

## Credits

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**Origins of The Power of One**  
The origins of the novel are rooted in the author's personal experiences and his observations of the world around him. The novel is a reflection of the author's own life and the challenges he faced during his childhood.

**Major Conflict**  
The major conflict in the novel is the struggle between the individual and the collective. The protagonist, Peekay, is an individual who is constantly being pushed and pulled by the expectations of his community and the demands of his family.

## The Power of One Synopsis

This Novel follows Peekay, an English-speaking South African boy, in a three part series exploring the adventures of his life.

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## Theme

In *The Power of One*, the overarching theme is individuality. Throughout the novel, Peekay let the hardships of his childhood define him as the hero of his own story.

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**Cultural Background**  
The novel is set in South Africa during the apartheid era. The author, Michael Ondaatje, is a Canadian of Indian descent. The novel is a reflection of the author's own experiences and observations of the world around him.

## Characterization

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**The Power of One Synopsis**

This Novel follows Peekay, an English-speaking South African boy, in a three part series exploring the adventures of his life.

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**Critique of The Power of One**

In the opinion of The Power of One, the novel is a masterpiece of modern fiction. The author's use of language and structure is a testament to his skill as a writer. The novel is a masterpiece of modern fiction. The author's use of language and structure is a testament to his skill as a writer.

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**Major Conflict**

The major conflict in The Power of One is the struggle between Peekay and the world. Peekay is a young boy who is born in a poor, black town in South Africa. He is a prodigy, and he is determined to become a writer. He is faced with many obstacles, including poverty, racism, and the death of his father.

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**Theme**

In The Power of One, the overarching theme is individuality. Throughout the novel, Peekay let the hardships of his child define him as the hero of his own story.

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**Cultural Background**

The novel is set in South Africa, a country with a rich and diverse cultural heritage. Peekay's background is a mix of English and Afrikaans, which is reflected in his language and worldview.

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**Characterization**

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# The Power of One Synopsis

This Novel follows Peekay, an English-speaking South African boy, in a three part series exploring the adventures of his life.

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# *Theme*

In *The Power of One*, the overarching theme is individuality. Throughout the novel, Peekay let the hardships of his child define him as the hero of his own story.

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# Cultural Background

Peekay is a white, English, South-African growing up in the apartheid era.

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# Characterization

- Indirect Characterization

- "He had given me the power of one-one idea, one heart, one mind, one plan, one determination. Hoppie had sensed my need to grow, my need to be assured that the world around me had not been specially arranged to bring about my undoing. He gave me a defense system, and with it he gave me hope." (page 103)

- Direct Characterization

- "I was the youngest child in the school by two years, and I spoke only English, the infected tongue that had spread like a plague into the sacred land and contaminated the pure, sweet waters of Afrikanerdom." (page 3)

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# Major Conflict

One of the major conflicts in *The Power of One* was the Judge's torture of a young Peekay. This part of Peekay's childhood gave him a different outlook on life, seeing his own life as worthless because he was English. Peekay resolved this conflict in his life when he came face to face with the Judge as a man in the mines. The two boxed, resulting in Peekay winning and carving PK into the man's swastika tattoos. After doing this, he felt like he had overcome the main struggle in his life that was holding him down.

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# Critique of The Power of One

In my opinion, The Power of One was, at times, a hard to follow novel. The vast amount of inappropriate words for imagery made me want to close the book and stop. Also, this novel has many parts that were confusing, leaving me lost and struggling to follow the overall plot.

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