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The fictional murderer that I choose is Hannibal Lecter from the horror movie *Silence of the Lamb*. Hannibal's character was developed in the novel in 2007, *Hannibal Rising* written by Thomas Harris which explained his cause of deviant behavior. He was born from a wealthy and known family from both sides; both his father and mother were from noble families. Notably, he was protective of his younger sister, Mischa and cared for her more than the rest of his family. Unfortunately, all things changed when their home was invaded by the Nazi troops led by Vladis Grutas, a sadist who murdered Hannibal's parents in front of his sister and him and were later imprisoned in the cabin they had escaped. Hannibal and his sister ran out of food and water, leading to Grutas butchering Hannibal's younger sister Mischa. He cooked Mischa's flesh in a stew and forced Hannibal to eat the stew; an experience that left him traumatized. Hannibal was only eight years old when all these situations happened but managed to escape from Gruta's hand. He was finally rescued by the Soviet Union soldiers who found him in the woods. Later, he was then taken back to his old home, which was being used as a shelter for orphaned children.

His experiences in the orphanage also led him to become the serial killer, which everybody fears. All the older boys in the orphanage bullied him because he became mute after the traumatizing events of losing his family. Hence, it was easy for him to be picked on and bullied by other children. He endured the abuse, but when he saw other younger children being abused and bullied, he violently lashed out against the abusers (Gilbert & Daffern, 2017). Hence, from that moment, his selection of murdering people began, which he targeted bullies and aggressors. Additionally, another misfortune happened when he was in France after being adopted by his uncle. His aunt was

discriminated against by the local butcher. This made Hannibal violently lash out at the butcher, and between the argument, Hannibal's uncle suffered a heart attack and died. This made Hannibal angry and vengeful, leading him to stalk the butcher, murder him with one of his aunt's swords and cut out the butcher's cheeks, which he willingly ate. Hence, this was the first act of Hannibal's killing and cannibalism (Harry, 2007). When interrogated by the police, Hannibal passed the test done by a lie detector and was set free. Since then, he hunted down, murdered, and ate people who practiced any bullying or discrimination against helpless and peaceful individuals. His family's past trauma of being murdered haunted him for years, leading him to hunt down each person involved with his sister's murder, killed, and ate their cheeks. Hence, becoming a known serial killer.

Another risk factor that led to Hannibal to become a crazed killer is when Grutas reminded him that he ate part of his sister's flesh. Since the day of his sister's murder. He repressed the memory of him eating his sister's flesh, and when he was reminded, he became the worst serial killer people knew and was termed as a monster. Years later, he became a psychiatrist, but he continued killing and cannibalizing and feeding his guests at his dinner parties' human flesh. Consequently, he was a manipulator and master of self-control as shown in *Silence of the Lamb* movie, unlike other psychopaths in the facility he was in (Gordon, 2016).

Hannibal became a serial killer and cannibal because of the traumatizing events when he was a child. His cannibalism and killing practices grew when he found bullies and aggressors who treated other people wrongly because it reminded him of his past (Gilbert & Daffern, 2017). Hence, he being a psychopath was brought about by his experiences when he was a young boy.

References

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