

The Psychology Of Travel Behaviour In The Select Novels Of Emilybarr

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ABSTRACT

The psychology of travel behaviour is a complex field that examines the cognitive, emotional, and social factors influencing an individual's travel decisions and activities. This area of study may seek to comprehend the reasons behind their travel choices, planning processes, the motivations driving their journeys, and the overall travel experience. The psychology of travel behaviour continues to evolve, as global mobility increases and societal values shift. "Traveling tends to magnify all human emotions." asserts Peter Hoeg, a Danish writer, unveiling the individual's genuine reactions, preferences, and abilities amid travelling.

INTRODUCTION

The journey of the characters in the novels *Stranded* and *Backpack* mirrors the stages of Maslow's hierarchy of needs, with each travel experience serving as a pivotal step toward their ultimate transformation into self-actualized individuals. As they navigate unfamiliar landscapes and confront evolving challenges, their adventures not only achieve basic necessities but also facilitate deeper psychological growth. Through each phase of their journey, travel acts as a catalyst, guiding them through layers of personal discovery, strengthening their emotional resilience, and culminating in a profound realization of their greatest potential.

Esther the protagonist of the novel *Stranded* by Emily Barr, chose travel as a means to escape her past life and struggles, ultimately leading to her self-actualization. She encounters that when she is happy with her husband, the outside world really means insignificant, as the little private universe is indispensable. Her past life with her husband appears regretful, not in the account of her daughter, Daisy, as she loves her unconditionally. She is utterly horrified and bewildered by the idea of Daisy standing in the doorway, witnessing their fight, it is apparent in the narrative that, it remains the dreadful traumatic experience of her life.

Fragments of Esther's childhood weave through the narrative, each chapter echoing the confines of her devout community, where unwavering faith shaped their sense of belonging. The long-anticipated apocalypse, the divine arrival promised in Moses' words, unravels into an abyss of dread and betrayal, its absence leaving a hollow ache in the silence. As the clouds dissolve beyond the windowpane, clarity dawns everything she had clung to was an illusion. This realization becomes the catalyst for change, urging a break from the past and propelling the soul toward the allure of the undiscovered. She doesn't love the strange traditions of her community anymore, which she finds to be untrue. "Now I desperately want to be one of the people on the outside, laughing. I do not want to be inside, fooled and tricked, contained and constrained" (Barr,135) elucidates the same. Her yearning for freedom radiates with unwavering self-confidence, an inner force propelling her beyond boundaries. It is undeniably apparent that, every step of Esther is a declaration of self-discovery, a pursuit of purpose where her potential could finally be realized without restraint. The echoes of her past no longer bind her, they fuel her resolve, urging her toward a horizon brimming with possibility.

Catherine's initial separation from her village is marked by a profound longing for its vast, green expanses that had once provided both solace and isolation. However, as she acclimates

to a life free from imposed limitations, the absence of structured boundaries grants her an unexpected sense of tranquillity. Over a six-month period, her experience evolves beyond mere adjustment; it gradually reveals itself as a profound discovery, demonstrating that the absence has led to a deeper and more rewarding sense of fulfilment than anticipated. The lack of inquiry from her community reinforces her independence, allowing her to navigate a newfound autonomy. Esther's decision to join a group trip to a deserted island is influenced by a desire for adventure and distraction from her personal issues seeking escape from reality.

Tansy, the protagonist of the novel *Backpack*, hardly has a fair start in life, driven by the relentless force of hardship of her traumatic childhood, caring for an alcoholic parent, shapes her character and decisions throughout the novel. Her struggle to overcome her past throughout her travel, highlights the theme of confronting trauma and the resilience that is required to move forward. Tansy perceives herself as an orphan owing to her drunken mother and her father's significant assertion of his new family's preference to avert thoughts of his former one from resurfacing. The true motive behind her journey is elaborated in the lines, "I can say I had to leave my stressful life behind, painting the trip as a self-finding mission of one who has seen through what the developed world has to offer or as the temporary distraction of a thrill seeker let down by a bastard man at the last minute". (Barr,60)

Prioritizing oneself by satisfying fundamental physiological needs through travelling may be an excellent opportunity to recharge, reflect, and rediscover oneself away from daily routines and responsibilities. In the novel *Stranded*, Esther feels happy that she learned to rely on herself and trust her own instincts. Her unwavering focus remains on fulfilling her most fundamental physiological needs the core essentials required for human survival. She instinctively prioritizes necessities such as air, nourishment, hydration, shelter, clothing, warmth, and rest, recognizing their role in sustaining life.

Despite being unable to distinguish between a self-destructive impulse and a good feeling, she becomes intrigued and overwhelmed by the reaction of people to her public appearance, in unfamiliar places. It is undeniably clear that she takes on the responsibility of assisting the island's inhabitants in securing food and other vital necessities for their survival. With unwavering determination, she ensures access to fundamental resources, offering guidance and support in their search for nourishment, shelter, and other essential provisions.

Esther's wish for a fresh start following divorce is strengthened by the chance of reflection and personal development that the seclusion on the island provides. The text, "The air smells of seawater and flowers. I have found heaven" (Barr,56) articulates the same. As the travellers reach their destination, the physiological thirst of the novel experience shifts from misery to joy. The behaviour of each traveller is entirely influenced by the people they encounter along their journey, as the impact may be extensive and multifaceted, influencing cultural exchange and economic development.

The interference of the chapter on Catherine's abscondment influences her to adopt the best routine and to live her finest life in the outside world. Once she steps beyond the confines of her previous existence, surviving on life's fundamental necessities becomes a transformative experience, allowing her to embrace a newfound appreciation for the raw, unfiltered beauty of existence. Through these novel encounters, she discovers that true contentment lies not in abundance but in the quiet satisfaction of having just enough to sustain herself, fostering a profound sense of harmony.

In the novel *Backpack*, initially, Tansy is horrified by the backpacker culture, observing it as superficial and self-indulgent. Throughout her journey, Tansy's interactions with locals in Vietnam and other Asian countries force her to confront her biases and prejudices. These encounters revealed the warmth, hospitality, and depth of the local cultures, contrasting sharply with her initial adverse perspective. Her fundamental needs are nurtured with a profound sense of contentment that resonates deep within her soul. With each necessity of air, nourishment, shelter, and rest, she discovers a quiet harmony

that had long eluded her. It is visible that, the result of Tansy's significant journey, stretches across great distances in the pursuit of comfort and contentment. Through the challenges of travel, she gradually realizes that true peace is intertwined with the ability to sustain herself. The road she takes is not just a physical passage but a transformative expedition, where physiological well-being becomes the foundation upon which emotional tranquillity is built. The fulfilment of essential needs, coupled with the richness of cultural diversity, offers a profound sense of comfort and emotional relief to travellers. This harmonious balance between necessity and cultural exploration may foster travellers to find both stability and inspiration in their journey.

The novel prompts readers to reflect on the responsibilities and consequences of travel, especially in regions with rich cultural heritage and fragile ecosystems. Her interaction with Max, a fellow traveller, signifies a pivotal moment, his kindness and genuine interest in learning about the local culture and people challenges Tansy's initial perceptions. Their evolving friendship deepens, encouraging Tansy to embrace her journey and rediscover joy in life. The narrative clearly highlights how the fulfilment of essential needs, combined with the presence of a trusted companion, elevates the travel experience into something truly remarkable. This unique blend of security and companionship enriches the journey, making it more meaningful and transformative. She meticulously counts each day spent in her existence, distant from home, acquiring a diary to document her experiences, intending to reflect on it in her future times.

On developing survival instincts, adventurers may enhance both their physical security and emotional well-being satisfying the safety needs of Maslow's theory, fostering self-improvement and a profound appreciation for nature and human existence a foreign visitor, the psychological mindset of every traveller depends upon the behavioural aspects of the people in the alien environment probing their safety needs. The sudden and unsettling encounter with the teenagers, who recklessly swerved their vehicle and malevolently spit at her feet, disturbed her deeply, rendering her motionless on the pavement, her eyes brims with silent tears. In an instant, every greeting from passersby feels laced with bitterness, words carrying an undertone of exclusion and rejection. The piercing gazes of onlookers, fixates on Esther's modest attire, a long skirt and a buttoned-up blouse as merely judgmental, infused with hostility. Their perception of her, tainted by preconceived notions, paints her as an alcoholic involved in infidelity, someone undeserving of belonging. This harrowing realization sharpens her awareness of her immediate need for safety and security, highlighting the significance of her most fundamental necessities which include protection, stability, and the assurance of personal dignity. As the world around her defies her expectations, a single immoral act deeply fractured her sense of belonging, casting her into a state of profound alienation. This emotional rupture is intricately woven into psychological, sociological, and cultural dimensions, shaping her perception of self and others. Yet, within this dissonance, she consciously seeks pathways to restore a sense of connection, navigating unfamiliar landscapes in pursuit of meaning, resilience, and a redefined sense of belonging.

The group have no means of returning to the mainland and is completely oblivious to each other. As the days pass, tensions erupt, secrets emerge and time increasingly runs out, the travellers are one step away from the harsh reality, they hope to fend for themselves. It is apparent that the stranded individuals find solace in mutual support, fostering a collective sense of security as they navigate the uncertainties of their situation. Bound by shared hardship, they stand as pillars for one another, ensuring that each person's fundamental need for safety is met through unwavering companionship and trust. Katy fosters positivity through her rituals on the isolated island, assisting her fellow travellers. She remains optimistic and resourceful, earning the admiration of her fellow travellers for her presence of mind and unwavering determination in all circumstances. Despite their potential dislike for each other, Esther reminds herself to be kind, as the strangers who had ended up together have no choice but to survive together. They devise a plan to set

the entire forest on fire with the hope of attracting attention as someone might notice an island engulfed in flames and it clearly explains their awareness of the necessity for protection in an unfamiliar environment.

The constant thoughts of being rescued from the isolated island disturb their dreams, Esther's lines "I almost laugh. I nearly turn around to defend myself. Then I decide I cannot be bothered with any of it, and I force myself to escape from it all by drifting into blissful, straightforward unconsciousness", (Barr,260) explicates the same. They are frustrated in such a way that they prefer death by animals in the forest rather than staying on the treacherous deserted beach. The travellers describe the unknown island as "Paradise is an imaginary blissful destination that comes after death, so perhaps that is, in fact, where we are and what we are going through. Maybe it will all end in a minute" (Barr,102)

The psychological state of the island's inhabitants exhibits significant confusion and surprise, as the unexpected destination suddenly appears picturesque to all. Greed drove them to prioritize their own needs over others. They evade stress, as their health seems deteriorating due to the lack of proper drinking water. Every day, they survive and even thrive, representing incremental progress towards the hopeful arrival of a rescue boat. Irrespective of the uncertainty, they maintain a firm belief that food plays a crucial role in their overall well-being with endurance, assuring their safety needs. As a passenger on the ill-fated ship, Esther finds herself caught up in a desperate struggle for survival alongside the other characters. Esther likely cultivates resourceful skills that significantly enhance her ability to navigate the survival challenges presented on the island.

Surviving the new travel experience requires adaptability, patience, and preparation, it is equally essential for ensuring a sense of security and protection. The narrative of the novel *Backpack* introduces the presence of a potential serial killer targeting female backpackers who resemble Tansy and each victim holds an item that she owns, alarming the necessity for her safety needs. It clearly challenges Tansy's sanity and forces her to confront the darker aspects of her journey, compounding the excitement of adventure, uncovering hidden truths, and generating the journey both enlightening and perilous.

Tansy's decision to travel alone weighs heavily on her, as the solitude magnifies her feelings of detachment. It reinforces her to seek the assurance of companionship for emotional stability. The journey compels her to confront her flaws, including her reliance on alcohol and drugs, and to transcend her past. Her experiences abroad challenge her perceptions and encourage her to embrace life anew. The world appears increasingly perilous as they observe the rising murder count over time, concurrently, the connection to the murdered victims continues to haunt Tansy, accumulating both pressure and trance to her journey. The narrative, "I don't know what this is about, or who is doing it, and why, but it has become real. I don't have the energy to reconsider what the things by the body might mean. They are my things, and this is now real", (Barr,307) enlightens the same.

The novel *Stranded* outsets Esther as a troubled and rebellious teenager, she is described as an unnerving character with behavioural issues. Her relationship with her mother appears strained, aiding her feelings of isolation and disconnection. This unmistakably deepens her yearning for emotional connection, reinforcing her innate desire for meaningful relationships, affection, and a sense of inclusion within a supportive social circle. As the absence of companionship becomes more pronounced, the need for interpersonal bonds emerges as an essential element of psychological fulfilment, shaping her pursuit of belonging and understanding. On perceiving couples on the island, Esther's mentality is automated by the thought of how long their marriage lasts being ostentatiously in love with each other.

Maslow's hierarchy of love and belonging needs encompasses the ability to maintain emotionally intimate relationships, as it is crucial for satisfying the need. It is obvious in the travellers, as they envision their family members and yearn for love and belonging on a remote island. Gene remains in a critical condition, teetering on the edge of death, with shallow

respiration, holding a mumbled conversation with his comatose son. Esther is perpetually preoccupied with thoughts of Daisy as she consistently dreams about her daughter on the island, reaching out to touch her, albeit not in reality. Her separation from her daughter may contribute to emotional vulnerability, potentially affecting her interactions carrying emotional baggage with others on the island, as she says, "I can no longer push Daisy out of my head. She is with me all the time, looking at me with her face furrowed in confusion, reaching out to me" (Barr,266) As their stay prolongs in the same location, internal conflicts begin to surface among the group. They traverse from one location to another, frequently engaging in disputes over a non-functional mobile phone they discover. The group becomes increasingly suspicious, theorizing that their entrapment might be a deliberate plan by one of their fellow travellers. It clearly highlights the pressure that magnifies their emotional ties, transforming their relationship into a crucible where loyalty, endurance, and the true depth of their connection are revealed. Esther, in particular, becomes the primary target of their suspicion. Despite their love for each other, they begin to condemn others and no longer trust anyone. The narrative undoubtedly explains that their fatigue is compounded by self-doubt stemming from a shared hallucination.

In the novel *Backpack* Tansy's psyche is influenced by her past trauma concerning her mother and the quest for love and belonging throughout her travel. She feels a sense of relief over her mother's death and believes that everyone else is merely archetypal mourners, lacking the capacity to feel genuine sorrow. It is undeniable that her past trauma shapes her journey, weaving a profound need for love and belonging into every step she takes. As she moves through unfamiliar landscapes, the echoes of her pain transform into a yearning for connection, urging her to seek warmth, acceptance, and emotional refuge. Tansy considers life as unjust to her as a woman. It clearly underscores that the road ahead is not merely a physical voyage, it is a deeper exploration of human closeness, where every encounter of Tansy offers a glimpse into the profound need for acceptance and meaningful relationships.

The psychological trauma ingrained within Tansy over a long period is subtly hinted in the lines, "Here I am, broken down at Everest. One of my friends is dead, I am unburdened of a secret, and I am ready to get on with life" (Barr,348) The narrative also highlights that; Tansy endures torment of both revealing her secret to others and the burden of keeping it within. This internal conflict magnifies her dependence on social connections, reinforcing the crucial role of interpersonal bonds in stabilizing her emotions and providing reassurance amidst her uncertainties.

Tansy fears conveying the truth would spoil her relationship with Max, she perceives her travelling as transient and illusory, anticipating the loss of Max upon her return to her homeland. She desires the warmth of supportive companionship as she is besieged driven by fear and stress, because of the murderer's presence and remains undeterred to her plans, regardless of the lurking danger.

Her mother's presence is etched into Tansy's thoughts, echoing persistently as vividly expressed in the words, "Every time I'm on my own, with no distractions, then sooner or later there's the sinking recognition. Oh. There you are. Come in, pull up a comfy chair, and make yourself at home in my conscious mind" (Barr,85) Tansy feels profound sorrow for abandoning her mother, a sentiment that adds a layer of suspense, insecurity and haunting memories that resonate with her. The absence of her warmth becomes a silent presence, weaving itself into the fabric of her travels. Tansy's sleep is consistently disrupted as she imagines someone nearby, struggling to distinguish between dream and reality. It clearly highlights, her emotional shift between absolute happiness and vague terror.

The journey of self-discovery is a significant aspect of the travel theme in the novel *Stranded*, highlighting how travel may lead to personal transformation and self-improvement. Tansy embraces every aspect of her journey as is clearly evident in the lines, "Yet, time and time again. I have been proved wrong. This journey matters more than ever". (Barr,318) The travellers commence existing in the moment, characterizing the entire

journey as a reflective process of contemplating the absence of loved ones, enduring starvation, and experiencing fear.

The journey cultivates a profound appreciation for the minute aspects of the travellers' lives as they recognize that they have been stranded on the deserted island for twenty-nine days. On the island, they scavenge for food to survive, whereas, on the plane, they passively receive mass-produced meals served on trays; by recognizing these shifts, travellers may carry the benefits of their experiences back into their daily lives. Modern amenities such as internet, electricity, petrol, and well-constructed buildings with walls and tiled floors appear more intriguing, novel, and luxurious to them. They observe a significant change in their appearances, having entirely forgotten their former selves and it clearly validates that travel may indeed lead to significant personal growth and transformation.

Esther insists herself on managing everything independently, upon returning to her home city, she feels reassured with an enduring sense of appreciation, unwavering acceptance, and a deep commitment to authenticity. The transformative peak experiences empowered her to face challenges with courage and confidence. Esther's long-repressed fears and terrors suddenly surge with self-awareness acknowledgement, compelling her to untangle and rescue Daisy from the clutches of her community and mother. A self-actualized individual faces challenges with resolute bravery, attempting obstacles with unshakable determination while forging solutions through resilience. Nurturing self-actualization fosters overall well-being, empowering individuals to unlock their highest potential, leading to a more meaningful life. Esther summons unwavering courage to rescue her daughter, harnessing her full strength and determination to protect her with confidence and conviction.

The creativity of assurance, shines in Esther, when she emotionally grasps the contrasting nature of her situation, being stranded on the island, contemplating her potential separation from mankind, which swiftly transforms the scene, to observe the ebb and flow of people amid the search for her missing daughter. As Esther returns to her village after a decade to retrieve her daughter, sensing its essence and every fibre of her past, compels her to turn back and flee immediately, as her adulthood is engrossed in evading their authority. Esther's reunion with her childhood friend Martha serves as a poignant reflection, unlike Esther, Martha remains rooted in familiarity, hesitant to embrace the broader world. This contrast underscores Esther's lingering regret for not having encouraged Martha to escape alongside her, shaping her resolve to inspire change. In an effort to reconcile the past, Esther instils motivation and reassurance, guiding Martha toward the realization of her full potential. By fostering self-confidence and a sense of purpose, Esther articulates the transformative power of self-actualization, illustrating the profound shift that occurs when one embraces personal growth beyond external limitations. The narrative "And out there women don't have to be just wives and mothers. You can have a job, a career. You can do things on your own. Be yourself. It's not too late for you. Life begins at forty". (Barr,352) highlights the same.

Esther's journey toward self-actualization becomes unmistakably clear upon uncovering the intricate master plan orchestrated by Katy, her mother, and Moses. Esther is surprised to know Katy's meticulous plan and execution of the scheme, taking on Esther's identity as Catherine after Esther leaves the community. With newfound clarity, she embraces the transformation, recognizing the depth of her evolution and the strength gained through this profound understanding. It becomes undeniably clear that, Katy's aim removing Esther from her daughter, is to facilitate the abduction of Daisy, which compelled Esther to remain in isolation with Katy and others for an extended period in the remote island.

Esther harnesses her full potential, allowing her to experience a meaningful sense of achievement and accomplishment. Her unwavering self-confidence in rescuing her daughter is strikingly evident when she wields the bread knife and fatally wounds Katy. Nevertheless, Esther remains indifferent, preoccupied with the concern of her daughter and the potential impact of witnessing her mother's execution. The narrative effectively

emphasizes that Esther feels no anguish over the act of murder itself; rather, her deepest concern is rooted in the severed bond with her daughter, and it highlights her selfless personal growth. Concerned for her daughter's psychological well-being, Esther strives to comfort Daisy, helping her to relax and regain a sense of normalcy. The unfolding events distinctly reveal that Daisy's world had been deeply shaken by fears and nightmares prompting her to seek guidance from a specialized counsellor. Having endured significant trauma at a young age, Daisy feels a sense of abandonment, believing her mother no longer loves her. The novel *Backpack* reflects Tansy's selflessness in the depth of her sorrow for her friend Amanda's death, who travelled to India, to practice yoga in an ashram, ensuing her miscarriage and separation from her husband. Tansy experiences significant distress from her victimization and subsequently endures profound misery, attributing the blame to herself, as it is clearly explained in the lines, "I can't take in the fact that someone wilfully put an end to Amanda's life, although, of all people, I really should be able to absorb the news. I can't get used to the idea that I will never see her again, just as I will never see Mother again". (Barr,313)

Psychiatrist Penny notes that Tansy had likely concealed her sadness behind a facade of happiness throughout her life. It is also evident in the narrative that, Tansy views her reluctance to seek help, even in adulthood, and her deliberate withdrawal from the outside world as a direct consequence of her own perceived shortcomings. It is obvious that she internalizes these limitations, believing them to be the root of her self-imposed solitude. Her journey served as the catalyst for her self-actualization, revealing the full extent of her potential and empowering her transformation. She recognizes that she might have reached out for support, the only way she envisions moving forward is by positioning the past behind and never try to speak of it again.

Initially, travelling feels futile to Tansy, upon discovering that her own brother William, is the serial killer responsible for numerous deaths. Later through retrospective contemplation, she comes to recognize that her journey served as a fundamental catalyst for self-actualization, shaping her identity and fostering a heightened understanding of her own capabilities. The transformative experiences encountered during travel not only broadened her perspective but also solidified her sense of fulfilment, reinforcing the depth of her personal evolution. Central to this realization is her companionship with Max, whose unwavering presence provided both emotional support and intellectual stimulation, making him an indispensable figure in her life's narrative. This awareness cultivates a profound sense of gratitude, allowing her to embrace the relief that accompanies the resolution of internal conflicts and the attainment of a more complete self.

Will identifies Tansy as the long-anticipated target, whose absence would render the world a more desirable place to inhabit. He asserts that the identical items found with Tansy and the victims were deliberately placed after burgled from her father's house. He also expresses his gratitude towards Hotmail, where he kept tabs on Tansy's location under the guise of his girlfriend Mary. The narrative emphasizes that the core of his motive is recounted by William's struggles in navigating life in isolation from an early age. It is obvious that his sole aim is to meet his mother and the unanswered questions about his origins and lack of parents, psychologically affected him. Tansy's comprehensive self-awareness of the plan's intricacies generates the self-actualization, evoking a profound sense of astonishment, as she critically examines its structural coherence, underlying motivations, and unforeseen implications. She believes that Will's sense of dislocation is rooted in his upbringing in children's homes and the hardships he faced since adolescence, abandoned by everyone and exhibiting mental instability, unrestrained by conventional rationality. Subsequently, she is admitted to Hamstead Hospital, consumed by thoughts of Will and deeply traumatized, rendering sleep elusive. The presence of male visitors exacerbates her nerve pain and pre-existing insomnia, which she had first experienced in Tibet.

She harbours no regret for the internal acknowledgement of her mother's murder but experiences profound misery over the

external events and the impacts on others' lives, being solely responsible for it. She is tormented by the realisation that, each time she sent an email mentioning a location, a woman was subsequently murdered there. She is perpetually devastated and traumatized by the deaths of women, who travelled like her and by the anguish their families would experience, causing her to settle that she no longer deserved sleep. Tansy's psychological disposition sought social interaction to evade her thoughts, her psychiatrist's assessment states that she might venture happiness while experiencing desolation, which encapsulates her character throughout the novel. Despite the profound psychological impact of the chaos, she embraces a deep sense of gratitude for the invaluable lessons her journey imparted. Through the transformative experiences of travel, she discovers her true sense of self, finding a resolution to the deep-rooted inner conflicts that once weighed heavily on her mind. Tansy exists in perpetual nervousness about Will's potential arrival, yearning to obliterate the recollections of all that had transpired.

The psychiatrist Penny offers immense relief, enabling Tansy to discuss her concealed childhood traumas with her. As the psychiatrist Penny treated Tansy with kindness, Tansy's emotional requirements prompted her to realise Penny was the motherly figure, she constantly yearned for. The newfound connection fuelled her eagerness to visit Penny, regularly for her psychological well-being. She recognized that, despite all circumstances, she harbours an unconventional love for her mother and accepts the necessity of cultivating a positive relationship with her father in the future.

The entire travel experience of Tansy made her realise that "How fragile people are. The same thing I realised when I thought I was going to die. You feel so alive, but then you can be dead the next day". (Barr,345) Upon her return from travelling,

Tansy is amazed by the number of people she has met and feels grateful for having made more friends than she had ever imagined. Tansy embraces it as a motivational factor in her life and cherishes spending time with her family. Tansy is confident in her capacity to be self-sufficient. She also recognizes that the lives of others are equally as dramatic as her own. Tansy senses contentment in realizing that she is no longer an orphan, having found family, friends, and Max by her side.

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