

A MUDDIMAN

Portfolio

COPY WRITING

Self-Assigned Spec Work

Matching Voice: CHANI Astrology

THE KEYS TO YOUR CHART: DECEMBER 22, 2020 || LOS ANGELES, CA

Your rising sign is Aries...

Jumping in head first is a common occurrence for you. Experience and adventure come above most of the day-to-day nuances of life, but that's how it is for the baby of the signs. Everything from your voice to your mannerisms are big and unafraid. Nothing can stop you from shining your brightest. Sure, some people might ask you to lower your voice, but that's more of a testament to them than you. There's nothing wrong with being the spark that you are, the one who started it all.

Aries is ruled by Mars, energetic and passionate. Being your chart ruler, this placement may earn you the title of aggressive or impatient, despite wearing all of your emotions on your sleeve. Aries rules over the first house, the house of identity, so you will be at home with who you are and what you hope to become.

Your sun is in Capricorn...

You are no stranger to getting things done. The leader of the pack, the one the others look up to. Someone has to be grounded amongst the signs, and that's your calling. You get a bad rap, though, as callous and unenthused. While it might appear that way on the outside, you have a heavy heart and prefer to guard yourself from the things you can't control. Just because you thrive on order doesn't mean you don't follow your passions, it just means you're a little more thorough when planning your next moves. One thing is for sure, you achieve what you set out to do.

Capricorn is ruled by Saturn, a planet that thrives on the human experience. Remember: being steadfast in your journey doesn't mean ignoring the beauty that life can hold. As a Capricorn, you can pursue your goals while appreciating the journey that gets you there.

Your moon is in Aries...

There is strength in feeling, and you are well-known for both strength and emotion. Combine them and you have an unmatched desire to seek answers and act on your needs. You act on instinct (after all, Aries is known for lacking patience), but that doesn't have to be a bad thing. You deal with your problems head-on so you don't waste more time than needed, which frees up so much time and energy for the less emotionally taxing things you'd rather be doing. You are fiercely independent, fleetingly interested in crushes, and enjoy the grey area between what is necessary and what is desired.

Being ruled by Mars, the planet of action and energy, you don't play ball with those trying to manipulate your emotions. You are confident, confrontational, and straightforward, all while still wearing your heart on your sleeve.

PhD Candidate: Review of Literature

ACADEMIC EDITING
Doctoral Dissertation

SUMMARY

I was hired to do a round of developmental editing for a ESL PhD candidate in San Antonio. Developmental editing for academics is limited compared to the full scope line-edits on other genres, but considering the author's first language was Mandarin, they were more looking for lapses in English grammar rules and citation styles. While maintaining the integrity of the author, I coached on grammar and punctuation, and advised on areas that could be bolstered. Attempting to match the voice the author had written into the chapter, I kept my edits in the passive voice, which I believe was chosen due to the inquiring nature of the chapter rather than a study done by the author themselves. I've attached two pages of the edits with author permission.

The image shows a page from a PhD candidate's literature review, titled "CHAPTER TWO LITERATURE REVIEW" and "Chapter Two Review of Literature". The text discusses the impact of COVID-19 on various groups, including healthcare workers, chronically ill patients, and pediatric patients. The page is heavily annotated with red boxes and lines, indicating areas for improvement. The annotations include:

- Deleted 1:** A red box at the top right of the page.
- Deleted 2:** A red box pointing to the phrase "of American and global society".
- Commented [AM1]:** A red box stating: "This statement is vague on the research that is being. If the research is solely in a review, just end the sentence with 'The many parts of American society.' If the research is worldwide, and it is with 'the many parts of the global society.'"
- Deleted 3:** A red box pointing to the phrase "the literature gathering process".
- Deleted 4:** A red box pointing to the phrase "the organization of the literature review".
- Commented [AM2]:** A red box stating: "This is relating to 'describe,' so it describes the literature, it describes the scope, it describes 'the' organization."
- Commented [AM3]:** A red box stating: "Put a certain line to indicate the change to subject. You're talking about one section, then talking about how it will conclude."
- Deleted 5:** A red box pointing to the phrase "their changes have caused healthcare workers to experience challenges".
- Deleted 6:** A red box pointing to the phrase "to their mental health, poor working conditions, and an increased risk of infection to the COVID-19 virus."
- Deleted 7:** A red box pointing to the phrase "Chronically ill patients are another population who have been affected by the COVID-19 virus. The effects they are having on continue in the years to come. There are significant impacts that COVID-19 has had on the population. The population has the experience of being different from others regarding their medical treatments during healthcare delivery."
- Deleted 8:** A red box pointing to the phrase "Pediatric patients are the last population to discuss in this writing that has also experienced the impacts of the COVID-19 virus. This unique population of patients has had their education..."
- Deleted 9:** A red box pointing to the phrase "The effects they are having on continue in the years to come. There are significant impacts that COVID-19 has had on the population. The population has the experience of being different from others regarding their medical treatments during healthcare delivery."
- Commented [AM4]:** A red box stating: "This seems like a very positive sentence and somewhat out of context because the effects aren't detailed in this section. Especially with the following sentence, the two seem unrelated. I would suggest connecting these sentences or making it more specific to the paragraph."
- Commented [AM5]:** A red box stating: "It seems logical that such population. I would say so that we have would have different circumstances. I would possibly change this to something that is specific to only this particular group is different, rather than just stating that they are."
- Deleted 10:** A red box pointing to the phrase "This unique population of patients has had their education..."

Phd Candidate: Review of Literature

ACADEMIC EDITING
Doctoral Dissertation

CHAPTER TWO LITERATURE REVIEW

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Telehealth can also bring issues forward involving technology. Patients and healthcare providers can experience connection issues, ~~such as the~~ video being slow or freezing during the appointment. Technology has changed the world, but it remains ~~vulnerable~~ to problems and lack of privacy. Telehealth is a great concept, but changes could occur to help address the health disparities of the pediatric patient population (Wood et al., 2021).

Telehealth and Health Disparities

~~Issues remain~~ with telehealth that impact the pediatric patient population, ~~that go beyond~~ the actual use of the technology. ~~Some~~ patients are not as fortunate as others and are left behind for their care, leading to medical issues being ~~not appropriately addressed~~ ~~or completely~~ ~~unaddressed in some cases~~.

Several concerns impact the telecare of patients outside of the healthcare environment where services are in need. The first concern is that some patients and their caretakers do not have broadband internet. They also lack access to an email address. While some healthcare providers are willing to find a way to reach out to the patient through different applications than the one used within the healthcare organization, many may ~~not be able to~~ ~~because~~ it could be against policies and procedures (Katzow et al., 2020).

A second concern is ~~that~~ a language barrier could exist between the patient or caretakers and the healthcare provider. A translator can help with specific commonly used foreign languages in the United States of America, such as Spanish or Chinese Madeiran, but what about those patients who speak less common foreign languages like Dari or the various Native American languages? ~~Another thing~~ to consider are those patients who have hearing impairments and need someone who can use ~~American Sign Language~~. The area remains a challenge to both the patients and the healthcare providers serving them (Katzow et al., 2020).

~~Deleted:~~ On top of the connection issues, there can be issues like the ...

~~Deleted:~~ a part of being

~~Deleted:~~ There remain issues

~~Deleted:~~ It does not relate

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~~Deleted:~~ left unaddressed/or

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~~Deleted:~~ not be due to their reasons

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~~Commented [AMBE]:~~ ASL is a recognized language so it needs to be capitalized

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Critical Analysis

ACADEMIC WRITING

Literature Review

SUMMARY

As an avid reader, and a fan of metafiction, I wanted to do a deeper dive into my favorite book (*House of Leaves* by Mark Z. Danielewski) as a personal project to better understand how he uses visual elements in a print format to illustrate things being bigger or more than you can see on a page. This particular analysis uses MLA format for citations.

Postmodernism in *House of Leaves*:

Danielewski's Use of Hyperrealism and Metafiction in Literature and Documentary

Postmodernism is a set of tools and challenges that covers a vast number of cultural artifacts and practices in literature, film, and art. In particular, postmodern cultural artifacts blur the boundaries between each of these categories. Literature and film, however, are both exemplars and paradigmatic of postmodern theory by creating its own "reality" and making readers question the stability of their own. Out of the genres most vulnerable to be critiqued using the postmodernist theory, horror fiction is a prime candidate, because it routinely exploits storytelling and realism to instill the idea of comfort and familiarity in the eyes of the reader. Mark Z. Danielewski's *House of Leaves* goes further than a typical realistic fiction novel. The novel takes the challenge of this analytical approach seriously and returns us to the world of literary fiction to engage with new ways of thinking and challenging representation, reality, and truth. By utilizing the post-modern values of metafiction and hyperreality, one can begin to understand the representations, realities, and truths present behind the fictional narratives in *House of Leaves* and, in turn, the internal documentary, "The Navidson Record." Not only do these connected stories exemplify postmodern theory, the theory in turn exemplifies the narratives through its tendency to represent something larger than itself and its ability to differentiate between what's on the surface of a narrative versus what's hidden beneath. Specifically, I argue that Danielewski's use of complete immersion, structure, and darkness allows the reader to experience the concepts of hyperrealism and metafiction and have an interaction with the story being told.

Before we can attempt to critique Danielewski's novel and his use of postmodern techniques, we must first understand what "metafiction" and "hyperrealism" are and how they are typically applied to literature and film respectfully. Margret Mackey, in "Metafiction for Beginners," defines the term as "a fiction about making fiction" (181); that is to say, a fictional work that is related to or centered around the creation of fictional works. The application of metafiction to *House of Leaves* is an easy one; it is a story about a dissertation about a documentary that never existed and the effects this story about a story has on the narrator's slowly deteriorating mentality. The novel even goes so far as to present visual representations of the documentary, "The Navidson Record," but we first have to understand the overall aspects of the novel before analyzing the documentary's use of postmodern theories.

A different approach than metafiction, hyperrealism is best defined by Jean Baudrillard's "Precession of Simulacra." Baudrillard's concept of hyperrealism is summarized in four characteristics; "it is the reflection of a profound reality/ it masks and denatures a profound reality/ it masks the *absence* of a profound reality/ it has no relation to any reality whatsoever: it is its own pure simulacrum" (Baudrillard 456). To apply this concept to fiction is difficult when tasked with a novel that takes place in a recognizable reality, something of the norm or that'd we come in contact with on a regular basis. Of course, *House of Leaves* deals with a reality far off from the "norm" when the entire concept of the novel is considered. One major example evident would be the normality of a typical suburban home, opposed to Will Navidson's home, which creates hallways that exist beyond our dimension, beyond time. Where this novel also focuses on analyzing a work of fiction, the creation of a strikingly realistic alternate dimension pushes this novel from metafiction into hyper reality. In regard to Baudrillard's procession, *House of Leaves* exists on the fourth tier; "it is its own pure simulacrum" (456).

The novel is told from the perspective of Johnny Truant, a tattoo apprentice who is compiling the unfinished works of what appears to be a dissertation by the deceased Zampanó of "The Navidson Record," a documentary centering around Will Navidson's (a renowned

Matching Voice: The Onion

COPY WRITING

Self-Assigned Spec Work

SUMMARY

In order to offset the professional academic tone of editing, I like challenging myself to match different brands' voices. One of my favorite to adopt is the stale-bread level of dry sarcasm people flock to The Onion for. I love the dichotomy between satirical headlines that sometimes sound eerily close to the current state of affairs.

- **Schrodinger Under Fire from PETA Lawsuit**
- **New Entry Level Position at Apple, Only Need 16 Years Experience to Apply!**
- **Americans Outraged at Proposed \$15 Minimum Wage; 'How Dare They Make the Same as Me?!'**
- **Americans Refuse to Pay Taxes After Government Refuses to Pay Stimulus**
- **TikTok Video Goes Viral After User Claims to Have Pegged an Unnamed US Senator**
- **'I Don't Need Therapy,' And Other Lies Millennials Tell Themselves on a Daily Basis**
- **'Anyway, Here's Wonderwall,' And Other Memes Gen X Won't Understand**
- **Millennial Hospitalized from Panic Attack After Coworker Ends Email with a Period**
- **23-Year-Old Determined to Have a Fun Birthday Despite No One Liking You When You're 23**
- **'The Power Outages in Texas are False News,' Says Wealthy Neighborhoods Across the State**
- **A Wing and a Prayer: A Guide to Flying Spirit Airlines**
- **Mr. Potato Head Drops the 'Mr,' Prefers They/Them Pronouns**
- **How to Calculate Your Mental Health Using the Amount of Shit Posting Groups You're a Part of Online**
- **New Trend in Kink Community: Getting Dragged to the Underworld and Tricked into Eating Pomegranate Seeds**
- **First Boy Realizes Untapped Potential in LinkedIn as a Dating Site**
- **'Stop Wearing These Damn Masks,' Demands Neighbor After Testing Positive for COVID-19 for the Third Time**
- **Is it Possible to Live in a Lucid Dream?**
- **Make it a Bonus Day or Not: the Choice is Yours**
- **Gotta Catch 'Em All: A Brief Guide to Popular Vaccine Alternatives**
- **10 Ways to Put Your Creative Writing Degree to Use**

Schrodinger Under Fire from PETA Lawsuit

In the true nature of PETA's attempts to be colorful and controversial, the organization has decided to file animal experimentation suits retroactively against notable names in science. And of all the names that hold a place in the history of animal experimentation—Harlow's monkeys, Pavlov's dogs, Skinner's mice, Trump's supporters—they've landed on Schrodinger and his theoretical cat. Obviously, the question of whether or not this cat had been neglected hasn't been let out of the box since its proposal in 1935, but something about the hypothetical zombie cat has rubbed PETA the wrong way. Needless to say, if the activists are true to their word in only doing what we do to the animals involved, the only question that will be answered is that we will, definitively, have to decide if we exist or not. Results to come.

