

The Choice is Yours:

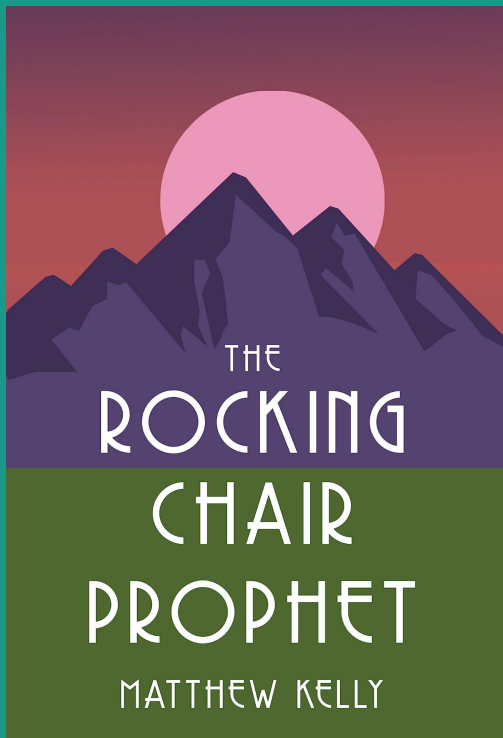
**How to move forward from Death
and Loss.**

Unit of Study by Jesus Gallegos Munoz

Rationale:

- Death is unexpected, difficult and is a topic that is hard to approach.
- Most people take the pain of death to their graves (no pun intended).
- Young Adults especially, are haunted more with this idea because many have found themselves enduring such grief from a young age.
- This unit of study will focus on actions that take place after one has felt the pain and grief of loss.
- Introduce ideas on what they could do to move forward from the negative atmosphere.
- Not only teach works that include pain, but also teach works that provide guidance to moving forward. Let the choice be yours.

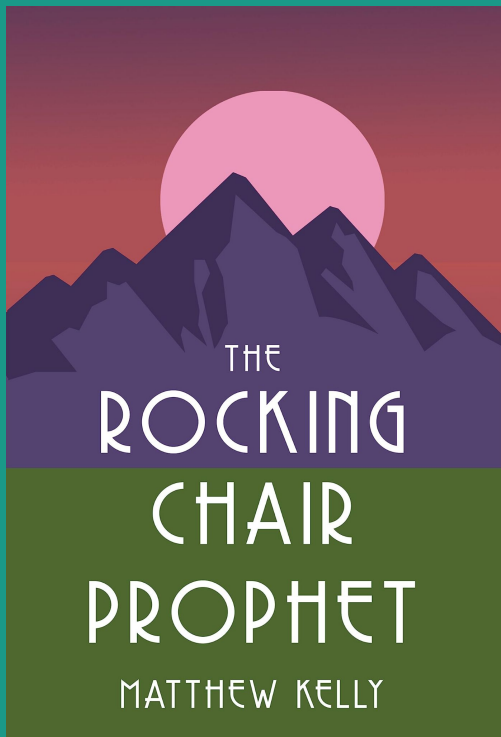




Center Piece:

The Rocking Chair Prophet by Matthew Kelly.

- Story about Forgiveness and Acceptance of Loss
- Christian literature work published in 2023.
- Centers around the idea of how easy it is to lose yourself when you have suffered a loss.



Essential Scene.

Page 06:

- policemen are talking to Daniel about the accident that his wife and kids were in.
- Daniel proceeds to blame himself for the death of his family, even though he was not with them.
- the policeman tells Daniel to not think that way because “that is a dangerous path to start down.” (Kelly, 6).

Sheila Benson: Leaning into Religious Complexities

Quote:

“Religious roots run deep in cultural identity, even uniting characters who do not claim a religious affiliation.” (62).

- This heavily ties in with the theme of *The Rocking Chair Prophet*, because it displays how one’s self help also takes influence from religious roots, or an idea of faith.

“Into the text”

To showcase the emotions one should feel at first when reading the text, I will introduce a song that expresses grief and sadness from a romantic perspective. Using this song will set the tone of the unit and help students feel the emotions of losing a loved one.

Paper Hearts Tori Kelly 1:43-2:41

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NO8zDm437Ls>

Part 1

Lyrics:

Pictures I'm living through for now

Trying to remember all the good times

Our life was cutting through so loud

Memories are playing in my dull mind

I hate this part, paper hearts

And I'll hold a piece of yours

Don't think I would just forget about it

Hoping that you won't forget

Part 2:

I live through pictures

As if I was right there by your side

But you'll be good without me

And if I could just give it some time

I'll be alright.

Overencumbered Vessel



THE EDGE OF CHOICE

POETRY ON
MENTAL
HEALTH

LUDWIG VON BEWUSSTSEIN

→ The thing about feeling overwhelmed

Is that you feel like you're at the helm of a ship
that's been sunken down,

Struck by unforeseen torpedoes in
turbulent waters.

It's all a fight, the fright that you are going to
drown while witnessing the beauty of ocean reef
all around

What will it take to get back above and on solid,
stable ground?

A wholesome being must be found,

Staying afloat in the here and now.

Does the road wind up-hill all the way?

Yes, to the very end.

Will the day's journey take the whole long day?

From morn to night, my friend.

But is there for the night a resting-place?

A roof for when the slow dark hours begin.

May not the darkness hide it from my face?

You cannot miss that inn.

Shall I meet other wayfarers at night?

Those who have gone before.

Then must I knock, or call when just in sight?

They will not keep you standing at that door.

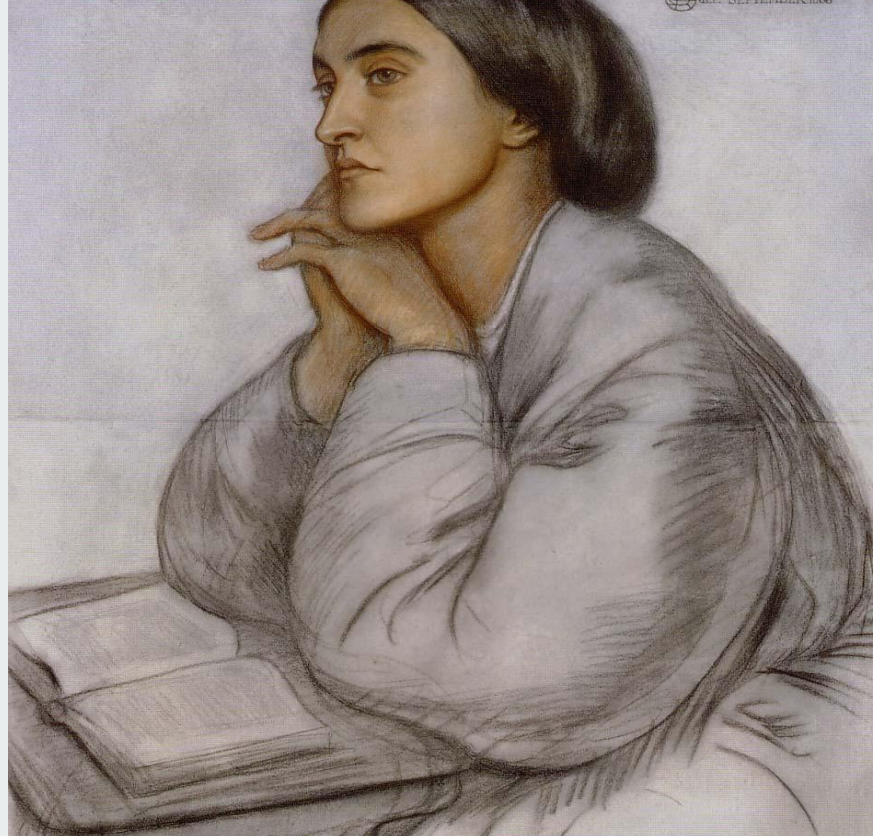
Shall I find comfort, travel-sore and weak?

Of labour you shall find the sum.

Will there be beds for me and all who seek?

Yea, beds for all who come.

Up-Hill Poem (Christina Rossetti)



Example of A Visual Text Essay:

Describe the opening scene(s) or section of the text(s).
Explain how the opening scene(s) or section helped you to understand an important message in the text(s), supporting your points with visual and / or oral language features.
Now let's make it sound a bit better:

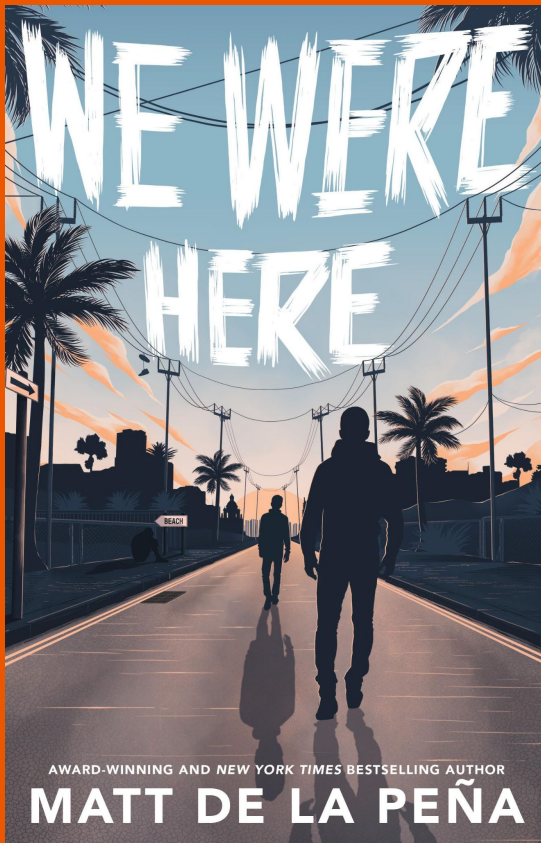
The opening scene of *The Rocking Chair Prophet*
that...

The opening scene helps us to understand that...	Through the use of...
Without hope you cannot survive	close up/foreshadowing [redacted]
	dialogue/irony [redacted]

4. Helping Questions

- How did this story feel, were the themes depressing ?
- What range of emotions did you feel when reading this work?
- Can you relate with the main character or his ideas?
- What do you feel about the character's personality?
- What would you do if you were placed in the main character's situation?
- What do you think about the value of life?

Beyond the text: Another story similar for YA.



We Were Here by
Matt de la Peña

Thank you

