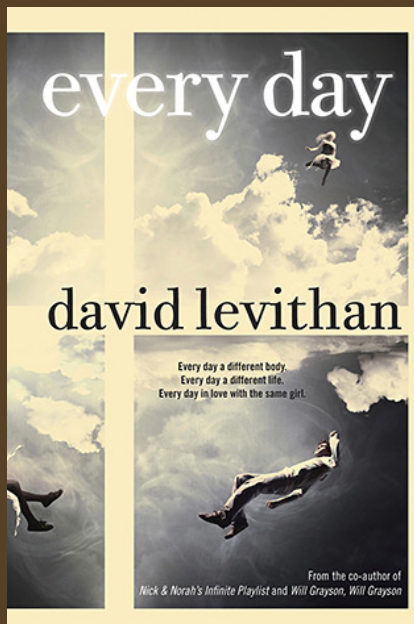


Everyday Reading Guide



Questions and Ideas for Consideration

Embodiment: What does this text say about the experience of an embodied existence—the notion that human beings are (in reality, to our knowledge) confined and often controlled by their confinement within a body? Do you agree with A's views about what it means to live within a body?

Gender and Sexuality: How does *Everyday* comment on issues of gender and sexuality? How does it present these ideas differently from other YA fiction?

Romance: What do you think about A and Rhiannon's relationship? How does the romance of this book differ from other YA romances? How is it similar?

Right and Wrong: Do you agree or disagree with any of A's decisions in the text? Do you think the way he/she approaches his/her unique life is ethical? How would you make the choices A must make in the text in order to live this way?

Difference: What does the novel say about the differences and similarities between individuals and what creates/constructs an individual?

Adolescence: How does this book present the concept of adolescence? Can A's experiences relate to that of teens who live in a single body? How does the novel complicate some of the ideas we've discussed this semester in relation to YA lit?

Daybook Possibilities

- Write another day in A's life, exploring the experience of another body different from those in the text.
- Put yourself in A's position, and write about how you would react to some of the situations of the story differently.
- Research some of David Levithan's other books and compare.
- Cast a film version of the text.
- Explore the concept of single or double voice discourse in the text. Does this story contain double voice discourse?
- There are rumors of an upcoming companion to *Everyday* from Rhiannon's perspective. What do you think this book will be like? Is it something you'd like to read? Why or why not?
- David Levithan co-wrote *Will Grayson*, *Will Grayson* with John Green. How do the two have similar writing style or themes they focus on? How do they differ as writers of YA fiction?
- Read some of the reviews of *Everyday*. Do you agree or disagree with the reviewer's assessments?

Suggested Critical Reading

"Sexual Fantasy: The Queer Utopia of David Levithan's *Boy Meets Boy*" by Amy S. Pattee

"From Bad Boy to Dead Boy: Homophobia, Adolescent Problem Fiction, and Male Bodies that Matter" by Benjamin Lefebvre

"Margaret Mahy: Embodying Feminism" by Roberta Seelinger Trites

"Romancing the Girl: Adolescent Romance Novels and the Construction of Femininity" by Linda K Christian-Smith

Articles can be found by searching the title in *Project Muse*.

Background and Context

Bestselling author of *Boy Meets Boy* and co-author of *Nick and Nora's Infinite Playlist*, David Levithan's 2013 *Everyday* tells the story of A, who lives the unique experience of waking every morning in the body of a different person. Although A has built a life around certain rules to avoid interfering with the lives of those who he/she inhabits, when A falls in love with the girlfriend of one of these individuals, Rhiannon, everything changes. Speaking to the complicated nature of adolescence, love, identity, gender, sexuality, and embodiment, *Everyday* is a love story with a very unique twist.