



Emulation Handbook

If only it were true / Marc Levy

by Nhu Lai

Lauren is a doctor and got into a serious auto accident. When she woke up outside of her still comatose body, she was confused because she could not communicate with anyone. It was her sole that decided to spend most of her time at her old apartment. Arthur, a young San Francisco architect, who took over renting the place. He is the only person who can share Lauren's secret, he's the only one who can see her, hear her, and talk to her when no one else so much as senses her presence. After some initial disbelief on his part, they fall in love. But the doctors prepare to end Lauren's physical care, and this would destroy the connection Lauren and Arthur cherish together.

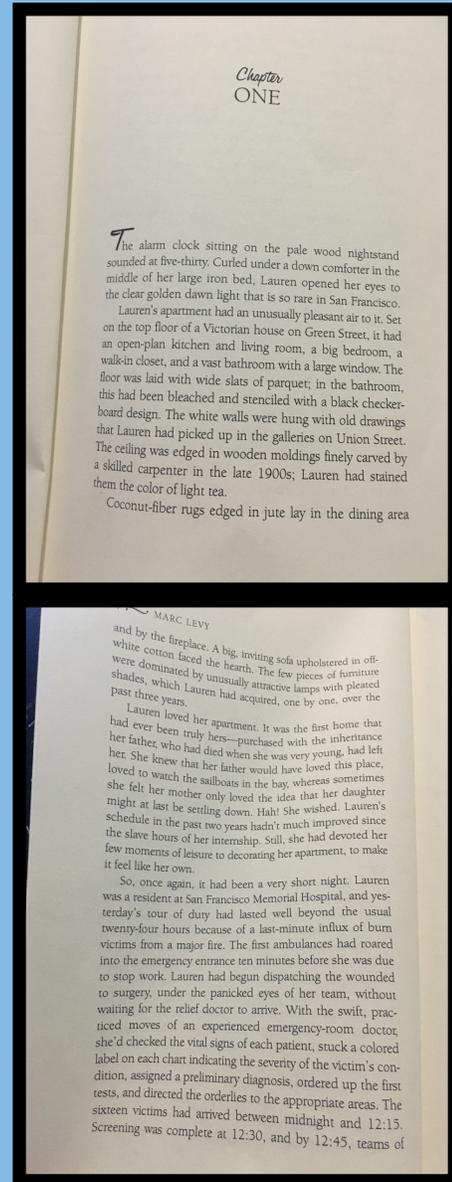
Flashback

What's this element?

Most of the time the author used flashback to take you back to a previous event that happened. Marc Levy used flashback in part one of the book to explain what was happening to Lauren and also to create a rich background story to the book in chronological order.

Why does it matter?

This stylistic choice affects the whole book because the author gives the reader background information so they can continuously understand what is going on throughout the book. Without the flashback part, the reader is not going to understand the setting, plot, nor the climax. Flashback shows what happened to Lauren, and the reason why no one can see Lauren expect for Arthur.



What's the impact on the reader?

In This book, non-linear narration influences the reader by the author used flashback to explain why only Arthur can see Lauren, and what happened to Lauren. If Marc Levy jump right into the story and start to telling it without any background information. The reader will get confused, and it going to make them feel less engaging throughout the book. The reader will understand the background of the story before they go deep into the book.

Point of view

What's this element?

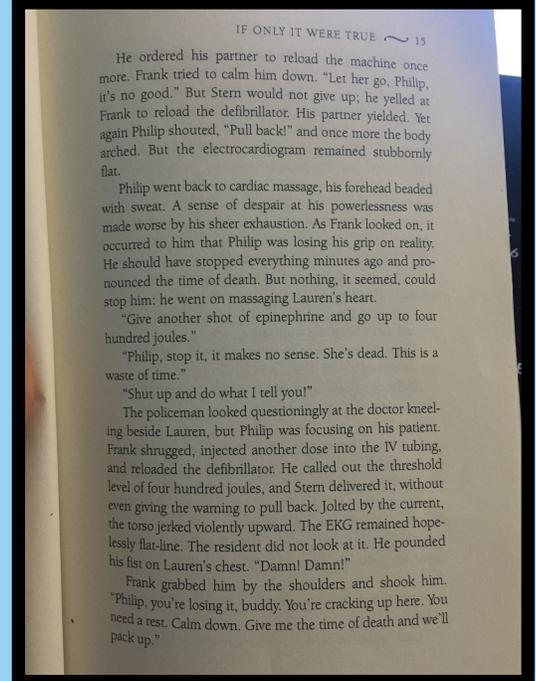
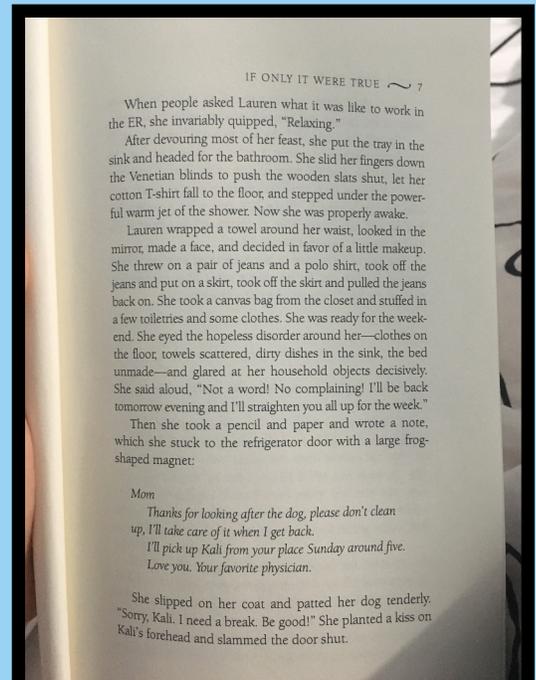
Marc Levy limited the point of view, which mean he only knows the feeling of Lauren in the story. The author did that because Marc Levy is trying to make the reader feel curious and continuing reading it, but he only doing that for the starting section of the book. After he went deep into it he changed his way of telling the story to omniscient because he wants the reader to understand the overall emotion that happen in the book.

Why does it matter?

Omniscient and limited the point of view is important overall because that two elements make the story feel more engaging. Marc Levy make the story more engaging by using omniscient because he moves from one character to another in different voices, and used that to explain the events. And the author used limited in the first section of the book because he want the reader feel like this book have a lot of mystery characters.

What's the impact on the reader?

In This book, non-linear narration influences the reader by the first part of this book, the author just trying to grab the reader's attention. After Marc Levy success doing that, he let it go and start to make it more engaging. By saying that, I mean he changing his way of narrator from limited to omniscient. And also, omniscient narrator make the reader understand more about the plot, and things that going on in the story.



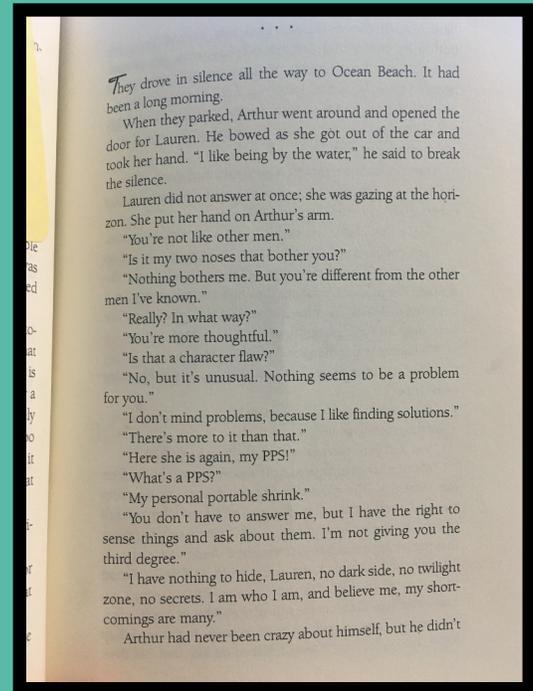
Dialogue

What's this element?

Marc Levy used dialogue to tell the story. The author did that because he knows that the reader will get bored of understanding the story by a third person. Mostly, the author don't use dialogue to explain the story because it really hard. So, this is the reason why this book is standing out.

Why does it matter?

This stylistic choice affects the whole book because it makes the book stand out from other. This is a fiction book, so they have a lot of fiction things that Marc Levy need to explain while telling the story. The author chose to do that in a different way, that is explaining through the dialogue, but still make the reader understand and can following with it.



What's the impact on the reader?

In This book, non-linear narration influences the reader by the fact that he have more dialogue than his explanation make the reader feel they more relate to the story, it make the reader that they are hearing the story from the main character, not from the third person telling it. But they have a bad side of it too, because if he keep using dialogue too much then the reader will get confused really easily because it really hard to explain the story clearly. Also, putting too much dialogue can make the reader feel bored and stop enjoying it.

My Emulation: New Friend

“Brrring”

The teacher walked in class with a new student following her, “Good morning everyone.” She said, “ This is Bobby, and he is a transfer student.” After she introduced Bobby, the teacher point to the table behind Kay, and assign the sit for Bobby.

Kay is a funny, sociable, and caring student. “ Hi Bobby, my name is Kay, nice to meet you!” He turned around with a beautiful smile on his face, and hope that he can make a new friend. But Bobby didn’t reply back, so Kay turned back with a sad face and thought that Bobby hates him.

One week later. “Hey Bobby, why are you not making friend with anyone in the school?” Kay asked

“Umm...I’m not interesting in starting a friend relationship with anyone,” Bobby said with a shaking voice.

“Why not? Can you tell me.” Kay asked “Does something happen to you in the past? You can trust me, I’m not going to tell anyone, but if I can help, then I will”

Bobby takes awhile to thought about it and decided to tell Kay about what happened to him. “Well...I don’t know where to start, the reason that I’m transferring to a new school because I was a bully victim in the past 3 years.”

3 years ago. “Hi everyone, my name is Bobby, I just move to Philadelphia, and I hope that I can get to know you guys more,” Bobby said with a smile on his face.

Someone in the class shouts out loud “Look at his clothes, they look so funny on him, he looks like a girl.” Everybody starts to laugh, even the teacher too. Bobby feels hurt and slowly go to his assign sit.

“I felt really hurt, they made jokes about me every single day.” Bobby tears start to come out while he’s talking.

“It’s okay, I’m not going to let anyone hurt you anymore, and I promise that you will feel safe in the school. People are really nice to each other.” Kay gives him a hug and a pinky promise. Bobby starts to smiling at Kay. From that time on, they always are together like a best friend.

Annotation

Element #1

I used flashback to tell what happened to Bobby in the past like Marc Levy did with Lauren. Flashback makes the story seem more interesting than telling the story in chronological order because if I'm telling Bobby story first, then the reader will know and understand everything before I try to tell the story of Bobby after he transfers. I hope that the reader will get interested, and want to find out more about the story.

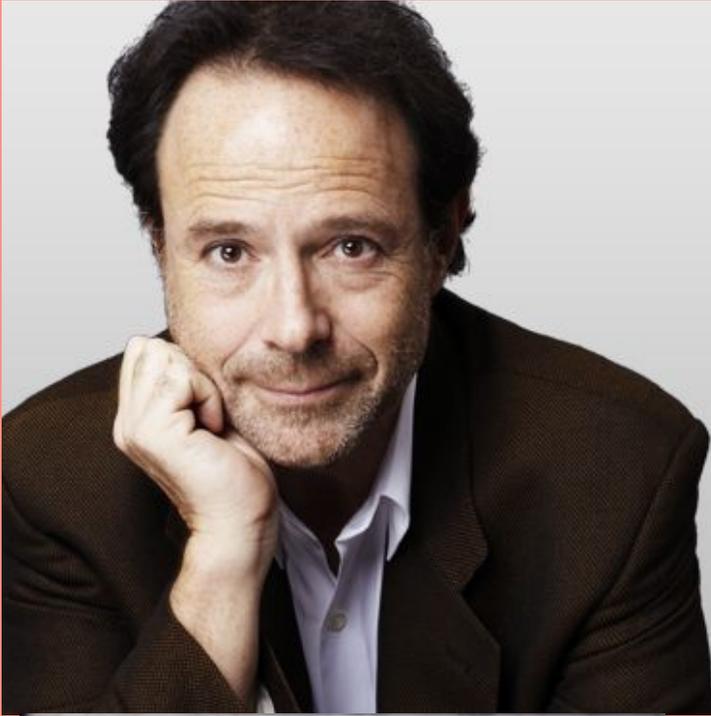
Element #2

I used Omniscient to tell the story because I feel like if I'm using first person to tell the story then it would be really boring. But in the same way I want the reader to understand the characters feeling like Marc Levy did in his book. I hope that the reader can feel like they are a part of a story.

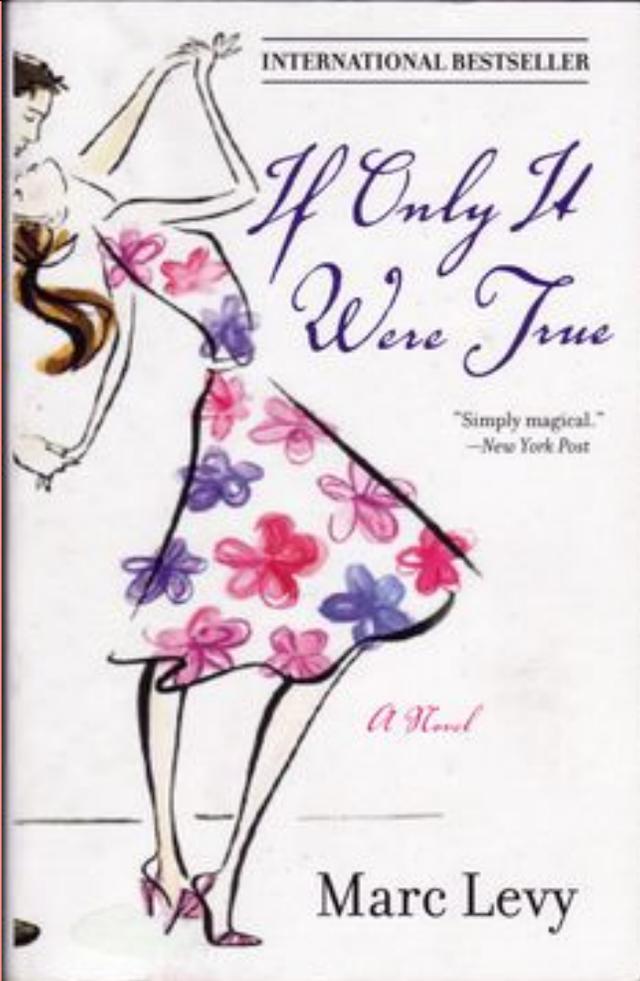
Element #3

Marc Levy used dialogue to explain his story, and I did the same thing to my story. It's make the story more engaging when the author uses the dialogue to tell the story. I hope that the reader can feel more engaged while reading the story.

About The Authors



Marc Levy born 16 October 1961 in Boulogne - Billancourt, Hauts de Seine. He is a French novelist. *If Only It Were True* was his first novel. It was published in 32 languages and became an international bestseller, and was adapted into the American film *Just Like Heaven* in 2005. Marc Levy's novels have sold over thirty million copies and been translated into over 40 languages, and he also is the most widely read French author.



Nhu Lai is a sophomore student attend at Science Leadership Academy. She is from Vietnam, and she came to America 4 years ago. Marc Levy is one of her favorite novelists because she's in love with romantic novel.