

Bryan Stevenson's *Just Mercy*: Annotations of Chapter 6 "Surely Doomed"¹

Pauline Haberland

A

acres (p.125) – a unit for measuring area, equal to 4047 square meters

adjudicated (p.124) – to settle judicially

affectionate (p.125) – loving

anchored (p.120) – to act or serve as an anchor for something

anguish (p.123) – extreme pain, distress, or anxiety

apprehensive (p.125) – feeling or showing fear about the future

assured (p.124) – to inform positively

Auburn University (p.119) – Auburn University is a state university in Alabama

B

barred (p.116) – forbidden or excluded

black eyed peas (p.118) – 'Schwarzaugenbohne'

bruises (p.121) – black and blue mark under the skin

C

capital murder (p.120) – murder which is punishable by death (first-degree murder, aggravated murder)

cautiously (p.118) – carefully or slowly

chambers (p.124) – bedroom

collard greens (p.123) – 'Grünkohl'

compassionate (p.125) – having tender feelings

concerned (p.122) – worried

contempt (p.117) – a strong feeling of disliking and having no respect for someone or something

county (p.116) – apolitical subdivision of a state

courthouse (p.116) – a building housing judicial court

D

death penalty (p.115) – punishment of death by execution

death row (p.115) – the part of a prison for housing inmates who have received the death penalty

¹ The annotations (page numbers) are based on the following edition of the book: Stevenson, Bryan. 2020. *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*. London: Scribe Publications.



Except where otherwise noted, this material by **Pauline Haberland** is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International license (CC-BY).

delinquencies (p.117) – a failure to do what law or duty requires or an offense or misdemeanour

deputy (p.120) – a second in command

docket (p.116) – a brief written summary of a document

doomed (p.126) – certain to fail, die, or be destroyed

E

endearing (p.125) – lovable or charming

exerting (p.124) – to use something such as authority, power, influence, etc. in order to make something happen

F

feverishly (p.118) – in an unnaturally excited or active way marked by intense emotion, activity, or instability

file (p.116) – any of several different types of containers used to store papers, letters, and other documents in an ordered way

forthcoming (p.122) – produced, supplied, or given

frantically (p.118) – in a nervously hurried, desperate, or panic-stricken way

futilely (p.118) – unsuccessfully

G

general equivalency degree (p.126) – alternative to the American high school diploma

grieving (p.125) – feeling very sad because someone has died

grunt (p.126) – to make a low, rough noise

H

hesitate (p.121) – to hold back in doubt

hovered (p.119) – to stand somewhere, especially near another person, eagerly

I

incarcerated (p.125) – being put or kept someone in prison

incident report (p.116) – written document describing inadvertent trauma to a patient, errors or omissions in care, or untoward events happening to staff or visitors.

J

jerked (p.119) – to move with or as if with a quick suddenly arrested motion



Except where otherwise noted, this material by **Pauline Haberland** is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International license (CC-BY).

juvenile facility (p.124) – a type of prison where young people can be kept

juveniles (p.115) – young person

L

law enforcement officer (p.120) – a government employee appointed to enforce the law, such as a police officer or sheriff

M

maintenance (p.121) – the process of keeping or continuing something

mental health (p.125) – the condition of someone's mind and whether or not they are suffering from any mental illness

misconduct (p.117) – deliberate wrongdoing

moaning (p.120) – making a low prolonged sound of pain or of grief

musings (p.123) – meditation or reflection

P

parole (p.116) – parole is the early supervised release of a person from prison.

per capita (p.115) – if you express an amount per capita, you mean that amount for each person

peril (p.116) – great danger, or something that is very dangerous

persistent (p.125) – lasting for a long time or difficult to get rid of

pinched (p.121) – to squeeze or compress painfully

pinochle (p.118) – a card game

plight (p.125) – an unfortunate, difficult, or precarious situation

prosecutor (p.120) – a legal official who accuses someone of committing a crime

R

raped (p.124) – to force someone to have sex when they are unwilling, using violence or threatening behaviour

receiver (p.119) – the part of a telephone contained in the earpiece

reeking (p.117) – smell strongly and unpleasantly, stink

remarkable (p.125) – something that is worthy of attention or striking

revive (p.118) – to return to consciousness or life

ruling (p.116) – court decision on a case or any legal question



S

sexually aroused (p.124) – sexually excited

shoving (p.119) – to push someone or something forcefully

sobbing (p.123) – crying heavily while trying to catch one's breath

somber (p.120) – serious, sad, and without humour

squeezed (p.119) – to press something firmly

subdue (p.121) – to bring under control

suicide (p.125) – the act of killing yourself intentionally

Supreme Court (p.116) – a supreme court is the highest court in its jurisdiction in U.S. government

surge (p.118) – to rise suddenly to an excessive or abnormal value

T

tire (p.124) – to exhaust or greatly decrease the physical strength

tormented (p.124) – experiencing or characterized by severe physical or mental suffering

trembling (p.118) – to shake involuntarily (as with fear or cold)

tried as an adult (p.120) – a situation in which a juvenile is proceeded legally in an adult court instead of juvenile court

turmoil (p.119) – a state or condition of extreme confusion, agitation, or commotion

U

unconscious (p.117) – the state of not being awake and not aware of things around you

Y

yielded (p.123) – to supply or produce something positive

The annotations were designed with the Merriam-Webster Dictionary (<https://www.merriam-webster.com>), the Oxford Advanced American Dictionary (https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/american_english/), the Cambridge Dictionary (<https://dictionary.cambridge.org>), lexico.com (<https://www.lexico.com>), and the Free Legal Dictionary by Farlex (<https://legal-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com>) and adapted by the author.



Except where otherwise noted, this material by **Pauline Haberland** is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International license (CC-BY).