

NATASHA PRESTON

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THE  
CELLAR



By Briannie Matos

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# About The Cellar...

A girl named Summer was kidnapped by a man named Clover. Clover kidnapped 3 other girls and he has changed their name to correspond to a specific flower. The girls are Rose, Poppy, and Violet, Summer's name is now Lily. The girls have been down there for over a year and Rose is kind of like the leader of the girls because she has been there the longest, 3 years. All of the girls have given up all hope of ever leaving from the cellar. Summer, who is now Lily, has no clue what is going on in these girl's head. Summer just knows she will not give up hope and she will be returning back home.



Help me, please !

# Component #1: Chapter Organization



## Chapter 4- Lewis: Sunday, 25th July (Present)

“Missing. I repeated the word over and over in my head. Lewis, we need to go now. Summer’s missing. That was what Henry said. His face was pale as he explained that his sister--my girlfriend--hadn’t been seen for hours.” (33)

**What's this element?:** As the author writes new chapters the narrator's switch around and the dates are added to the chapters. It switches from present to past but the past is brought up once in awhile.

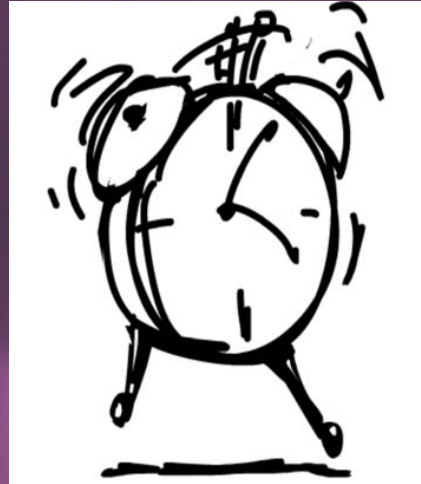
**Why does it matter?:** Knowing everything that is going on in a book is better then not knowing anything. There are three narrators, Summer, Lewis, and Clover. Most of the chapters are narrated by Summer. Lewis, which is Summer’s boyfriend, talks about what is still going on back at home while Summer is missing. Clover, who is the man who took Summer, talks about the things he does when he isn’t with the girls and why he is doing all of this. It’s interesting because you get a better understanding of why everything is happening.

**What's the impact on the reader?:** It’s suspenseful because when I was reading and I seen that Clover was also a narrator, I immediately wanted to read more because I would finally get an understanding of why he is doing what he is doing. When Lewis or Clover are the narrators it’s like reading a whole new book. You are in a totally different setting and getting new information on everything that is going on back at home and outside the cellar. Seeing how everyone is feeling in the book doesn’t make you think of other characters, except the ones who aren’t narrators.

# Component #2: Plot Sequence

Chapter 9- Clover: Saturday,  
March 25th (2005)

"I had been shopping with Mother many times, but this was very different, exciting. This was my choice and no one else's." (90)



**What's this element?:** The author uses plot sequence to give the reader a better understanding to why Clover is doing the things he is doing. She would use a non-linear timeline to show the reader flashbacks of moments Clover has had or Lewis and Summer has had. She only goes to the past and present but the book is mostly in the present. Especially when Summer is the narrator.

**Why does it matter?:** The story of Clover is more clearer with the use of plot sequence. So far whenever Clover is the narrator, his chapter takes place in 2005 and it talks about his mother and why he is kidnapping these girls. It gives the book a twist because you know more information than certain characters in the book and for other characters, they could know more than you.

**What's the impact on the reader?:** Plot sequence can be very interesting at times and in this case it is very interesting. Having more knowledge than some characters in the book. As of now I know more than Summer because she doesn't have a clue to why Clover is doing all of this but I somewhat have a clue to why he is kidnapping the girls. It causes you to be anxious because Summer complains about wanting to get out and wanting to know why Clover is being a psychopath, but I know why so it can get pretty intense.

# Component #3: Point of View



"I took as little rest as I could survive on and spent the rest of the time searching. I looked awful and could see the worry on my family's faces." (105)

**What's this element?:** The author wants to make it seem like you are the one telling the story by writing the book in first person point of view. Every time one of the narrators switch, the story is still in first person and even when the author does those flashbacks.

**Why does it matter?:** Having a book that's in first person point of view is much better in my opinion because you're having that one on one with the character of the book and you know everything that is going in their heads. It's like reading a book of someone's thoughts that only run through their heads.

**What's the impact on the reader?:** It makes you feel you are telling the story and everything going on is like it's happening to you, so it can be fun and intense. Since this book is about a girl being kidnapped and this being the roughest time of her life, as the reader it's so sad because you start to think about how the character is feeling. Also with first person point of view, you get a more deep, emotional connection with the characters in the book because you know everything that is going on inside of their heads. It's like giving more information so the reader knows exactly how the character is feeling or doing.

# My Emulation: Will You Marry Me?

**Michael (2016)**

I seen her walk into the cafe. She had hazel-green eyes, dirty blond hair, and she was the most beautiful girl I have ever seen. My eyes were locked on her as she walked up to the cash register. For some reason, I couldn't look away. If I did, I would've lost the image of what she looked like and I couldn't do that.

"Do you like what you see?"

I snapped out of it, "Huh?"

"Well you keep looking at me, so do you like what you see?" she giggled.

She had the cutest laugh, Why was she so perfect?! "I'm sorry, you are just so beautiful." is what I wished I said but instead I said "Oh, ummm... I'm sorry, I was daydreaming." Nice Michael, just nice.

"Oh..."

She seemed disappointed in my answer.

**Katherine (Present)**

"Oh my gosh! I'm so late. Babe, wake up, why didn't you turn on the alarm last night?!"

"Huh" he mumbled "I did turn the alarm on."

"No you didn't." He can never do anything right but I still love him. Michael and I have been together for more than a year now. I can remember the day we met like it was yesterday. He seemed like such a lost puppy the way he couldn't get his eyes off of me.

"Bye, babe I'll see you later, okay?"

"Yeah, and don't forget I'm meeting you for lunch today."

"Oh right, okay. I love you."

"I love you too."

**Michael (Present)**

I couldn't decide what ring to get for Katherine, they all were so nice but not nice enough for my Katherine. I had a special lunch planned for us today. She was everything I wanted in a girl and I can't let her go for anything in the world.

"Excuse me, is there anyone who can give me assistance?"

"Yes, what can I help you with."

"I'm looking for a ring to propose to my girlfriend with, and I can't decide which to get.

**Katherine (Present)**

"Hey, cutie."

"Hey, Gabe."

"Are we still on for lunch?" He winked.

"No, I'm having lunch with Michael."

"Ugh, when are you going to leave him and be with me?"

"You know I can't do that, this is just for fun."

**Michael (Present)**

After we finished eating, I sat there looking into her gorgeous eyes.

"Why are you looking at me like that?" She smiled.

I couldn't wait to get on my knee so I blurted out "Will you marry me?"

"Huh?"

"Will you marry me?" I got on my knee and pulled out the ring.

"Michael... I.. I um. I can't." She got up and ran out the diner in tears.

"Did I do something wrong?"

# Annotations

**Component #1 // What's the impact on the story and reader?:** Every time I'm writing a new chapter, I put either one of the couple's name to indicate who is speaking. I also wrote whether if the narrator was narrating in the past or present tense. This helps because when the story is in the past it shows the couple meeting, but in the present is where it gets real juicy and suspenseful. I hope the reader's attention is caught throughout the story because the short story ended with a crazy cliffhanger.

**Component #2 // What's the impact on the story and reader?:** For the beginning of my short story, I did a flashback to the year the couple met. In *The Cellar*, they did flashbacks to give the reader a better understanding of the story and I feel that I did that because they wouldn't have known what was going on if I started it off the couple waking up. This is to give the reader a better understanding like I said and to let them know how long the couple knew each other.

**Component #3 // What's the impact on the story and reader?:** All of my story is in first person point of view to give the reader a feel of what is going on in the character's head and how they are actually feeling. I hope to give the reader what it is actually like being in those person's shoes and what how they are doing. Also to make it seem like they are telling the story.



# About The Authors



**Natasha Preston** is a New York Times Bestselling Author for the book *The Cellar*. Natasha found her love for writing when she shared a story online. Natasha enjoys writing thrillers, romance, and the occasional serial killer. Natasha has a very creative mind with coming up with these plots throughout her books. Her books are fiction and the way she writes it's like everything is happening right before your eyes. Natasha really shows physical and emotional actions, which catches the readers attention. There are more books like *The Cellar*, such as *The Cabin* and *Awake*. These books aren't based on the same plot but they are just as interesting.



**Briannie Matos** is a girl looking into the subject of writing. She is 15 years old and always thought books were boring and useless. Becoming a high school student has shown her they aren't as bad after all and is slowly entering the state of liking books. Reading *The Cellar* really set an interest for her and inspired her to write similar to Natasha Preston. She would love to grow as a writer but it isn't her deep passion so she will let fate guide the way. Being a writer would be challenging for Briannie because it's not what she wants to pursue in life. Seeing Briannie and her first short story could be the start of a new passion but no one would ever know.