

ABSTRACT

Blind Spot is a mystery novel written by Paula Hawkins which centers on the themes of pain and revenge. This study focuses on the character of Lara and her development toward revenge which develops through processes rather than occurring immediately after the painful experience. The study employs psychological approach and uses the library research method to collect and analyze relevant data. To analyze Hawkins' depiction of Lara, this study analyzes the intrinsic elements, namely character and characterization, setting, point of view, and conflict. This study applies theories by SuEllen Fried and Blanche Sosland on bullying and cycles of pain and by Hansjorg Znoj on changeability and control. The findings reveal that Lara's revenge is dynamic and develops through two distinct cycles: pain–depression–suicide and pain–rage–revenge. However, in Lara's case these cycles do not happen consecutively, but rather experience a wide temporal gap in between. This temporal gap is influenced by Lara's perception of changeability and control in responding to her past experiences and, in turn, influences her character development in order to seek revenge.

Keywords: revenge, bullying, psychological development, *Blind Spot*, psychological approach