

Tyah's Emulation Handbook



The Hate U Give / Angie Thomas

Starr Carter, a sixteen year old girl, living in Garden Heights has witnessed her best friend get shot by a police officer. Starr, is black and lives in a black community with many bad influences. Although she has a bad environment, her school is in a more white community, she has to live a double life so that she isn't stereotyped as a wild black girl. There is now a trial and she has to speak on her behalf. Starr is under a lot of pressure because it is dangerous to speak to police as well as let your community down.

Reliable Narrator

What's this element?

The author, Angie Thomas, is giving the reader the inner thoughts of the main character. The narrator has to hold on two faces based on her community she is in at school. This also makes her reliable because the reader can either relate or have an understanding about what Starr, the main character, is going through on a daily basis. The reliability gives the reader the ability to take in more information and obtain the perspective of the narrator, as if they were the one experiencing the plot for themselves.

Why does it matter?

This is important to the book because the whole time the reader is reading, they are getting nothing but raw detail, feelings, and thoughts. This is also important to the book because it keeps an engaging process of telling a story. Instead of having to question the plot, it narrated for the reader by someone who had first hand experience. Starr knows for a fact that she has to switch up her image for those around her and it can become exhausting to keep these mask on and all the real hidden. In this community of judgmental people and racial tension, Starr in fact, isn't Starr at all.

What's the impact on the reader?

This is an impactful element to the reader because the context gives the reader a feeling or connection to the switches in her behavior depending on her environment. Having the reliable narrator is the key to moments like these. If the reader has question or thoughts about the narrator, they will have an answer to the question through reading the thoughts and details that the book gives.

"Williamson Starr doesn't use slang - if a rapper would say it, she doesn't say it, even if her white friends do. Slang makes them cool. Slang makes her "hood". Williamson Starr holds her tongue when people piss her off so nobody will think she's the "angry black girl". Williamson Starr is approachable. No stank-eyes, none of that. Williamson Starr is non confrontational. Basically, Williamson Starr doesn't give anyone a reason to call her ghetto. I can't stand myself for doing it, but I do it anyway."

Point of View

What's this element?

The author is including real life examples and events in the story. These are things that happen in real life, this is somewhat giving the reader a glimpse of something they may have not been aware of before. Also, this shares a point of view from someone who first hand experienced a tragedy That the reader most likely has not witnessed before. The author puts this whole book in Starr's point of view so that the feelings can come through to the reader clearly. The purest emotions a person would feel after witnessing death

Why does it matter?

Starr has a complicated life of hiding behind the scenes so that she won't be attacked by her community. Many people in her community are in gangs and are against police in general. The community puts this all on Starr's shoulders when it comes to the court's verdict on the police officer. The point of view, is a key part of this book because it helps the reader understand each and every feeling and perspective of the whole situation, in Starr's eyes.

What's the impact on the reader?

Sometimes the reader may not understand fully about what it is the reader sees in their perspective, but the point of view element helps Starr express her views. In the story people are protesting, attacking, and mourning all in one big motion. When reading this story, Starr gives each detail of her thought process and her mental image. These given details makes the reader feel the disappointment and struggle that Starr has within herself.

“I’ve seen it happen over and over again: a black person gets killed just for being black, and all hell breaks loose. I’ve Tweeted RIP hashtags, reblogged pictures on Tumblr, and signed every petition out there. I always said that if I saw it happen to somebody, I would have the loudest voice, making sure the world knew what went down. Now I am that person, and I’m too afraid to speak.”

Sentence Variation

What's this element?

The author uses sentence variation to address Starr's feelings in this whole book. A lot of the sentences are short but they hit all the points that express feeling or personal experience. Through the medium to small sentence, each individual moment can be expressed strongly with the vocabulary and thoughts. The author is giving the book a lot of context based off of the point of view of Starr, as well as giving the reader the details.

Why does it matter?

In this moment in the book, Starr expresses the core meaning of this book. All the mixed up emotions throughout the whole book. Although the paragraph is fairly short, the meaning is the most powerful. Starr has a myriad of things on her shoulders everyday. In this story, her best friend has been murdered by a police officer, a trial still standing for a verdict. The reader is given suspense through the whole entire book because it takes long for trials and what will be said and done. Starr, as witness, is given an option to be in defense and speak on what happened to Khalil, her best friend.

What's the impact on the reader?

With these type of sentences it builds an image or feeling inside of the reader's mind. The reader can almost feel her anger and sadness in her heart. As if the whole scene was right in front of the reader. The type of details given are specifically placed together to draw attention to the exact moment and how the experiences of Starr has brought her to the state of mind she is in now.

**“ I can't breathe, like I'm
drowning in the tears I
refuse to shed. I won't give
One-Fifteen or his father
the satisfaction of crying.
Tonight, they shot me too,
more than once, and killed
a part of me. Unfortunately
for them, it's the part that
felt any hesitation to about
speaking out.”**

My Emulation: Touch of History

As I sat outside, in deep thought, a woman came walking towards me. Afar, she looked very familiar. She walked low to avoid being seen. She moved quickly, far too fast to capture all her details but I was amazed. I had thought it was Dana, my heart skipped but I was wrong. This woman was different, her hair was long and braided, the skin was a smooth caramel, and her voice was softer, elegant.

"Hello, 'scuse me sir!" Her pace began to speed up. "Sir, please have mercy, is you's one of them slavemasters!?"

I couldn't move, sound wouldn't escape. I never beat a woman, man, or child. I began to speak but my throat quickly became dry. I ran into the house. I began to and panic. I paced back and forth. I chewed my nails down and rehearsed many scenarios. I peered from behind the curtain. All I could constantly see was Dana, my lost wife. I paced to the door and watched the woman, she crouched and hid from traffic. There was fear but hope in her eyes, I knew this look too well. Holly stood behind me, looking straight ahead.

"I heard her." Holly reached and searched the air, until she lays a cold hand on my cheek. "What are you panicking for? Let the poor girl in."

I opened the door and called for her to come in. I did not tell the woman that Holly was blind. I watched the conversation, I wondered if this woman knew what she was getting herself into.

"Well my name is Linda," she looked around the house, "I am looking for a place to stay."

Holly stared, "There's room upstairs, what happened to your home?"

Linda looked at Holly, she could tell that Holly was blind. "Thank you ma'am, I been in a hurry to visit my family. See my mama is sick, she got tha flu, it's a mess up there."

Suddenly she stopped speaking. Linda's eyes traced back to me. I knew Linda was lying, her face showed it.

Annotations

Yellow Highlight: I was hoping to give the reader some inner thought and emotion from the narrator. My first element is Reliable Narrator, so the reader can see Kevin's honest thought on being asked about being a slave-master. This also allows the reader to make inferences that the narrator is a white male. The woman who came up to reminded him of his wife that he misses very much, so this moment was for the reader to see he is very vulnerable.

Green Highlight: Using my second element, Point of View, I wanted to communicate the narrator's experience. As Kevin watches the two women converse, I was hoping to express the narrator's thoughts about what the woman says. As well as how he thinks of the whole interaction between a black woman and a white woman.

Blue Highlight: My third element is sentence variation. I was hoping that with my smaller sentences, the reader would be able to understand how much of an affect on the main character. I wanted small sentences that expressed each individual thing he saw and how that made him think of Dana, his wife. I also wanted it to impact the reader by wondering if he will now treat her specially and etc. I kept it short to create suspense about what will happen later on.

About The Authors



*Angie Thomas, author of **The Hate U Give**, was inspired by her own life experiences as well as the BLM movements. In college, Thomas also worked on this book as a way to release her anger about the police brutality and murder of blacks. Thomas began writing this story in her senior year of college. After many experiences of violence as a child, in bad areas and drug-filled streets, Thomas completed a book that holds her emotions and shows the people reading that violence should not be a norm in our lives. Angie Thomas is like a teacher in a way.*

I am Tyah Ward, a sophomore student in Philadelphia. I attend Science Leadership Academy. I spend a lot of time with different types of arts. When it comes to reading, I like poetry and biographies from people with crazy experiences. I aspire to be a professional photographer and extraction chemist. I like to write on some occasions and read on my down time. I want to become fluent in different languages .