

While what is used is the tip of the iceberg, so to speak, the following concepts are available in the context of letters such as the suicide and other letters included.

1. Everything we do, we do for a reason
2. We behave in accordance to what we think others think about us.
3. Stress indicators are limited to what can be identified and without direct observation, much is not available, what is must be tied to concepts.
4. Humans are geared to be honest unless they have a reason for not being honest. As such the reason is often obvious to a close observer of the information.
5. Behavioral indicators include verbal (or written tactics such as qualifiers, avoidance, denials and objections.
6. Statement Balance
7. Proportional content
8. Names and title use
9. Parts of speech and added or missing information.
10. Patterns identified and violated.

When writing a suicide note there are certain patterns used

1. unbearable psychological pain,
2. interpersonal relations,
3. rejection-aggression,
4. inability to adjust
5. indirect expressions,
6. identification-egression,
7. ego,
8. cognitive constriction.

While these are app [possible within the letter, the behavior associated with them is not reflected in the other writings, this is a set or cluster of strong indicators. Specifically,

1. unbearable psychological pain - the only mention is a reference to the unethical practices stated in letters to his friends. However the intensity suggesting that such a contradictory dichotomy exists is not present. It is mentioned only briefly and only once. Were this the real factor there would be much more time and wording concentrating on this problem.
2. interpersonal relations – there's no indication of interpersonal relation problems whatsoever.
3. rejection-aggression, - again no indication.
4. inability to adjust - ditto.
5. indirect expressions - there are no allusions or references suggesting this is expressed in any way.
6. identification-egression – he clearly has a strong self ego and self identification as is represented by his friendships and his positive statements toward upcoming events such as special dinners.
7. Ego – ditto to number six

8. cognitive constriction- he shows no problems in his cognition. In his letters other than the suicide note his demeanor and his rational structure are both solid positive and intact.

Summary

only unbearable psychological pain is reflected in the suicide note, but is given evidence nowhere else. Were this the severe problem leading to suicide there should be multiple inferences and examples and references. None of this exists.

Concerning the structural content analysis:

1. with the exception of very formal writings (and even often among them) a person tends to be consistent in certain style approaches used. Although not a major indicator, in the other letters each paragraph was initiated with seven spaces, while in the suicide letter this pattern was not present. If anything it represented a default. A default may be expected if a person is sitting down and emotionally writing so that their contents are coming from the heart not the prefrontal cortex but there is also evidence when such occurs of this strong emotionality. The suicide letter contained very little in the way of emotion. You normally expect to see direct emotional descriptions or at least indirect emotional inferences such as emotion content laden terms. The spacing difference is a minor event but in many ways is strongly suggestive of a different person.
2. In reference to proportional content (item number seven under techniques used) a statement is considered suggestive of deception when a person does not utilize a content proportion indirect relation to the importance of that section. One of the most concerning with respect to this is the lack of emphasis, space, terminology, value laden content and so on with respect to his girlfriend.
3. The references to the girlfriend are especially minimal. An American in a loving relationship will tend to include much more content about the relationship and its importance as well as placing it first and foremost. This is not done. However Asian culture like Hispanic culture tends to minimize the role of females in this is quite evident in the location of references to the girlfriend and the contents within every mention of her. Taken at face value this would seem (in the suicide note) to see her as a side issue and of little importance. However, there appears to be an effort to make it sound as though she is important. The other references provide a strong suggestion that she is in fact quite important to him. Further, in the letter to the parents it is clear his upbringing was primarily Western culture and specifically American in content and style.
4. Similarly, in his letter to Shirley he does not even include a son-in-law. An American in typical fashion would place the all important suicide notification first and foremost to the people most important to them. In this case based on the supposed contents the parents and girlfriend are the most important people in his life yet the letter to everyone comes first and has the greatest content. Asian cultures tend to value the collective more than the individual in this approach would be more indicative of someone from that background. In short, His addressing : "To

Everyone," is inconsistent with his culture, the samples, and other suicide notes. But consistent with someone brought up (socialized) in an Asian culture.

5. Another issue that strongly supported in research is the fact that when people are honest in an emotional situation their descriptions are different by content. Specifically, falsified records include basically the facts without elaboration. More advanced efforts include the facts and an elaboration on external objective details. Honest people in their descriptions tend to include sensory data and emotional content. Throughout these suicide letters, there is an effort to give "objective details" than virtually no content that's emotional or sensory based.
6. When writing a letter to a loved one, a suicidal person that would fit the model presumed to be Shane's should contain a great deal more in the role the loved one played, the apologies to the loved one, and many references to their emotional connection. This is almost completely absent with the exception of a singular "I love you"
7. When Shane is referring to the girlfriend, he always mentions Singapore. Unless she was a mistress in that locale only, then the qualifier of that location is very suspicious in that it is added for a reason, but that reason does not fit with the perspectives given where she is addressed. For instance when he refers to her as an angel, . This implies a close relationship, yet it is minimized throughout. A direct contradiction but likely if written by someone from an Asian upbringing. He makes reference to her being a constant support. This again does not fit with the qualified location of only Singapore.
8. He never states what "this" is. It is a presumption that the reference is to the suicide, but it is never mentioned. While this may be, it is unlikely that it would be left at that. A person so distraught as to want to end their life, is feeling pain and sees no solutions. Yet he leaves it (a HIGHLY emotional situation from his perspective) at simply "This". This does not fit with any format of honesty I have seen.
9. In the first letter he refers first to everyone, then to people at work, then to parents AND family, then to his girlfriend. An American would be more likely to write girlfriend or parents first and second, then co-workers, then everyone. This is due to American socialization as opposed to Asian socialization.
10. The use of details in requests as to what to do with him, his money etc. and the fact that suicide is illegal, seems to be important, yet a suicidal person would be unlikely to focus on this unless they had serious amounts of property or money.
11. The claim of having tried to get employment is in direct contradiction to the letters referencing his job efforts and the fact that he can question the potential employer about perks etc. A person with such low self-esteem would not make such requests. Doing so indicates a self-perception of capability.
12. Other contents of concern: The parents list is to his mom and dad with first and last names being given. This is unusual in that most people do not need to formally address the parents as they are an assumed structure of people and most often when they are given a title as in a presentation to someone unknown to them, they will use the full name, unlikely in this context. Last (for now) is his references to God and church. The pattern is not as expected. HE is either religious or not. He implies that going to church with his parents was a highlight, yet religion seems to play a very small part in the overall letter.

While each of these (and all the others) can be explained away, the cluster of them and their divergent styles, refereneces, and other indicators, present a rather powerful, but circumstantial case.

As I mentioned, clustering around an event is the best statistical indicator of relationships to a presumed conclusion. In this case the conclusion being either this was a suicide note he developed or it was by someone else. The evidence suggests it was not his. The cultural references and practices accompanying ones socialization are consistent with the author being either Asian or middle eastern.

Well, I hope this gives you more detail in the manner you were seeking. If not get back to me. I really hope this is of some help. I have done some checking and found the potential of CIA involvement given the various pieces of information. This may be coincidental, but with such areas of national security being involved, it is not completely unlikely. I have ex intelligence people I have worked with who I have discussed this with, without giving any names, and their response is that there may be reason for concern. This is not part of an analysis, just opinions from those with relevant experience.

Please keep me informed of progress as this now has my attention. But as previously stated, I will keep the details of this and contact with you confidential until such a time as you suggest otherwise.

Best

Dr. David A. Camp, PhD
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Suicide Letter

Dear Everyone,	Dear – not used in this context by westerners who normally use To: when the audience is generic as is this. Also this comes first, why first? Why vague . . .
I am very sorry it has come to this.	“This” is not defined. Abnormal when the topic is so serious and especially when not introduced.
I just want to make it clear that I do not blame anyone for my condition except myself.	Blame assigned is normal, but the style of it and its location is abnormal. Normally it is stated differently. But not especially indicative.
People at work have been patient and kind to me and have given me ample opportunity to succeed.	When an American comments on people in a highly emotional statement, the company is not usually first on the list. Loved ones, regrets etc come first, but

	<p>is common in Asian as they role in business often represents the family role, the most important entity and is a saving face approach also uncommon in American style. Given the other letters, this is exactly a polar opposite to what was expressed in verified comments. That is comes early in such a note is abnormal for westerners. Also these two focus on something other than the western Individualized persona as being the most important entity. While we value family, “I” always takes precedence. People at work is vague. When someone is planning on committing suicide they rarely refrain from naming names. Nothing to lose so to speak.</p>
<p>My parents and family have given me more support than I could ask for.</p>	<p>Out of sync statement, appears to be in direct response to a previous unannounced comment not included here.</p>
<p>My friends in Singapore have been very kind and understanding and have tried to help me through this.</p>	<p>American do not often use the word kind, they refer to such behaviors as nice, friendly, compassionate, etc.</p>
<p>And my girlfriend Shirley has been always loving and supportive even when it was no fun to hang out with me.</p>	<p>My girlfriend Shirley is concerning. It is normal for a name and introduction to be included as it is here, but it seems to give her little significance for an individualistic westerner, this would seem woefully understated as to her role. Unless they were not doing very well at the time. Not a sense I received.</p>
<p>She has been the most constant source of support, love, and friendship to me in Singapore and without her I wouldn't</p>	<p>The phrase “the most constant” is an awkward phrasing. It is also qualified to Singapore, if they were truly an ‘item’ there would not be a qualifier. Qualifiers are</p>

have made it this long. EP	included to limit responsibility and reduce culpability. In a good relationship this would have been left out.
I am so sorry it has come to this but I feel I am just a burden to those around me.	“This” – again undefined.
I have tried to get jobs in the U.S. but I know I am not capable of fulfilling the duties required of me.	
I hope that you can remember the good things about me, about how I was a loving son, grandson, brother, nephew, cousin, friend, boyfriend, co-worker and teammate.	Overly specific, as if trying to get details mentioned to assure validity, but not a realistic set. Also if Shirley is important as indicated in letters, why the minor reference as “boyfriend”
I had a few successes in life, so please try to remember my actions by those successes and not by the failure I have succumbed to. EP	“my actions” is a vague term. When reflecting on life, we tend to think in terms of exacts. This is vague, it lacks any details, and more importantly, lacks emotion, or sensory data, common in real events and often absent in manufactured ones (common throughout). His identified good self esteem from other sources, is notably absent, yet there is a lack of emotion that would be included with a real depressed statement of emotion.
I understand that this is a crime in Singapore.	Totally irrelevant to an American, but not to a group focused cultural member.
But for the sake of my family, I ask that you please be lenient and allow my family the ability to decide on what to do with me.	Multiple emphasis on family about details, but not real emotion. Again real emotions are included when speaking of ending ones life, or any other highly emotionally impacting event.
If they wish to bring me back to the U.S.	Ditto
I ask you to please allow them to do so.	Ditto

I also ask that you allow them access to my bank account to pay for any expenses that arise.	Irrelevant to a suicidal person unless the money was of great significance to someone and this is generic, "Dear Everyone"
If you allow me to, I ask that my family decides what to do with any remaining money.	Asking permission. Most suicidal writers remark on feeling surrealistic and concrete minor issues are often left out unless very emotionally binding. I presume he had a good future but was not rich or from a very wealthy family.
I suggest giving the money to charity. EP	
I am very sorry for the pain and trouble this causes.	Such a minor emphasis. When deciding to kill oneself, the reasons for doing so tend to be in a narrow set of categories. All of them are due to some great distress and this sentence lacks any realistic instance of identifying distress. Just a comment almost as an after thought yet this was carefully constructed. Were it rambling here and there this may have been more reasonable, but he did not do that.
I never wanted to hurt anyone and I hope that you forgive me. EP	
Love to all, Shane Todd	

Suicide Letter

Parents: Richard Todd and Mary Todd	
Dear Mom and Dad,	
I just want to let you know that I am so thankful for having you as my parents.	

<p>You have given me the most love, patience, and support that any son could ask for.</p>	
<p>As you know I have been going through a difficult time and I am facing problems that I don't know how to solve.</p>	
<p>You both have given me such good advice but I don't have the strength or ability to follow through.</p>	
<p>I want to reiterate that none of this is your fault and despite the things I have said to you in the past, I am the only one to blame for my problems.</p>	
<p>I am so proud of the things you have built and the lives you have touched through your church and ministry.</p>	
<p>I hope that you understand that I am so sorry for the pain this causes.</p>	
<p>I just know how much of a burden I will be to you in the future so I feel it is better to do this now rather than wait until I have caused more damage. EP</p>	
<p>You gave me so many great memories in life, spending time on the lake in Montana, going to the beach to drink Shirley Temples, bean dip at happy hour, fishing and snorkeling in the Keys, going to my countless sporting events, barbeques and family functions in our house on the hill, and going to church on Sundays.</p>	
<p>I hope that you cherish our good memories together.</p>	

I love you very much. EP	
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Suicide Letter

Dear John, Chet, and Dylan,	
I am so proud of the great men you guys have become.	
You guys are my best friends.	
I hope that you will always keep family close and have faith that God will bless your lives.	
I love you very much. EP	

Suicide Letter

Dear Shirley,	
You have been an angel to me.	
I know this will cause you great hurt but I know that you will be able to stay strong and rely on God to help you heal from this.	
You are so talented in so many ways and have a bright future ahead of you.	
Please remember the good times we had and know that you are the best thing that happened to me while I was here in Singapore.	
I love you. EP	

Suicide Letter

Dear Friends,	
I thank you all for being a part of my life.	
Please remember the good time we had. EP	
Again I am sorry and I hope you all forgive me. EP	
Love,	
Shane	

David, thanks for this, it's very helpful. I don't want to take up too much of your time, but would it be possible to provide examples of the four variations you cite, and of the 'Asian male emulating Shane's writing'?

Thanks very much again.