



CHRIS CLEAVE

AUTHOR OF INCENDIARY

Little Bee:

A young girl from Nigeria, Little Bee, who came to the united kingdoms in search for refuge. The story is also told by a woman, Sarah, who lives in the united kingdom's with her husband and young son. They tell separate stories at first that have nothing to do with each other but as I kept reading they started to hint ideas of their stories coming together.

Element #1

sentence structure

The author is explaining how the young girl got her name. She structures the sentences so that the surroundings of the main character is being seen in a context that is visible to the reader. I could feel and see what she was explaining.

Why does it matter?

The author explains how Little Bee got her name but she only tells the reader later in the book so that you start to not wonder about the unusual name until she starts to give the full description of its birth. This is

Quote:

“the two sisters waited. The shadows were deepening. A pair of hornbills came to crack in the trees above their heads. And then-sitting at my kitchen table she said she remembered this so clearly that she could almost reach out and stroke the fuzzy black back of the thing-a bee blew in on the sea breeze and it landed between the two sisters. The bee was small and it touched down on pale flower- frangipani, she told me, although she said she wasn't sure about the European name-and then the bee flew off again, without any fuss. She hadn't noticed the flower before the bee came, but now she saw the flower was beautiful. She turned to Kindness.

““My name is Little Bee,““ she said.”

Pg.101

What's the impact on the reader?

The writer, Chris Cleave, made the reader feel comfortable but also curious about the next scene because of the way she explains the scene. She took very long to get her point across so you were anxious to read faster but it was not too long that the reader lost

Element #2:

Point of view

The author has now started to follow Sarah, in point of view, a woman from the United Kingdom. She only mentions Africa once but it was enough to hint that something had happened there, and whatever had happened was big enough to affect her even now, almost 3 years later.

Why does it matter?

This part of the book is important because it provides a small hint that the two characters link up but it doesn't give the story away.

Quote:

"How calm my eyes were, since that day on the beach in Africa. When there has been a loss so fundamental I suppose that to lose just one more thing--a finger, perhaps, or a husband--is of absolutely no consequence at all. In the mirror my green eyes were placid--as still as a body of water that is either very deep, or very shallow."

-pg. 91 paragraph 2

What's the impact on the reader?

This quote may leave the reader surprised or anxious to know what had happened that day in Africa. But because she only mentions it once and very shortly, the reader has no choice but to keep going with the story and hopefully get a new hint explaining even more about that stirring day. She is leaving the reader with a bit of suspicion.

Element #3

Quote:

Description

The author is giving a description of a small but meaningful part of the story. The smoke that filled the sky may be a physical description but I picture the main character, Little Bee, having the same description. Maybe its her mind that is being filled up with this black smoke.

"It was black smoke and it curled and boiled as it rose up into the blue sky."

Why does it matter?

This quote is important because it gives a small image of the scene and even the emotion the character is feeling. As I read this line I could imagine the blue sky being filled with blackness, indicating that their lives were being filled with a dark and unknowing future.

What's the impact on the reader?

The reader may feel sad or angry by reading this because of its descriptive content and the feeling that a darkness is taking over what used to be a blue sky.

Chris Cleaver:

Chris spent some time at the Campsfield House in Oxfordshire, an immigration detention centre. His inspiration for Little Bee was thought up while he was there. he also lived in west Africa for his childhood.



My Emulation: Fionna

The water was unusually clear that day. Jacob had a smile on his face as he helped me push the boat into the sparkling sea. I kept looking at him to see if his face would tell me why his smile was so big without his mouth actually moving to explain. As I pulled the heavy sail up and the wind caught it with a push forward, Jacob turned to me with that big grin as if to *ask why haven't you questioned my smile yet?*

"So what is it? Did you finally figure out that joke I told you last week?" I questioned him with a grin of my own.

"No, I still think you told it wrong." He turned away, but not to indicate that the conversation was over.

"Then what is it?"

"A letter came in the mail this morning,"

A gust of wind gave our small boat a little push saying, *wake up, you've got a job you duffis*. I jolted forward but with one step in front of the other and a hand on the mast I was upright and steady again.

"Are you okay Fionna?" Jacob looked at me and chuckled a bit. I rolled my eyes but soon forgot his smirk and realized his mention of a letter.

Part 2:

The letter went out almost a month ago and no reply has come for me. Maybe the agency was wrong, they could have gotten the wrong girl, or maybe I'm the wrong guy. People make mistakes everyday. I can remember the words I had written so neatly. I hadn't known what to say to a stranger that I am supposed to know better than myself. *Fionna*. Such a pretty name, I could have never thought that name up. I wondered what my daughter looked like, was she as beautiful as her name? Did she look like her mother? Oh, how her mother was gorgeous, those eyes would pierce you like a freshly sharpened spear.

"Sir?" I heard my secretary at my door and I swung my chair around to look at his face.

"You have a visitor, she says she's your daughter." As these words slipped out of his small mouth I saw my daughter's beautiful face next to my secretary, just like her mother's.

"Dad?"

"Fionna."

Annotation #1

I used the first quote as a sort of structure of the story to give a good description of the characters surroundings. I was hoping to give a sort of calm feeling in the beginning of story but a little bit of curiosity and surprise so that the reader can have a feel of how the character is reacting to this news of a letter.

Annotation #2

The second element gives a bit of information to the reader about the second part of the story and how they are linked. I was hoping to give some mystery to the story and maybe get the reader thinking about how the parts of the story connect and become one.

Annotation #3

The 3rd element is putting an image in the reader's head and I used that in a way of calming the reader and making them feel comfortable. The whole story is based on description and giving a sort of subtle mystery to the action.

Helayna Hoffman:

Helayna is a 16 year old girl who never had a real passion for books until a trip she took on a sailboat for 6 months. Her view on books changed traumatically and she now loves to sit back and take in the stories that are being told through writing. After her long sailing trip, Helayna came back to Philadelphia and started to attend Science Leadership Academy for her sophomore year of high school. Helaynas new love for books has taught her about the struggles of others and terror that some people have gone through to have a happy ending. "I am so thankful for the life I live." - Helayna Hoffman

