



The Realm of Possibility

By David Levithan

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The Realm of Possibility By David Levithan

This collection of linked poems from David Levithan, the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Every Day* and the groundbreaking classic *Boy Meets Boy* and the co-author of *Will Grayson, Will Grayson* (with John Green), will introduce you to a world of unforgettable and emotionally resonant voices.

*Here's what I know about the realm of possibility—
it is always expanding, it is never what you think
it is. Everything around us was once deemed
impossible. From the airplane overhead to
the phones in our pockets to the choir girl
putting her arm around the metalhead.
As hard as it is for us to see sometimes, we all exist
within the realm of possibility. Most of the limits
are of our own world's devising. And yet,
every day we each do so many things
that were once impossible to us.*

Enter *The Realm of Possibility* and meet a boy whose girlfriend is in love with Holden Caulfield; a girl who loves the boy who wears all black; a boy with the perfect body; and a girl who writes love songs for a girl she can't have.

These are just a few of the captivating characters readers will get to know in this intensely heartfelt new novel about those ever-changing moments of love and heartbreak that go hand-in-hand with high school. David Levithan plumbs the depths of teenage emotion to create an amazing array of voices that readers won't forget. So, enter their lives and prepare to welcome the realm of possibility open to us all. Love, joy, and these stories will linger.

A MARGARET A. EDWARDS AWARD WINNER
AN ALA TOP TEN BEST BOOK FOR YOUNG ADULTS
A NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOK FOR THE TEEN AGE

"Luminous . . . each voice sings with hope, humor and possibility." —*Time Out New York Kids*

From the Hardcover edition.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Through a series of poems, Levithan (*Boy Meets Boy*) introduces readers to a group of friends and acquaintances, including a gay couple celebrating their one-year anniversary, a girl whose mother is dying and an outsider who fills his notebook with "ink explosions of thought." His characters represent a diverse range of sexuality, race and social standing, and most struggle with love relationships, from a boy who wants to help his anorexic girlfriend, to a girl with an unrequited crush on a straight friend. The author experiments with different voices and styles (one series unfolds in song lyrics); some of these poems work better than others. An energetic verse, "Gospel," from a black choir girl who feels bullies "[push her]/ to a kindness they would never/ understand" to help the aforementioned white outsider, reads as authentic and thought-provoking, while an alphabetical poem about a break-up, constrained by its form, grows tedious. Readers may have trouble tracking all of the characters and the various connections between them, but they will find clever lines and inspiring ideas in many of the poems here ("Most of the limits/ are of our own world's devising"). Ultimately, that is what makes this ambitious project a realm worth exploring. Ages 12-up. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From School Library Journal

Grade 9 Up—Most readers will find someone they can relate to in this enchanting collection of linked poems that delve deep and go far beyond the original stereotypes. Twenty teenagers—sensitive outsiders, cruel popular girls, body-obsessed jocks, gay teens in the throes of first love—take turns pouring their hearts onto the pages, detailing their loneliness, heartaches, hopes, and joys. All attend the same high school, and as the book progresses their stories slowly weave together to form a larger view of the school community. In the first selection, for instance, Daniel talks about his relationship with Jed; Jed's view of their romance closes the book. Though friendships and romantic relationships grow and change, character is much more the focus here than plot. Each chapter contains four points of view, and it will take patient readers to determine who's who and exactly how they are linked. Effort is rewarded, however, in selections such as "The Patron Saint of Stoners," in which a girl seeks out a drug dealer for reasons few will guess. Another standout is "Experimentation," in which a boy writes about his sexual experiences with astonishing insight and tenderness. Thoughtful teens will find much to appreciate here.—*Miranda Doyle, San Francisco Public Library*

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 9-12. In this hugely ambitious novel in verse, Levithan (*Boy Meets Boy*, 2003) again writes of both gay and straight young love with integrity and insight. But this time, Levithan asks a lot of patience from his readers. The novel is separated into five parts; at the start of each, a title page lists four names. Although nothing in the book design makes it clear, readers will eventually figure out that Daniel is the author of the first poem, and he and the others all attend the same school. At first, the poems seem largely unconnected (Daniel writes of approaching his one-year anniversary with his boyfriend, Jed, for instance; Clara of buying pot for her cancer-stricken mother), but readers who pay close attention (and don't mind frequently flipping back to see who's writing what and who wrote what about whom four poems ago) will be rewarded; a kind of narrative emerges around Jed, who is a charming and well-liked kid. Many readers, even good ones, will be off put by the challenging, often confusing structure. But the distinct voices and plethora of poetic styles make for interesting reading, and some teens will return to this again and again, seeking to uncover the subtle connections between the characters within the poems. *John Green*
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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Candy Yazzie:

In this 21st hundred years, people become competitive in most way. By being competitive today, people have do something to make these people survives, being in the middle of the crowded place and notice through surrounding. One thing that often many people have underestimated this for a while is reading. That's why, by reading a e-book your ability to survive increase then having chance to remain than other is high. For you who want to start reading a new book, we give you that The Realm of Possibility book as beginning and daily reading publication. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

Kevin Ortiz:

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Tommy Cowen:

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Stacey Sims:

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