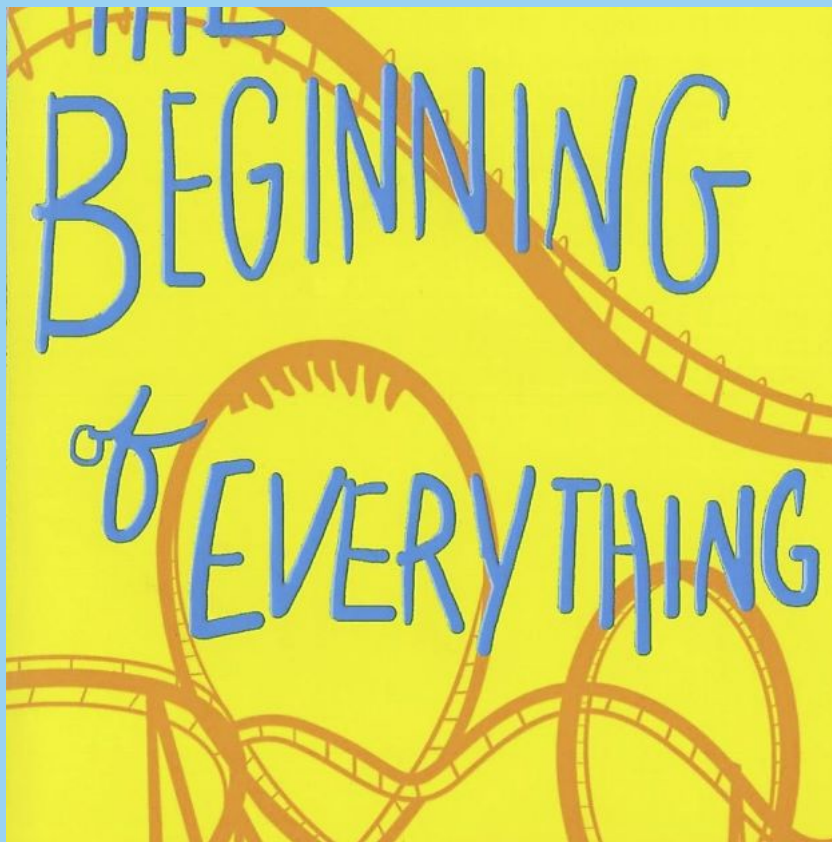


Mayah Gold's Emulation Handbook



By Robyn Schneider

written by

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Ezra believes that everyone has a tragedy waiting for them, and his is that at the end of his junior year of high school. He is in a car accident that permanently damages his knee, ending his tennis career and social life. Now, Ezra must figure out who he wants to be, and he finds that out with an old friend and a new girl in town.

PLOT SEQUENCE

What's this element?

In this quote, the author is explaining the story behind a house that Ezra is passing, how it played a part when he was younger, and didn't think anything of it when it stopped. But now it does, because the girl he is now friends and involved with, Cassidy, lives in this house. The author is using organization, backstory, and chronological order in this quote. By using plot sequence, the reader can have a clear understanding of the order of events.

Why does it matter?

This is important to the book overall because it is a small detail that once mattered, then didn't, and now it does again. This house now plays a part into the story because it is relevant to another major character that affects the plot and main character in huge ways.

What's the impact on the reader?

This element, plot sequence, makes the reader feel satisfied with the new information we have just learned. Furthermore, this gives the reader insight into how Ezra and Cassidy's relationship is evolving and how much he keeps thinking about all the aspects of her life, including her house. As a result, the use of plot sequence gives the reader an understanding as to what is going through Ezra's mind.

"Her house was enormous, one of those Spanish-tiled villas with a four-car garage, the kind you're almost certain is two houses attached, because of the oversized symmetry. I remembered when they'd built this subdivision, two years after mine, and how I'd woken up every morning in the fifth grade to the sound of the workmen, not even bothering to set an alarm after a while. I remembered the eerily quiet Monday morning when the hammering finally stopped, and how my mom had yelled at me for oversleeping."

USE OF COMMAS IN PARAGRAPHS

What's this element?

In this quote, the author uses a lot of commas in only three sentences to show how fast the main character is thinking. Furthermore, based on the use of commas we can infer that the author wants to get a point across in a quick way, and include a lot of small details in the process.

Why does it matter?

It is important because it shows what the main character is thinking in this moment, and the commas portray and show how much he is thinking in a fast pace. Furthermore, the use of commas give the opportunity to provide a lot more detail into the setting and what is happening around the main character.

“But I made no move toward the lunch line. For one thing, I had no appetite, and for another, I didn’t trust myself to come back. But it didn’t matter, since I couldn’t have gotten away if I’d wanted to—half the song squad wanted to give me hugs, because omigod, wasn’t it like soooo epic that I’d won homecoming king and where had I been during the announcement?”

What's the impact on the reader?

The use of commas allows the reader to learn more thorough informations about what the characters are going through not only within them, but around them.

Sentence Structure

What's this element?

In this book, these are some of the longest paragraphs you will find. They are only three to five sentences, yet they look much longer. The author is using many commas, however, the author is also using lots of small details to not ensure run on sentences. Furthermore, even though the paragraph is short, the author gets away with it by using long sentences with many words compacted together in a neat way.

Why does it matter?

This is important to the book overall because this sentence structure sets the tone for how the writing flows. Is it a lot for the brain all at once or is it more easy going. As for this book and these sentences, it is more easy going and flows well, creating a well crafted order of events in the plot.

What is the impact on the reader?

The use of specific details paints a picture in the reader's mind of the setting and surroundings of the main character. Because there are many attributes to the plot and how it is constantly and rapidly moving, the use of commas move along the story in a way that flows well.

"The second round posted, and once again, Cassidy darted off to retrieve my room number. I guessed that she was trying to be helpful, but it is a little much. I didn't have the heart to tell her though. So I dutifully accepted my Post-it and trotted off to debate one of the Rancho guys, this scrawny freshman with a Blackberry clipped to his belt, as though he was already running a company. The enemy I thought, I thought, realizing that I was starting to develop a sense of team loyalty."

My Emulation: Audition

As I entered the theatre, I felt my stomach flip with nerves, and I heard myself sigh. That stage that held the greats, Idina Menzel, Bette Midler, Carole King. All the stories, songs, dances, and laughter that swept through the stage during and after performances.

“Braverman!” the man in the middle of the theatre screamed. Oh no. That was my cue.

“Here!” I replied, getting his attention for a split second.

“Up on stage with Woodum!” I dropped my bags onto a random seat, throwing my coat off in the jacket, feeling the remaining chill from the cold outside New York air. I bounced up onto the stage, sizing up the stranger that was now my competition.

She was roughly a few inches shorter than me, but you could tell she didn’t let people make fun of her for it. (2) She had a heart face, with long blonde hair that resembled one of those movie mermaids, and had a leather jacket on that looked ancient. However ancient her look was, she was now only person standing in the way of me landing this role. (1) I braced myself, and turned my body toward the director.

“I want you two to sing something together. A riff off if you will. One of you can start, cut each other off... civilly of course. Sing parts together, solo, got it? Good. You guys are gonna sing For Forever from Dear Evan Hansen. Familiar with it?” he said, looking up at us since he started speaking. We both looked at each other, nodded, preparing to belt out the low tune.

I breathed in, then out, and began to sing. I belted out the first few words, then Woodum interjected. And then I interjected her. (3) And so on, and so on, until we got to the final verse. It came, and we were so powerful together that I could feel my stomach rise. When we hit that final note, the theatre went silent. I turned to her and was speechless.

“Great job girls. You’ll hear from me within the week.”

1. I am using plot sequence by going in chronological order of events. The impact on the story is that the reader is learning what my story is through the sequence of events.
2. I used element two, use of many commas in few sentences by packing lots of detail into only a few sentences without them becoming run on sentences
3. From my author's writing style, I didn't make my paragraphs very long. I split them up in small sections with lots of detail, using punctuation to move it along well and flowingly.

About The Authors

Robyn Schneider is a graduate of Columbia University, where she studied creative writing, and the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, where she studied medical ethics. She lives in LA, California. She has written seven books and enjoys blogging. In conclusion, a majority of her books are young adult novels.

My name is Mayah Gold, and I attend Science Leadership Academy. I enjoy food, summer camp, classic movies, and the rain. My literary interests are plays and musicals because I have a passion for Broadway and the idea of creating it. Furthermore, I also enjoy reading poetry and young adult novels.