**EVERY DAY ASSIGNMENT**

by

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College life is a life full of challenges and new roles, especially for the freshmen because it offers a whole new world in which they will have to learn to mature and be responsible. It is in this perspective that the famous writer David Levithan published his novel Every Day to educate young student qualities necessary to lead a good academic career. During this analysis, it will first be shown how qualities such as personal responsibility, critical thinking and leadership are emphasized in the oeuvre. Next, we will show the importance and role of these qualities in the life of a student.

The very instructive novel Every Day paints a rather sober character named A. This character has no physical body, it[[1]](#footnote-1)’s like a wandering spirit who wakes up every day in a new body, hence the very original name of the novel. It is therefore condemned to live an ephemeral life that lasts one day and as a person of good character, he refrains from harming the lives of its daily hosts. The novel shows us the idea of ​​altruism and responsibility encouraged by Longwood. Indeed, we are shown the vision of the main character who thinks that "We all want everything to be okay (...) We will happily settle for okay, Because MOST of the time, okay is enough." Therefore, A does the bare minimum each day to have little to no affect it hosts life. From this observation, it befits to mention the importance of such quality in college life in the sense that every student must know and accept their responsibilities in the pursuit of their studies. Plus, it is important for students to set rules and behaviors for themselves to follow not only to succeed academically but also to learn how to cooperate with others; particularly roommates.

With the aim of showing the importance of respect for others and acting responsibly, the novel highlights a very reserved main character who, instead of conducting a day full of debauchery and teenage folly, prefers to document itself and do its homework (or those of his hosts). So, it sacrifices its desires in order to focus on more important things. Additionally, A demonstrates a remarkable cognitive ability throughout the novel. He always opts for the decisions that he thinks are the most logical and appropriate in different situations. So, it is aware of its short presence in the body of the people it "owns" and adapts to each case. He, therefore, uses his experience[[2]](#footnote-2) to decide the behavior it will have throughout the day. It is in this context that he decided to help a suicidal young girl he had borrowed the body. A usually acts in a way to have the least possible influence in the lives of its guests and it held in a routine that is just about the same every day, but this time he felt obliged to help this young because as Rousseau said: "It is at the bottom of every soul an innate principle of justice and virtue." To successfully conduct its mission, it first asks for advice to his love Rhiannon with whom it analyzed various solutions to this situation, then finally confessed to the girl’s father her real intentions and called for help. This kind of thinking is crucial in the life of a college student because it allows us to assess situations and to judge rationally.

Similarly, it is important not to prejudge anyone in our daily encounters but in the contrary, we should be tolerant and open-minded in order to make room for cooperation and work towards being the leaders of tomorrow. This is the message that the novel tries to convey since A is shown as a model, person full of virtues. It is so noble and selfless that one wonders how can such a being[[3]](#footnote-3) be like this. It is in this context that the phrase of Rene Descartes takes its purpose: "Common sense is the most fairly distributed thing in the world." By this assertion, in addition to the idea of ​​tolerance reaffirmed, we are shown that each individual knows the difference between right and wrong. Knowing this, it should be natural for a student to identify what is good or bad for him and actively manage his academic performance. A good student is one who puts his free time to the service of the community, be altruistic and do what he believes is in his training to become a dedicated and accomplished leader.

Through the actions of A, we must remember the sacrifice and selflessness that makes him an example for students. Sober and reserved, he demonstrated a cognitive faculty to successful cope with incongruous situations. These qualities are the most recommended in the charter of Longwood to form model and leading citizens.

Bibliography

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* Levithan, David. *Every day*. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf. 2012)
* Rousseau, Jean-Jacques. n.d. *Émile ; ou, De l'éducation*. Paris : Garnier

1. A is a genderless creature, so it will be referenced as “it” [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. A has been in various bodies since its early age and learned to deal with them accordingly. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Since A moves from body to body, It Could Be Tempted To do bad things and never get caught up. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)