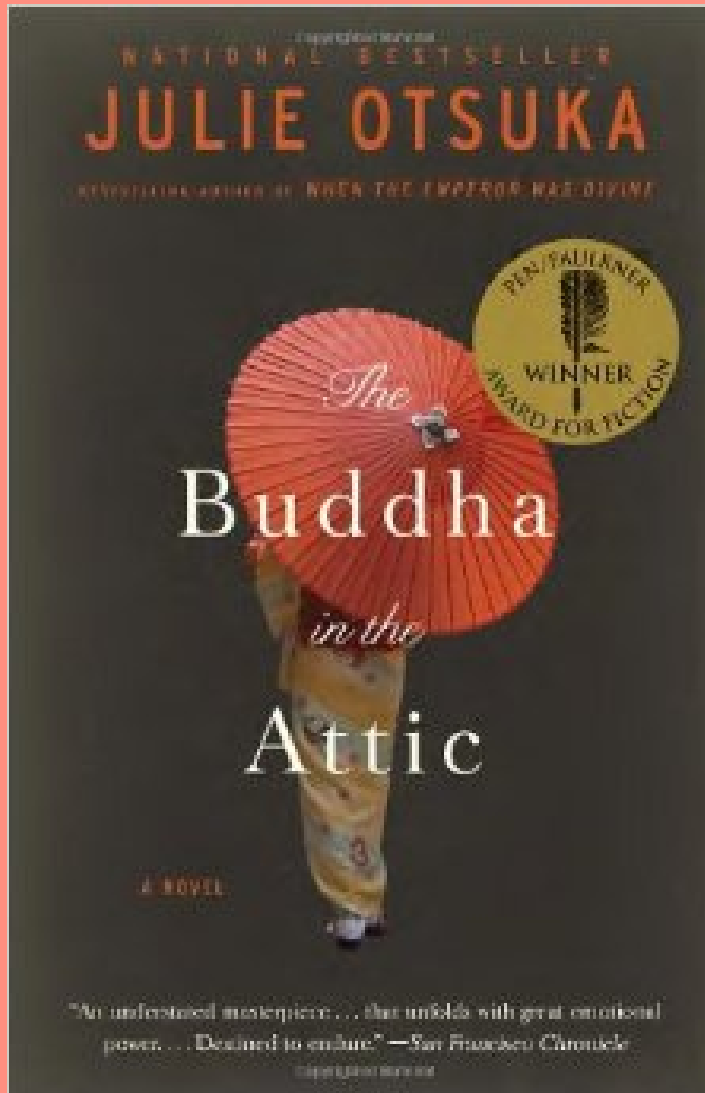


Emulation Handbook



The Buddha in the Attic by Julie Otsuka

Japanese women were sent from Japan to America to meet their future selected husbands which they would live and worship with. When they met, they did not know how the American culture worked as well as the language. They tried to deeply respect their husbands, by allowing them to do as they please. From that said, the women let their husbands to cheat on them with other women, let them “give in their bodies” to their husbands every night. Allowing them to become drunk, broke, mannerless. The women worked in crop fields from dawn to the dusk of night for minimum pay. As they were forced to learn the American culture, they were not allowed to continue their Japanese culture. Later in the story, they had help from other men in the neighborhood to help support themselves and their children.

Change of Font

What's this element?

A change of font is significant in a text of a book. The author uses the very beginning of each paragraph to show who the characters are, when is the event or situation is happening, and where they are. It is a way to get the readers to understand the settings of story. The first few words are capitalized and sometimes redundant or reused. Not all paragraphs begins this way but every new paragraph does not have an indent.

Why does it matter?

The style of the writing is unique than others. Even though the style sets many settings, it also sets in a chronological order. The story is narrated from start to finish without any flashbacks. By showing the characters in physical moments at the start of each chapter, it sets the tone of the environment in whom the characters sees from her perspective.

What's the impact on the reader?

It makes the reader resonate into the story and narration as if the reader felt the narrator's point of view.. It makes the reader understand and sympathize with the situation and understand the setting very clearly. What makes a story and scenes understandable is knowing the setting and knowing the details of the environment it. As the story goes in chronological order, then it influences the reader to stay in pace with the story. Having the reader see a character through the the lenses of that character is important to not confuse the reader.

No Quotations

What's this element?

The author puts some phrases or short sentences in italics to show the women's thoughts and quotes from other character's words. Instead of having quotations of a conversation, it is thought of by the narrator. There was no presence of conversations. Most of the words that was said by another character is direct address or words they learned.

Why does it matter?

Even though the story is told in first person, it doesn't have a lot of conversations with other characters. This is a way to understand the action in the story. If there was a conversation between the narrator and other characters, then the story would have been much longer. With the italicized phrases and short sentences, it gives important words to understand the relationship between the narrator and the other characters.

What's the impact on the reader?

The book shows somewhat of a good relationship between characters. It helps the reader feel that the narrator is quiet and less interactive. This element shows the actions and indirect conversations in the story. Having quotes tend to show more towards a conversation in most cases. Have the italicized quotes, it shows that it has been said rather than view a conversation.

No Adjectives

What's this element?

Not a lot of adjectives were added as the story goes on. Most of the paragraphs in the book have very short sentences in the majority of the story and the paragraphs take over more than a page. Some of the sentences are used to describe something rather than using adjectives or adverbs.

Why does it matter?

It shows barely any descriptive words but it does put many short sentences of about 3-7 words as a way to describe an action. For example, "They shoveled weeds. They chopped wood." It was a way of describing the action rather than having a laundry list or a run on sentence. Keeping in mind that the author is Japanese American and she brings her narrator as a second hand mirror.

What's the impact on the reader?

This impacts a reader in that it keeps the content of the Japanese-American perspective and that the language and the usage of it isn't as professional as most Europeans or educated Americans. The narrator keeps the words simple and less complex.

My emulation: Lightening In The Eyes

IN THE MORNING it felt cold to walk to school. It was the first day and I didn't hesitate in meeting people. All were new to me. Using transportation in public is simple. There were no obstacles in my way. It took me an hour to get to school, yet I felt out of place. When I arrived, I became speechless. I stepped in and heard the principal scream in fear. *Everybody get to class!* A heartbeat became four. I was afraid. I had no clue where I was. An idea came to mind. I approached to the principal and softly asked for my schedules. The look in his eyes were scary. They were soulless. They were blank. They would scare the life out of a child. A late student dashed down the hallway. *Damn it! I'm late again!* I had no choice but to observe like a shadow. Any teacher here can be strict when something that doesn't goes their way. One goes without tolerance. *You're late again! I expect you to be at detention after school!* I heart beat became four. I'm not sure if I am really pleased with the school and the environment here. I was told that education was significant. I turned back to my point of view and the principal walked back to me. Here are your schedules and the classes you have. His eyes were blue. His pupil was visible. His hair was gray. He smelled like coffee. I thanked him and left his office. Before I closed the door behind me, I heard of a confession. *I hate these students who doesn't know how to obey the rules.* A sudden thought. I would have to be smart and wise. I cannot let myself become one of them.

IN THE CLASSROOM was a single voice. He was speaking towards the pupils. The students were quiet and silent. Once I have walked, glances became stares. The teacher raised his glasses. *Well, seems like we have a new student. Please take a seat.* I sat down in seat near the back. I glanced at his name tag on his desk. His name was Mr. Mute. I assume he took his name literally to the class. I watched him turn around facing the board with a chalk in his hand. *Susan, I want you to teach everything to Akame about my class, later.* He pronounced my name wrong but I could understand that this is America. The voice in the words are deep. He has no smile. He lacks entertainment. He fails to care. Susan on the other hand is a lot different than the other students. She is positive. She is pure. She is like no other. Before I could take out my notebook, I looked at the board. *We have a major test first thing on Monday, so you all better have these note to study.*

ANNOTATIONS

Annotation #1

I used the different font of the beginning of the paragraph to start the scene in general. I used IN THE MORNING to describe the setting of time of the scene. I used it in the beginning of the paragraph and capitalized it as a "start of a new paragraph". I want the reader to have a sense of how different it is to be in the morning compared to a regular mid day life. It does show the effect of how a new paragraph starts. Instead of indenting the paragraph, it begins with a few words.

Annotation #2

I used the style of not having so many adjectives but use small sentences to describe the scene or characters. I used a few words in a sentence to describe an action, but have a few more sentences. I also kept in a way that the sentences were easy reading. The style that the original author had was a Japanese- American point of view, so I kept it to small simple vocabulary words.

Annotation #3

I used the italicized phrases of another character's words. Due to the fact that the author doesn't use as much quotations, incorporating the words of another character and making sure it makes sense of whom say what. Keeping in mind that the story must be in a narrator's point of view and shows no detailed conversation.

About The Authors



Julie Otsuka

Julie Otsuka is a famous Japanese-American author. She was born and raised in California. As she love at, she studied as an undergraduate at Yale University. From Colombia, she received the MFA. she was inspired by stories of Japanese women and immigrants who came to America.



Benjamin Seing

My name is Benjamin Seing. I am currently in sophomore year of Science Leadership Academy. Fiction of Sci-fi and suspense compliments my taste of writing. The not only book of The Buddha in the Attic inspired me of the suspense in the story but it was written in a unique style than any other books I have read.