily for three weeks (p. 164). The letters are put in a paper bag, which is a program devised by Mrs. Bradley in a class Peer Communications. She states that is her ‘haven’ after feeling more like an outcast at school (p. 153). Not only that, No one is allowed to fill in with mean or sarcastic notes.

“The day my self-written note went missing, I stood outside the classroom door and started talking to someone I’d never spoken with before. I looked over her shoulder e very few seconds, watching the other students check their bags for notes.

That sure looked like a lot of fun, Zach.

And that’s when I caught you. With a single finger, you touched the lip of my bag and tilted it down just enough to peek inside.” (p. 166).

Everyone has their paper bags hung on a book rack and is welcome to fill others' paper bags with words of affirmation even if it is a trivial thing, including affirmations for cutting hair. After she is left by Marcus, she goes straight to a salon to cut her hair short. In the days following, she feels that the thorough school does not notice it and she then finds out that it is because Zach stealing them. The only haven she has is seized by him. Every day after the night with him, she always discovers that her paper bag which used to be filled with notes of encouragement is empty. In the note she has set up to catch him, she writes that she is in a phase where she needs the encouragement he has stolen from her.

“In the back of our class, Mrs. Bradley also had a paper bag.

...

So I did just that. I wrote a note to Mrs. Bradley that read: ‘Suicide. It’s something I’ve been thinking about. Not too seriously, but I have been thinking about it.’” (p. 169).

As a result of what Zach has done, and what the others have done, she has suicide ideation for the second time. She writes an anonymous note for Mrs. Bradley to discuss in the class concerning her suicide ideation. However, another reason why she writes the note is to know who will figure out the sender and come to her rescue, on the other hand, she always denies writing it (p. 170). When Mrs. Bradley moderates the topic, she finds that Zach does not care about it, although he knows that she is the anonymous sender. Moreover, the students’ responses are also disappointing for her. They state that the sender who keeps



being anonymous is only seeking attention, and they do not discuss the best ways to help (pp. 171–172). It merely makes her feel more down and lonely in her mind.

### **3.2.2. The Absence of Connectedness**

The suicide ideation of Hannah Baker is considered as strong. The first factors of the three-step theory accomplish the emergence of suicide ideation which is a result of combined psychological pains and hopelessness. Moreover, it develops its intensity due to the absence of connectedness which involves someone or something attracting to remain living a life. By any means, she fails to manage to be attached to favorite things, places considered unsafe, and her loved ones.

#### **3.2.2.1. Home**

Hannah likes to keep the shades open to enjoy looking out at the stars and lightning lighting up the cloud on stormy nights. She has her father checks out the room from outside of the house, and he can assure that no one manages to look through her room. It is supposed to be safe unless someone has to stand on tiptoe which is uncomfortable.

“And at least you stopped coming around my house. But your presence, Tyler, that never left.

After your visits, I twisted my blinds shut every night. I locked out the stars and I never saw lightning again. Each night, I simply turned out the lights and went to bed.

Why didn't you leave me alone, Tyler? My house. My bedroom. They were supposed to be safe for me. Safe from everything outside. But you were the one who took that away.

...

So how important is your security, Tyler? What about your privacy? Maybe it's not as important to you as it was for me, but that's not for you to decide." (Asher, 2017, pp. 88–89)

After what Tyler does outside of her window room, she does not manage to take her time looking at the night sky. She is beyond scared of someone may look in the room and take photos like what Tyler has done the previous night. The place where she can feel secure from everything outside the house is no longer so, likewise the data following.

"This doesn't seem like a big deal, does it?  
No, maybe not to you. But school hadn't been a safe haven of mine for a long time. And after your photo escapades, Tyler, my home was no longer secure." (Asher, 2017, p. 192)

She states that he has taken the haven that is significant for her. By stalking and peeping, she feels that her home is not secure anymore. Therefore, her connectedness with her home is not present anymore since his visits.

### **3.2.2.2. Parents**

Hannah's parents run a small business downtown. They are, as stated herself, affectionate toward her. After the new huge shopping center is built in the town, their store is in a crisis which makes them distant. She assumes that if she tells them about what is going on in her life, it will be burdensome to take.

"... My parents love me. I know they do. But things have not been easy recently. Not for about a year. Not since you-know-what opened outside of town.

When that happened, my parents became distant. There was suddenly a lot for them to think about. A lot of pressure to make ends meet. I mean, they talked to me, but not like before.

When I cut my hair, my mom didn't even notice." (Asher, 2017, p. 169)

"But that night, after hanging up the phone, I wandered the streets some more. Because I had to stop crying. Before I went home, I

needed to calm down. If my parents caught me sneaking back in with tears in my eyes, they'd ask way too many questions. Unanswerable questions." (p. 252)

She remains quiet about her life to her parents until the end. On the other hand, she assumes that her parents' upcoming questions are answerable. Hence, there is no one to tell her feelings and condition, and it makes her take the whole burden on her own.

### 3.2.2.3. Poem

A poem acts a significant role in Hannah's life in the novel. It has the capability either to increase or decrease the intensity of her suicidal ideation. Within the novel, poetry initially has turned her feelings into beautiful chains of the word. Eventually, it is known that it is a boomerang from and toward her.

"And honestly, there is no better way to explore your emotions than with poetry.

...

If you're angry, you don't have to write a poem dealing with the cause of your anger.

But it needs to be an angry poem.

...

But it's always cheaper than a therapist.

I did that for a while. Poetry, not a therapist." (Asher, 2017, p. 176)

"Just knowing I'd be going to Monet's to write poetry made the days more bearable. Something funny, shocking, or hurtful might happen and I'd think, this is going to make for one fascinating poem." (p. 177)

She states that she better goes write poetry instead of going to psychiatry which obligates her to cost some money. She writes a poem to explore the emotions within her. Even merely thinking to go to Monet's to write a poem makes her feel easier to face the upcoming days.

“... then why did you steal my notebook? Why did you print my poem, the poem that you yourself called ‘scary’ in the Lost-N-Found? Why did you let other people read it? And dissect it. And make fun of it. It was never a lost poem, Ryan. And you never found it, so it did not belong in your collection. But in your collection is exactly where other people found it. That’s where teachers stumbled across it right before their lectures on poetry. That’s where classrooms full of students cut up my poem, searching for its meaning.” (Asher, 2017, p. 189)

Ryan is responsible for spreading a particular poem that she writes the day she thinks about giving her life. She does allow him to read and understand the poem with its implicit meanings. Nevertheless, she never gives him permission to take her poem and make it featured in his Lost-N-Found Gazette resulting in making its way to being discussed and deciphered its meaning. Moreover, Hannah states, “Some even wrote parodies of my poem, reading them to me in the hopes of getting under my skin”, which is so foolish, childish, and cruel (p. 191).

“This doesn’t seem like a big deal, does it? No, maybe not to you. But school hadn’t been a safe haven of mine for a long time. And after your photo escapades, Tyler, my home was no longer secure. Now, suddenly, even my own thoughts were being offered up for ridicule.” (p. 192)

Firstly, the school is unable to be a haven on the days she comes to the town. Secondly, her peace and security are also seized by Tyler’s stalking and trespass of privacy. At last, as a result of what Ryan has done, she does not want to make poetry as a remedy because her thoughts are not taken seriously. Instead, they are being ridiculed by her schoolmates.

#### 3.2.2.4. Clay Jensen

The book *13 Reasons Why* tells about a boy who receives a box of audiotapes from a girl, Hannah Baker, who has committed self-homicide. Clay Jensen is the boy, and they assure him that he has been involved as one of the others who are responsible for the accident. It tells about the journey of him listening, understanding, reacting, and deciphering the reasons why Hannah ends her life. Hence, along with her, he is the major character in the novel.

When he hops to cassette 5: side A of the audiotapes, he is told by her that his name is not supposed to belong in them. Instead, she intends to tell him her story completely (Asher, 2017, p. 200) as she has been unable to make him know further about her. Moreover, she records the cassette to explain why and say sorry about what has happened that night at the party (p. 206).

“I’m not even sure how much of the real Clay Jensen I got to know over the years. Most of what I knew was second-hand information. And that’s why I wanted to know him better. Because everything I heard—and I mean everything!—was good.

It was one of those things where, once I noticed it, I couldn’t stop noticing it.” (p. 198)

“Overhearing gossip about Clay became a similar distraction. And like I said, I didn’t know him very well, but my ears perked up whenever I heard his name. I guess I wanted to hear something—anything—juicy. Not because I wanted to spread gossip. I just couldn’t believe someone could be that good.” (p. 199)

Something that leads Hannah attracted to Clay is how his reputation always shows positive trends. Every time his name is heard from chatting mouths good things are following the name. Looking up to the fifth sentence, she utters that she finds him intriguing. How someone can have a good reputation with no flaws, and how long she can go on hearing good things about him (p. 199). It underlies why

she can be interested in knowing him personally even better. The party is where she states that she feels connected to Clay (p. 202), and she repeats the statement five times (p. 202) (pp. 211–213) (p. 217). It is where she is supposed to be sorry.

“So Clay, I wasn’t even supposed to be at that party. I was invited, but I wasn’t supposed to be there.

...

During one of my Clay Jensen gossip moments, I found out that you were going to be at the party.

What? Clay Jensen at a party? Unheard of.” (p. 203)

Hannah states that she comes to the party merely for him who is rarely heard of coming to any party. On the other hand, she hopes that she can talk to and know more about him. It has never been a chance to get to school and work. There, they finally have the chance to talk to each other and even kiss. When they have the chance, Hannah refuses to open up about what has happened and everything she has been going through (p. 210) (p. 217). She assumes the thing between her and him will not work, hurt instead.

“How many times had I let myself connect with someone only to have it thrown back in my face?

Everything seemed good, but I knew it had the potential to be awful. Much, much more painful than the others.” (pp. 212–213)

“And that’s when I thought of you, Justin.

...

And then I remembered how you ruined it.

...

I shut my eyes so tight it was painful. Trying to push away all that I was seeing in my head. And what I saw was everyone on this list ... and more.” (p. 215)

That is when they kiss the thought of Justin crosses over her mind, the way he ruins the story of her first kiss. Not only him, but also every one of them whose names show up in the tape has given her hard times and is responsible for her fear to link a brand new connection and not being open toward Clay. As a result, he

fails to know her better and so does she. At last, he is not responsible for her suicide as she has chosen to not be open toward him and failed to maintain the connectedness between them.

### 3.2.2.5. Mr. Porter

Hannah tells that after all has happened, she decides to get help concerning the issues she has been through. She does not want to give up her life (Asher, 2017, p. 273) but gives the last chance instead (p. 269). Despite the decision to faithfully end her life in the prior cassettes, she states that this is the very last chance to hold on or survive. Hence, if the last try does not work, she emphasizes that the deal is sealed (p. 269).

Mr. Porter is an English teacher to Hannah Baker and her classmates in their first period every day. Besides, he is also a guidance counselor for students with the initial last names A to G. Before that, the guidance counselor position is filled by Ms. Antilly who has had Hannah and Jessica Davis be friends. The conflict begins when Hannah comes into his room and tells him she feels lost and sort of empty about life, herself, school, and the people within it. After a while, he offers her to press a charge against the perpetrator, and she refuses.

“—Well, if you won’t press charges, if you’re not sure if you e en can press charges, then you have two options.

...

—One, you can confront him. We can call him in here to discuss what happened at this party. I can call you both out of ...

You said there were two options.

—Or two, and I’m not trying to be blunt here, Hannah, but you can move on.

You mean, do nothing?

...

Move beyond this?

...

You want me to move beyond this.” (pp. 277–278)

The foreshown dialogues tell that he offers her two options: confront him or move on. After hearing the options, she responds by uttering surprised questions as if she cannot believe what he has told her. Her questions turn to a general sentence. Eventually, she takes a conclusion about what they have talked about. After all, she decides to give up her life, and it is final (p. 279). Nevertheless, she still wants him to chase after her to stop it, and he does not show up in the room. Hence, he fails to attract her to survive her life, and her connectedness is fully absent.

### **3.2.3. Means to Attempt Suicide**

Looking up the prior sections, it is believed that Hannah Baker has strong suicide ideation. The psychache contributed by her friends heavily has hurt her psychological state and is developed by the absence of connectedness.

Nevertheless, the ideation will proceed to action if she can commit it.

In this step, it is explained how the conditions that cause strong suicidal ideation develop into a suicide attempt. The key is the capacity of individuals to attempt suicide because humans have a natural desire to avoid pain, injury, and death. It makes it difficult to attempt suicide even when suicidal ideation is intense.

In the novel, Hannah Baker has sufficient capacity to suicide associated with the practical contributing factor. Practical refers to factors that make suicide easier. For example, a person has knowledge of and access to objects that can



cause death such as firearms and drugs (Swanson et al., 2003, p. 440). Within the book, Hannah is described to have thought of various means that she considers creative yet bizarre: hanging, pretend traffic accident, or a gun (Asher, 2017, pp. 254-255).

Hannah can afford to hang inches over the floor, yet she cannot imagine someone finds her swinging; especially her parents. Next, when she thinks to pretend driving off the road, she is unsure about everyone on the tapes capable to keep a secret of hers. Using a gun to kill herself is an impossibility because she is unable to afford one.

“So I’ve decided on the least painful way possible.  
Pills.

...

But what kind of pills? And how many? I am not sure. And I don’t have much time to figure it out because tomorrow ... I’m going to do it.” (p. 255).

Likewise average people, she also tends to avoid pain and injury. Therefore, she decides to take a handful of pills (p. 8) as a means she considers the least painful. Moreover, pills are affordable in ways of the cost and where to get them. Hence, Hannah is considered as having sufficient capacity to attempt suicide with the fore stated practical factor.

## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION

Hannah Baker is a typical friendly girl who is new to the town and school. She is also a delicate girl who dreams of an innocent first kiss, loves to watch the night sky, and writes poems. Eventually, she faces unsympathetic conflicts with her peers that make her get reserved. She decides to keep her feelings to herself without involving Clay Jensen and her parents. As a result, it increases her vulnerability to committing suicide.

Hannah Baker has committed self-homicide as a result of the behaviors done by her friends who are minor characters. She is portrayed as having accomplished the three steps from suicide ideation to attempt. The first step associated with the suicide ideation emerges stemmed from her combined psychache and hopelessness as a response to being ridiculed, false rumors, betrayal, and juvenile delinquencies: traffic offenses, thefts, the trespass of privacy, physical and sexual assaults committed by the minor characters. They are Justin Foley, Alex Standall, Jessica Davis, Tyler Down, Courtney Crimsen, Marcus Cooley, Zach Dempsey, Ryan Shaver, Jenny Kurtz, and Bryce Walker.

Her suicide ideation is considered strong ideation as a response to the next step which is the absence of connectedness. They are her parents, Clay Jensen, Mr. Porter, school, home, and poems she considers not her safe havens anymore. As the last step, her capacity is sufficient to commit suicide with a practical contributing factor. A handful of pills is eventually chosen as she has learned it is affordable and the least painful means.

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