**How does the author’s craft impact the reader’s understanding of the text?**

The author uses specific sentence structures and line breaks in order to create a feeling of suspense for the reader. In the very first lines of the story, the narrator explains:

“First the colors.

 Then the humans.

 That’s usually how I see things.

 Or at least, how I try” (Zusak 3)

The narrator uses multiple, dramatic line breaks to create moments for the reader to pause and consider what is being said. When the reader does this, it causes them to think about who or what the narrator might be. It leaves the reader with the question of “why do they not see things the same way as humans?” This naturally engages the reader and draws them into the rest of the story.