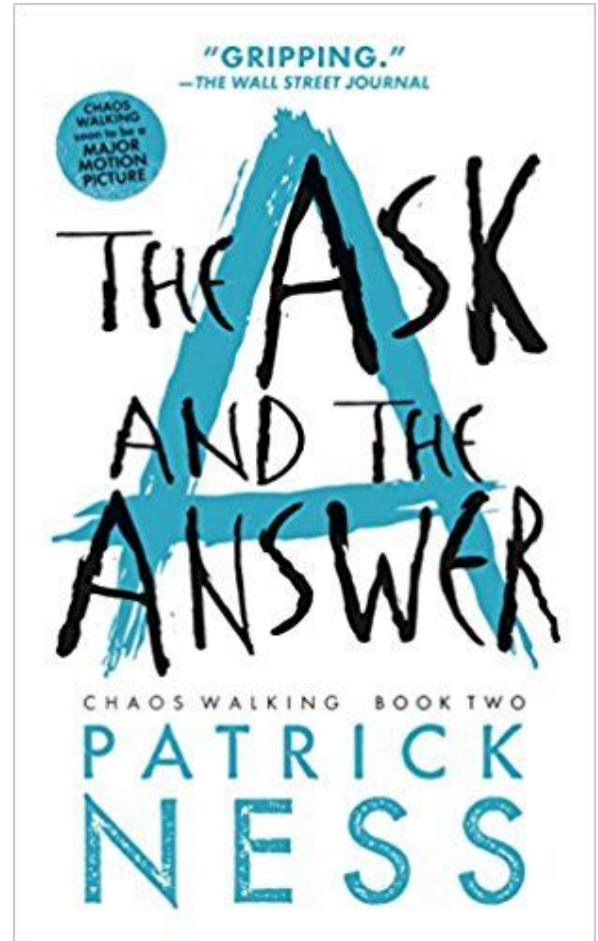


# The Power of Pathos

By: Kelsey Andrews



# Basics About The Book

Main Characters: Todd and Viola

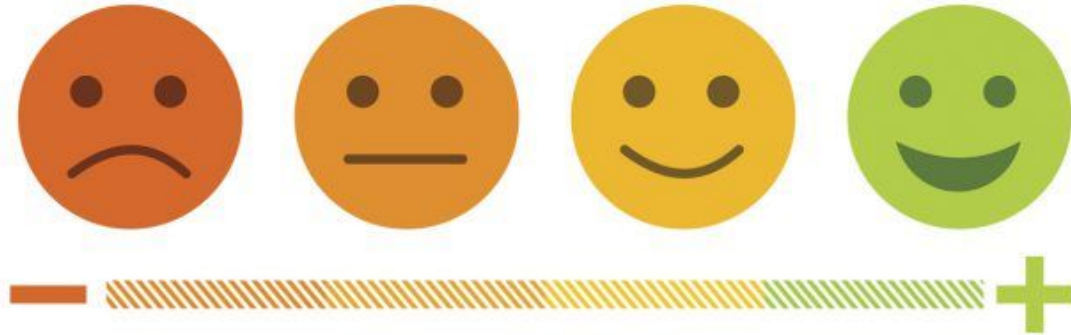
The story is told from both of their points of view, switching every chapter.

In this book, Todd and Viola have been separated from each other after their adventures in the first book and it hits both of them pretty hard.



# Pathos Definition

Pathos: An appeal to the emotions of an audience



# How The Author Uses Pathos

Patrick Ness frequently alludes to pathos in his book *The Ask and the Answer*. This being the second book in the series, he uses the readers pre-existing relationship with the characters to toy with their emotions. We slowly see the progression of Todd and Violas relationship in an unlikely setting, and you can almost always relate to what they're feeling even if you've never gone through the things they're experiencing.

# Example

In Chapter 20, following Violas escape from the town after promising Todd she wouldn't leave him, Ness uses Todd's reaction to her leaving to play on the readers emotions.

(pg. 247-248) ...“I’m breathing hard, my chest rising and falling. It’s good that she ran ain’t it? Ain’t it?”

She was in danger and now -

(but)

(but did she blow up the tower?) (why didn't she tell me she was going to?) (did she lie to me?) And I shouldn't think it. I shouldn't but here it comes -

She promised. And she left. She left *me*. (Viola?) (did you leave me?)”

Ness makes the reader question all of these things along with Todd. You see that he's suffering, and no matter what you know is actually happening, you still feel bad for him and you can't help but wonder why Viola would leave him behind when that really isn't what her intentions are.

# Effects on The Reader

The rhetorical strategy of pathos is very effective, especially in fiction, because it allows you to connect with the characters and experience the emotions they do. It's especially effective in this story because you've already experienced one half of the characters emotions from the first book, so now it broadens your understanding of each character and allows you to connect with them even more.

