

## ABSTRACT

## You Is Where You Is

A component of fiction not often explored in metafiction is the role of the narrator. In its third person limited or omniscient incarnation, the narrator is often viewed as being objective because it merely “tells” the story, giving point-by-point observations into the lives of characters and the events of the story. However, the narrator is also responsible for establishing mood, tone, and voice, which can give the reader certain impressions about the setting, events in the story, and characters. In this way, the narrator is quite subjective, even opinionated. Such a narrator can act as a character, becoming involved in the events of the story and the lives of the characters and suggesting how the reader should emotionally involve him or herself. This novel, separated into four novellas, explores the idea of the narrator-as-character, its ability to engage the reader, and its involvement with worldbuilding, or the successful rendering of a “narascape” (narrative landscape).