Emulation Handbook



Every Day / David Levithan by Rasa Watson

In the book "Every day", the main character, "A" does not live a normal life. It has no gender, Race, sexuality, or family. Every Day "A" wakes up in a new body. It can be a girl, a boy, black, or white as long as that person is the same age. "A" falls in love with a girl named Rhiannon. Over time they form a friendship, but "A" wants it to be more. However Rhiannon feels like she can't do that. She then stops seeing "A" because she can't love each person everyday. It is a complicated romance.

Component #1: Point of View

What's this element?

The author's point of view changes every day. It stays first person for the most part, however because the main character, "A", switches bodies everyday, you are able to get thoughts from so many different people, or at least thoughts they had in the past. The only thing with this is that the point of view isn't omniscient. The main character can only see their own thoughts of the person's body "A" is in.

"My mind is thoroughly wrong out, but I can tell Nathan Daldry has gotten a good night's sleep. Nathan is a good guy. Everything in his room is in order."

Top of page 66.

Why does it matter?

The point of view is important to the book overall because it affects how the book is read, all of the things that are said and done are looked at a certain way because of the point of view. The way "A" interacts with people it almost feels like double first person.

What's the impact on the reader?

This gives the reader an insight on what is happening. You are given so much to think about. You see what it is like every day, living in a different body and life. The point of view is a key part of the story because it affects the way you see the story. The point of view gives you insight, not only what the main character is seeing, doing, saying, and feeling, but the things the body has thought and felt.

Component #2: Chapter set up

What's this element?

The chapters are
unpredictable when it
comes to length. Each
chapter is a different day.
They can be as short as
half a page or as long as 28
pages. There are 41
chapters in this book.
Because the main
character, "A", wakes up in
a new body each day, each
day is a new chapter. The
titles for the chapters are
Days 5994 through 6034.

Chapter titles include:
Day 5994
Day 5995
Day 5999
Day 6000
Day 6017
ect.

Why does it matter?

Chapter titles normally gives the reader foresight of the chapter you are about to read. In Every Day, the chapter titles are day numbers. This is important because it tells the reader that it is a new day, and "A" will be in a new body, in a new place.

What's the impact on the reader?

At first the reader is confused with this element of the book. But as the days, or chapters continue the reader realizes that each chapter is a new day, in a new body.

Component #3: Narration

What's this element?

The book "Every Day" has an interesting point of view the narration is different too. The narration tells both what the main character "A" is seeing and doing, as well as what he is thinking.

Why does it matter?

The Narration is important to the book so that the reader can know what is happening in the book. In the Quote above the author describes what is going on in his head as well as how he feels physically and emotionally. He describes the things "A" sees. "Kelsea Cook's mind is a dark place. Even before I open my eyes,I know this. Her mind is an unquiet one, words and thoughts and impulses constantly crashing into each other. My own thoughts try to assert themselves within this noise. The body responds by breaking into a sweat. I try to remain calm, but the body conspires against that, tries to drown me in distortion."

Middle of page 120

What's the impact on the reader?

The narration of the of the book provides an outline for the way the story is told. The Point of view tells the reader what is happening through first person, but the narration gives a deeper understanding of what is happening in the story.

My Emulation: What i told Maya

Monday:

Its Monday. I don't need to look outside to see that it's raining. I'm not looking forward to this week. I get dressed and ready to go to school. I look at the time and see it 7:30. I'm late again. When I finally get to school I'm soaked from the rain. I kind of just go through the day, all I want to do is go home and sleep.

I end up going to my best friend Jada's house after school. While I'm there she gets a text from Jamal.

"Hey cutie."

We looked at each other shocked.

"Doesn't he go out with Maya? I ask her.

"Yeah. But I wanna see what he wants." Maya says as he responds to his message.

"what's up?" the text says

"You should be my girl after ball season."

Jamal isn't staying loyal to Maya. I want to tell her but I know she's going to be hurt. And what if my best friend doesn't want her to know.

"Are you going to say anything to Maya?", I asked.

"I don't know", was her response.

So I just let them talk.

Tuesday:

Today seems pretty normal. School and nothing planned for after school. But what happened yesterday was still lingering in my mind. I have to tell Maya.

I go over to her during lunch and sit down with her. She's smiling at me. she has no idea what I'm about to tell her.

"Maya, I have to tell you something and it isn't easy to tell you."

"Ok. what is it?" she asked.

"Jamal has been texting other girls and flirting with them"

"Who!" she wants to know.

I can't really say who but I just wanted you know and be careful."

She looks upset now like I stole her favorite possession.

"Where is he now..." she whispered angrily as she stood up.

Annotations

#1:

David Levithan uses a unique point of view, that is hard to replicate, or use in a different way. So what I did was have the main character in first person, but the main character knows more than another person. "She's smiling at me. she has no idea what i'm about to tell her. "

#2:

The second element I chose was the chapters and their setup. Each chapter In the book is a new day, and the titles for each day is a number.

For my writing I also separated it day by day. However mine is labeled the name of which weekday it is, such as "Monday."



#3:

The third element I wrote about was the narration of the book. Leviathan describes what is going on while it is occurring. For my emulation I wrote some of the actions as they were happening. I did this after the dialogue.

About The Authors

David Levithan

David Levithan is a 45 year old Teen and adult novelist. He lives in Hoboken, New jersey. He spend a lot of his time in New York editing books. He doesn't really like talking about himself, but he enjoys talking about his work. Levithan has written around 30 books. He wrote his first book in 2003, and is still writing today. He doesn't only write his own book, he does collaborations as well. One of his personal traditions is releasing a valentine novel every year. If you would like to read any of his work you can check out Boy Meets Boy, Realm of possibility, The lover's Dictionary, and so many more.



Rasa Watson

Rasa Watson is a 15 year old sophomore who attends Science Leadership Academy. She lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She is very selective reader. She enjoys reading dramas, action, romance, and comedy. She struggles with spelling but still manages to write decent pieces. She is currently taking a Journalism class at her school. If you would ever like to check out some of her work look her up on google to see her school writing.

