### Emulation Handbook <sup>Nikki Giovani</sup>



Paint Me Like I Am is a collection of poems organized into different categories. The poems are written by people of all ages with different perspectives of the world.

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# Component #1

#### Perspective

### WHAT IS THIS ELEMENT?

The author is writing from the perspective of an abusive father. There are two parts to this story. One part is from the father's point of view, the other is from the abused sons point of view. The authors reason was to get the readers to understand both sides and see how they feel.

### Why Does IT Matter?

This is important because you are able to see two different views. Instead of one point of view, and the one you are perceiving among yourself, you are able to see two different points along with you making your own.

#### What is The Impact On The Reader?

This element makes the reader feel empathetic and sympathetic towards both parties. You are able to put yourself in their situations and work with the characters.

## Component #2 Sentence Length

### WHAT IS THIS ELEMENT?

The writer uses sentence length very well in this poem. He extends his thoughts

# What is the impact on the reader?

This element makes the reader see how overwhelmed the writer is. You can tell that the writer has a lot to get off of there chest before starting a new subject

Why Does It Matter? This element is important because there are ongoing statements. The reader is able to understand the subject and purpose very

### Component #3 Use of Commas

What is this element?

This element is the use of commas. Commas separate thoughts. Why does it matter?

Commas help your reader figure out which words go together in a sentence and which parts of your sentences are most important. It also breaks up the sentence so that it will not be a run on.

#### WHAT IS THE IMPACT?

It makes the reader feel like the writer has a lot to say on one topic.

### **My Emulation** Diary of a Depressed Parent

My husband died when I was 24,

I wanted to be the best single parent I could be to my daughter.

Instead of me spoiling her with my love,

I spoiled material things and became a hoarder.

I drink until my blood gets thinner and my pain begins to numb,

When I lost who I loved the most, I lost myself to the drugs,

Can't seem to wrap my head around the fact that my husband is gone

I wish I could leave and be with him up above.

I cannot raise no child alone, they say children brings joy but she´s taking away the thrill,

I've been dying to live but it's like the devil is shooting to kill,

Can't barely sleep or eat because sometimes I feel like I'm not real,

Been trying to live my life but my heart is remaining still,

I've lost everyone that I have believed in,

Depression and anxiety is suffocating me, I'm barely breathing,

I am trying so hard for my daughter to not see my pain,

But I saw myself in the mirror and I am not the same,

So who's to say that she hasn't noticed that i'm the one to blame

So I stay away from her because I feel like I'm am going insane,

Don't want to talk to no one because now a days i just don't know who to trust,

Because once upon a time, they said satan was an angel once.

I cannot seem to be the mother that I always wanted to be.

But I also can't seem to introduce my child to depression, it's just not me.

Love and hate just all feels the same,

I'm running away from the people I love because I feel like I'm the one to blame.

### Diary of a depressed neglected kid.

Can't she see that I'm hurt Lord

Can't she see that I'm in pain,

I'm crying out for help but she can't see it Lord

I feel like there's nothing left to gain,

I don't know what to do anymore

I don't know my purpose on earth

I'm having trouble finding the reason you put me here, I'm having trouble finding my worth.

Haven't cried like this in so long

Haven't sat down and talked about how I feel,

Haven't been asked "are you okay? Tell me why you're like this"

Instead I get yelled at and neglected with no room left to heal,

Can't be myself anymore

Can't talk to no one

Been depressed since I was 12 years old but haven't told anyone or shed a tear

Because I know if I talk about it no one would care.

What do I do now Lord.

You see I have no one to turn to but you

This anger and animosity and depression is taking over me And I just don't know what to do

And I just don't know what t

l can't cry no more God.

I can't hide my pain

I can't act like everything's okay when it's not

I think my mother has turned insane.

Been through so much...

I've been fighting through every obstacle you through at me And I know you make it harder for your strongest angels But I don't think I'm strong enough to be. Lord I feel sick, unwanted, hated, and alone... it's sad that I have NOBODY to talk to Because no one can be trusted Not even my own mother too.

l don't mean to offend anyone

But do she ever think about how things affect me

I guess it's because I keep up this image

So she just think they can neglect me

I've had enough. I've really did

But I will never loose faith in you.

I know at this point of time people usually question if you're real or not

But that's not me Lord. It's not me at all.. even though we have been through a lot, I know you will always have my back no matter what. And you're the only one that I can actually say that about.

I'm tired of the envy, I'm tired of the hatred. I'm tired of not being heard. I'm tired of being shut down when I speak. I'm tired of it all Lord. Please just give me the strength

I just want to be heard. I just want to be myself.

I just want to talk about why I am who I am

Without putting my feelings on a shelf.

# **My Annotation**

For my emulation, I decided to focus on the element, perspective. Perspective played a big role in this writing piece because it played a big role in the poem. The poem was about an abusive father and a son. Both of the characters were able to share their side of the story. The same thing happened in my poems. The daughter and the mother were able to speak their mind and tell the story from their perspective. The use of commas and sentence length were also very common in both of my poems.

# About Nikki Giovanni and I

Nikki Giovanni was born in Knoxville, Tennessee, on June 7, 1943. Nikki graduated with honors in history from her grandfather's alma mater, Fisk University. Since 1987, she has been on the faculty at Virginia Tech, where she is a University Distinguished Professor.

My name is Diamond Wallace and I am currently a student at Science Leadership Academy. I began writing when I was in third grade and was immediately put into an advanced writing course the following year. Since then, writing has been the love of my life. I write many pieces ranging from poetry, to personal novels.