# **Background of Characters**

### **Professor Hoffman**

A Fraternity member in his youth and now President of the University, he still lives through his past glory days and refuses to accept any complaints towards the infrastructure of his establishment. Douglas Matthews' death could reflect badly on him and therefore he tries to justify his innocence through rationalising the event in his own mind and publicly at the funeral.

### Mrs Matthews

Douglas' Mother and the only relative at the funeral, a quiet passive type who never defended her son vocally while raising him in the environment of his bullying father. Unlike many characters she is explicit with her sadness and grief although debatably she is one of the guiltiest.

#### James Bates

James was Douglas' closest friend while he was alive, but by the end only to a superficial extent, he was jealous of Douglas' popularity, selflessness and talent, yet never admitted to this. Although he tries to put out an image of being the academic type, his rejection from Frat life hurts deeply. He slept with Amanda (the girlfriend of) one night as a consequence of such envy and still attempts to maintain the image of the youthful Philosopher.

### Lebron Pope

Although once believed to have much potential as a SportsStar Lebron has since succumb to many vices and yet still can't accept the reality that he's probably missed his chance. He uses intoxicants as a way to convince himself into delusion instead of addressing his denial. Also, he has fabricated a backstory of growing up in a dangerous neighbourhood, when truthfully, he's as privileged as all the others.

## **Tiffany Jones**

Tiffany acts cool and careless but inside she is tormented by depression. Although growing up in what many would consider a luxury existence her parents gave her no attention and therefore, she has no conception of being loved. Just like Lebron she uses intoxicants to avoid reality, but in contrast to him and the others she has one of the best understandings of what the death signifies.

## Amanda Lovecraft

Douglas' now ex-girlfriend was his high school romance who still clings on to memories they had way back in the relationship. Amanda didn't blossom as much as him socially once they arrived in a new space and can't move on from the innocence of their love in a small-town environment. Her inability to fit in is pitiful and the event of her hook-up with James is something she constantly regrets. However, he feels differently and she is too polite to shrug him off.