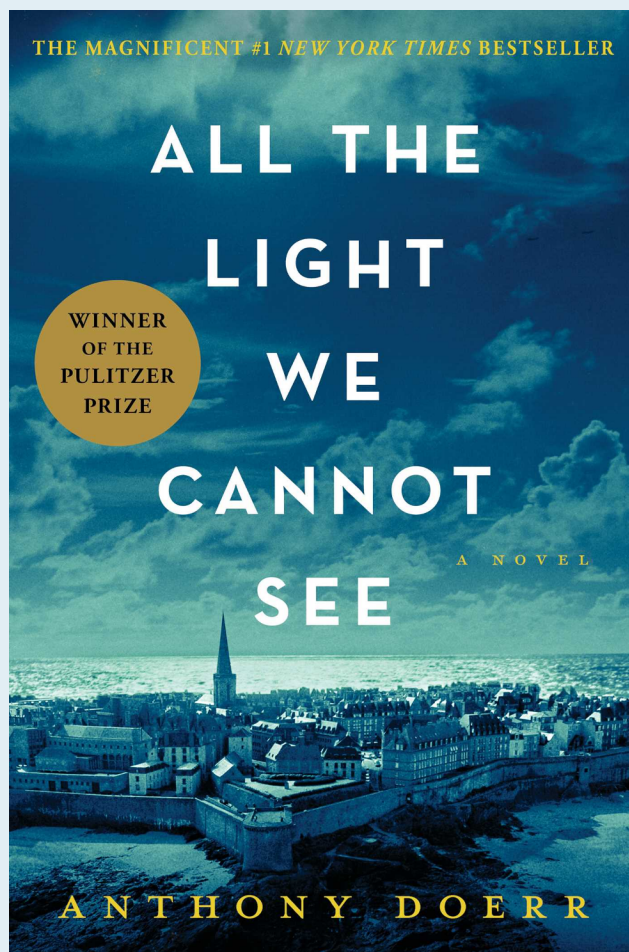


Louisa's Emulation Handbook

All the Light We Cannot See / Anthony Doerr

by Louisa Strohm



About the Book

This is a story describing the lives of two children growing up in WWII. The girl, Marie-Laure, is a blind girl from France who relies on her father to protect and teach her. The boy, Werner, is an orphan from Germany who is interested in technology, especially fixing radios. When Paris is bombed by the Nazis, Marie-Laure and her father are forced to leave to find a safer place to live. Meanwhile Werner is going to boot camp to become a Nazi himself.

Point of View

What's this element?

The author is writing from the narrator's point of view is to see the book not from a character's eyes but from your own in a way. This creates the scene as more of a full and allows you to imagine more than if it was just coming from the main characters point of view.

Why does it matter?

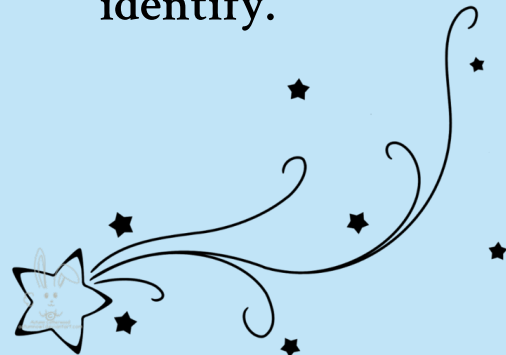
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What's the impact on the reader?

This gives the reader the a bigger view of the story by creating a larger view of the scene. This makes the scene more vivid and impactful.

Relevant Quote

"He lets her dig through a box of fuses, another of switches. He leads he to bookshelves next;the spines of hundreds of books; a bird cage; beetles in matchboxes; an electric mouse trap; a glass paperweight inside which, he says, a scorpion has been entombed; jars of miscellaneous connectors; a hundred more things he cannot identify. "



Narration

What's this element?

The author uses short sentences instead of using long sentences with commas to describe what Marie-Laure is feeling, smelling, and hearing. The small sentences are used to see what goes on in the main character's mind and allow the reader to feel things from her point of view.

Why does it matter?

This is important to the book overall because it helps us figure out what Marie-Laure is feeling when she goes through sensual situations as a blind girl. When the narrator talks about her father, he uses longer more descriptive sentences because, Marie-Laure's father himself has the power to be more descriptive.

What's the impact on the reader?

This makes the reader feel a little bit of what Marie-Laure feels because of the short, almost choppy like writing used to describe Marie-Laure. This helps the reader develop sympathy towards her and gives us a feel for what your feelings might be like when you are blind.

Relevant Quote

“Eggs crack. Butter pops in a hot pan. Her father is telling an abridged story of their flight, train stations, fearful crowds, omitting their stop in Evreux, but soon all of Marie-Laure's attention is absorbed by the smells blooming around her: egg, spinach, melting cheese. An omelet arrives. She positions her face over it's steam . ‘May I please have a fork?’”

Sentence Length

What's this element?

The author is trying to portray the feelings and struggle of Marie-Laure having to learn to do things on her own as a young blind girl. He uses short sentences and small pieces of dialogue to show that the character being portrayed are in distress and nervous.

Though these lines may be very short, they are impactful because of the deep word choice and brief statements.

Why does it matter?

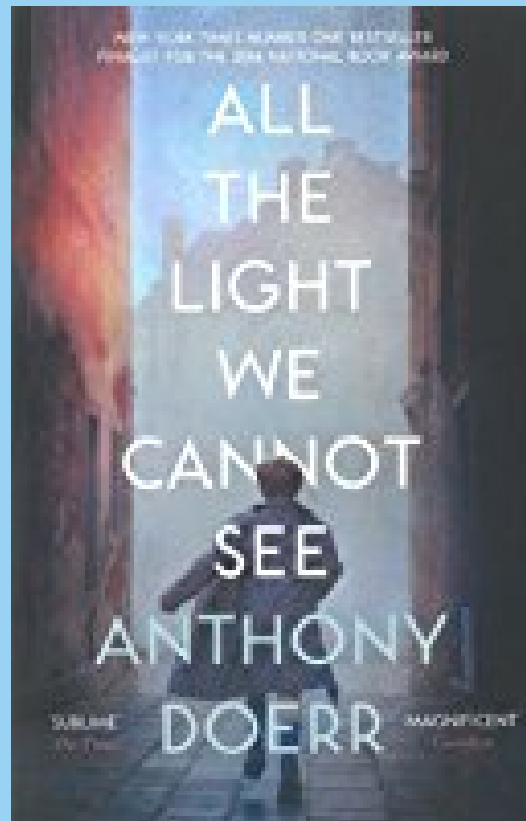
This is important to the book and the structure because we now know how Marie-Laure feels about learning to do things alone as a blind girl. This small scene gives us so many details about how uncomfortable the main character feels about the setting around her and the independence that comes with being blind. This excerpt helps the reader feel what Marie-Laure feels.

What's the impact on the reader?

The short lengthed sentences provided enough detail for us to know about the setting around her, and process the feeling of fear and confusion that she is feeling. We can imagine what is around her, but we only know as much as the narrator tells us, since Marie-Laure is blind, we only know as much as what she thinks it looks like. This gives the reader room to imagine what we think the scenery around her would look like.

Relevant Quote

“Marie-Laure drops her cane; she begins to cry. Her father lifts her to his narrow chest. ‘It’s so big,’ she whispers. ‘You can do this Marie.’ She cannot.”



My Emulation: Bye Bye, Arabella

Part 1

Arabella flutters her eyes open as she stretches her arms out from under the covers. She looks out the window beside her bed to find that the sun had already risen. Confused she gets up from her bed, slides her feet into the slippers on the ground, and begins towards the door to find her mother. Her mother wakes her every morning at dawn so she can prepare herself in time to get to school. She walks down the attic stairs to find no one in her mother's room.

Part 2

Starting to get more confused and scared, she runs down long corridor to her brother's bedroom to find him gone as well. She checks the bathroom, closets, and outdoor decks that extend from their bedrooms. Nothing. She goes back up to her room realizing she had forgotten to check the guest room adjacent to hers. No one. The breeze from the open window hits her skin once again. She feels alone.

Part 3

A vibration moves through her body from below. And another. She runs down to the first floor of the house, losing a slipper on the way. The cold wood on the floor hits her right foot. She takes a sharp left around the corner into the kitchen when a feeling against her foot stops her. A wet feeling. A cold feeling. She looks down. Red and sticky liquid surrounds her foot. Blood. She can now smell the stagnant stench of the fluid. As her body turns the rest of the corner she sees two masked men, and her brother's body lying across the floor. One of the men turns to Arabella, the other is holding a knife to her mother's neck. She can tell her mother is crying. But she can't hear her. Just as her mother begins to sign something to her, everything goes black.

My Emulation: Annotations

Annotation 1

In my scene, the story is being told from the narrator's point of view. I did this to directly emulate Doerr's writing in the book. Using this element applies a sense of mystery to the story and will make the readers want to know whose mysterious view this is.

Annotation 2

The narration in this book is an unknown narrator which I displayed in my emulation. The story of Arabella is not told in her point of view because Marie-Laure's story is also not told in her point of view.

Annotation 3

The sentence length my emulation is really varied. I used short sentences that were 1-10 words, and longer style sentences with lots of commas and descriptive words. The short sentences are meaningful and precisely worded like ones in *All the Light We Cannot See*.

About The Authors

Anthony Doerr

Doerr is an American writer from Ohio, who graduated from Bowdoin College. He gained most of his popularity in 2014 when his second published novel, *All the Light We Cannot See*, won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction. He also writes for *The Boston Globe*, and *The Morning News*. Doerr has two children and currently lives in Idaho.

Louisa Strohm

I am a 15 year old student at Science Leadership Academy in Philadelphia Pennsylvania. I like fiction novels, mainly love stories, and pretty much anything that takes place during World War II. I chose to read *All the Light We Cannot See* because not only does it take place in WWII, it is also a love story.