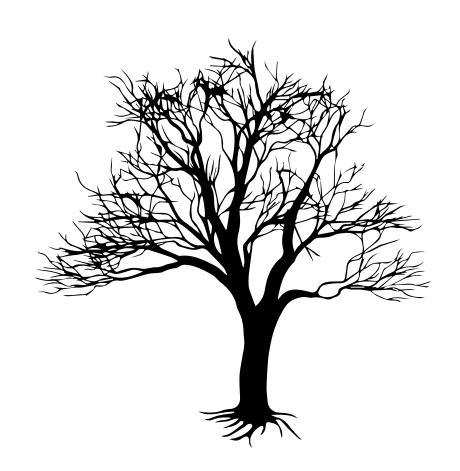
THE CITY OF

ADDERSFIELD

In Lumber We Love, Work

An Experiential Narrative

Danielle Rozsnyai



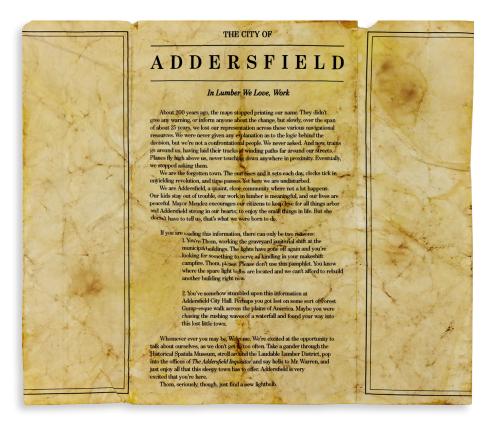
The City of Addersfield: An Experiential Narrative is a documentation and analysis completed by Danielle Rozsnyai. The City of Addersfield was created, designed, built, and analyzed from September 2019 to May 2020 as a part of Lawrence Technological University's Graphic Design Senior Thesis class.

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INTRODUCTION



farming Collected Grandpa Jim's many broken success that has scoured the improvement.

Humanity relies on hearts afford guiding morals depths of the ocean floor or narrative for survival. for Tommy as he enters walked on the moon. Stories Inherited tales of poisonous the dreaded teenage years. are the guiding forces that herbs serve as medical Legacies are built from allow for these developments prescription for future sharing and communi- to ensue, to permit those generations. Shared stories cating across ages, cultures, legacies to persevere. As Mid-West meteoro- borders, and divides. Life society continues to advance logical observations provide hinders on sharing. Without further into the unknown, enduring knowledge for stories, humanity would it is even more significant communities. never have grown into the to rely on the narrative of chronicles of intellectual and scientific history to move toward

passive development, as in more and understood. traditional media, such as film, television, and novels.

As a medium, graphic in the mill, and attend the It's an exercise in world design can serve to commu- fair. There are stories layered building that relies on explonicate a narrative through behind every lost dog flyer ration for understanding. indirect hanging on a telephone pole

lost to the trials and tribu- overlooked spaces. It's a tale a unique and people who walk the streets, that serve both the town and true personal connection. buy coffee at the cafe, work the lives that dwell within.

The City of Addersfield methods. Visual and written and every parking garage seeks to provide an opporstrategies can be utilized ticket carelessly tossed on tunity for an audience to to effectively tell a story the sidewalk. These stories participate in an exciting without explicitly articu- are bursting at the seams, narrative that encourages lating a plot and character ready to be heard and found growth in skills of analysis and critical thinking, Addersfield is home to presented in an engaging a myriad of narratives that and well-crafted package Addersfield is a town exist in those commonly of ephemera. By providing lations of time. And yet not meant to be told through lating journey. The City electricity flows, people words on a page or chapters of Addersfield serves as grow, and die, things comprising a heavy and an experiment in the happen, events occur. This well-loved leather-bound consumption of narrative, community is home to book, but through the items, through the utilization of legacies and generations of materials, and ephemera tactile products to form a



NARRATIVE THROUGH DESIGN

Anderson premiered his with its withered stamps, a narrative device and a eighth feature, The Grand tattered telegrams, and visual prop on the screen. Budapest Hotel. Written crinkled maps. Atkins' works Had these boxes been any and directed by Anderson, ground the imagined world less considered in design, Budapest tells the dramatic through precise and intenthey would have removed the story of a magnificent tioned graphic design work, audience from the journey of hotel in the fictional while serving to ease the M. Gustave and Zero. Kingdom of Zubrowka. The viewers into the narrative narrative itself is lively and and ensure an immersive Atkins' work goes ignored action-pact, with just enough experience. Several of in films. So often, her of the twee flair to make it Atkins' creations feature designs do not become the exists in a world unique examples is the Mendl's backgrounds behind the Anderson is fantastic in allowing his fictitious lands to feel enchanted, without ever employing the actual use of magic.

This feat is not alone accomplished by Anderson's writing or directing. A significant factor in creating the believably lovely and thrilling Kingdom Zubrowka is the design that texturizes the visual story.

Annie Atkins is a Graphic Designer of props for films, who worked with Anderson on Budapest.²

In 2014, film savant Wes Zubrowka is made realistic are utilized heavily as both

Conversely, a lot of an undeniable product of heavily in the story. One of feature of the narrative, Wes Anderson. The film the most prominent of these instead, serving in the faded to the story, with enough Patisserie boxes, which drama. Yet in a way, these qualities of realism to ground serve to assist in the protag-pieces contribute more than the characters and the plot. onist's escape. These boxes the features. Visual stories



Above: Atkins, Annie. "Mendl's Patisserie Box." The Grand Budapest Hotel, https://www.annieatkins.com/films/the-grand-budapest-hotel.

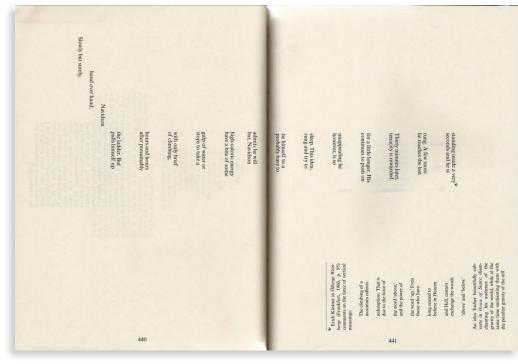


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Above: Atkins, Annie. "Edward Norton as Albert Henckels." The Grand Budapest Hotel, https://www.annieatkins.com/films/the-grand-budapest-hotel.

are built through the details that provide texture. The newspaper articles that sit behind Edward Norton as he makes investigative phone calls build the world in which he works. This texture is so imperative in allowing the audience to fully, truly, really engage with the story.

NARRATIVE & DESIGN



Above: "Spread from Mark Z. Danielewski's 'House of Leaves." Cultured Vultures, https://culturedvultures. com/5-books-inspired-mark-z-danielewskis-house-leaves/.

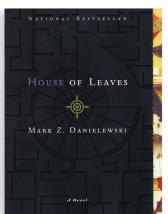
author Mark Z. Danielewski inside than the outside. The and his eclectic collection of published a horror story country residence on Ash research, orphaned Johnny called *House of Leaves*.³ The Tree Lane is tormented by Truant and his love for the novel shares a multitude an unidentifiable energy that tattooed stripper Thumper, of layered and tangled distracts and consumes The and the reader; whose narratives, all of which Navidson's far beyond their scribbles in the margins radiate around a singular realm of comfort, well into and sketches in the negative central tale: The peril. Orbiting the terrors spaces provide a visceral Navidson Family moving bestowed to this family are connection to the story's a suburban home the stories of those who occurrences. that is mysteriously and consume the narrative:

American monstrously larger on the blind historian Zampanó

frightening world on Ash Tree Lane.

not what makes *House of* unknown monster. Leaves such a successful experience. immersion The enticing and creatively seductive design of the physical book transforms the story into a completely, all-consuming iournev of anxiety and horror. Danielewski allows the tangible quality of reading to heighten the details of the narrative. When the characters are trapped in the dark and changing labyrinth, being frantically hunted by the unseen monster, the words printed

The story of this on the page become more is and more scarce. Sentences, of Leaves emanates from intriguing: that much is dripping with unease and the combining force of an undeniable. However, what fear, are spread out across intriguing narrative and elevates House of Leaves a throng of pages. The thoroughly crafted design. above other horror stories is audience is then engaging These two factors operate the surrounding framework with this terrorizing account in tandem to create a textured design of by rapidly flipping those fantastical and terrifying Danielewski pages, separated between immersive experience for uses typographical design frightening and fragmented readers. differentiate between clauses, searching, by their magnum opus is a successful narrators. He utilizes compo- own right, to get out the study of the possibilities sition to create unique maze of the story. This available in marrying story lavouts that entice the physical act, the hurried and and design. audience deep within the brisk page turn, reinforces the thematic drama of being The narrative alone is hunted by the unseen and

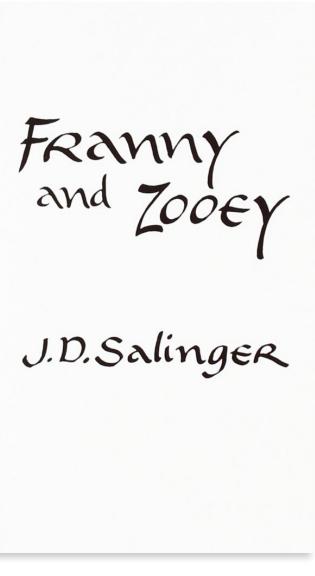


Above: "Cover of Mark Z. Danielewski's 'House of Leaves." Barnes and Noble, https://www.barnesandnoble. com/w/house-of-leaves-mark-z-danielewski/1103027816.

The success of *House* Danielewski's

NARRATIVE BY DESIGN

Historically, successful prose-based narratives have been offered without consideration for visual presentation. Graphic design is rarely the focus of a novel or written story, where defaulted formats and established layouts sufficiently serve to accomplish goals. That is not to say, however, that the narratives themselves are not well-designed entities in their own right. Famously reclusive author J. D. Salinger used diction and characterization to build fictional worlds in which readers can immerse.4 Many works of Salinger's focus on The Glass family: a family of vaudevillian parents and seven precocious children with a fixation on religion who age into adulthood with a spiritual kind of trauma. The stories of these children are not completely comprehensive, but rather vast and varied, spread across a range of publications. Members of the Glass family appear in several of Salinger's published works:



Above: "Cover of J. D. Salinger's 'Franny and Zooey." Franny and Zooey, Amazon, https://www.amazon.com/Franny-Zooey-J-D-Salinger/dp/0316769495.



Above: Di Gesu, Anthoy. J. D. Salinger in Black and White with a Cigarette. The Times, 21 Oct. 2019, https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/scribbled-recipes-for-oatsand-lentils-give-fans-a-chance-to-feast-on-jd-salinger-stm7z7b98.

and mentioned entities, or presences.

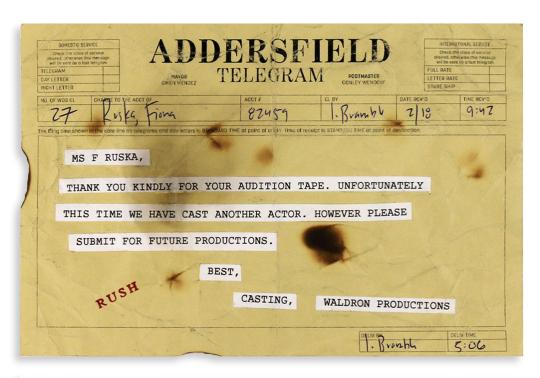
throughout Perfect Day for Bananafish⁶ his other pieces. haunts the youngest Glass siblings during Franny's not a visual masterpiece,

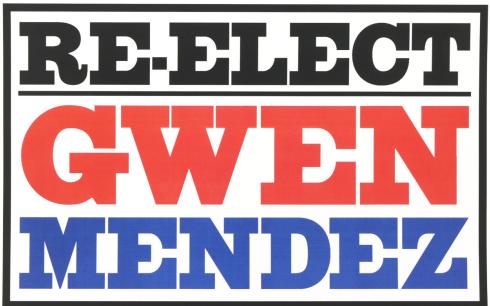
featured players, missing and Zooey. 5 Boo Boo's poetic engagement, posthumous and looming by family narrator Buddy Salinger's world of the Roofbeam, Carpenter⁷ and to find creative success. Glass family is not graph- Zooey.⁵ The web of familial ically designed. That is to drama is tangled throughout say, there is nothing visually many of Salinger's works in interesting or compelling a way that is subtle and yet about the world he has oh-so intriguing. Readers crafted. Rather, the intrigue are encouraged, through the comes from the crossover prose, to explore the fictional of characters and details world that Salinger has his works. built extending their search Seymour's suicide in A beyond the current read, into

> Salinger's world

but it is carefully crafted and designed in its oddly structured content. The immersion desire for comes from the compelling characters, the relationships, and the questions their existences pose. Why did Seymour kill himself?⁶ Why is Boo Boo removed from the New York life?8 Why are Buddy and Zooey the only two capable of talking Franny out of her stupor?⁵ Salinger's narratives are diligently arranged as long-winded narrators, spiritual crisis in Franny calculated to encourage completely allusions are referenced outside of the world of graphic design, while in both Raise High the employing similar strategies

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ADDERSFIELD LAUDABLE LUMBERMILL

Addersfield, 80-4B27 ext. 48573

> POMONA ROISIER CEO, CFO, COO, CMO

FAILED ACTRESS STARTING LINE OF TREE OILS

Addersfield darling starts on new career

WRITTEN BY BERNIE SQUIRES

esteemed Addersfield Laudable at the Mill, has made several Lumbermill Director Hermon failed attempts at pursuing Ruska and former Addersfield- an acting career, but is now citizen actress Vena Ruska, is switching professional directions responsible for a new department into the market of nourishing Laudable Lun products. This shift in Ms. Ruska's of Tree Oils an Organic Products professional pursuits, according will open its doo 2 weeks.

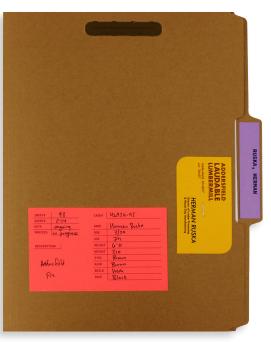
Ms. Ruska presented a proposal is the result of a lack of interest to the Mill's Council of Executives, in accounting. Her supervisor in who were openly impressed with Human Resources asserts that the pitch to invest in this high yield she was an outstanding employee, corner of the market.

The new line of products will work. be created, tested, packaged, and sold through the new department, in this town is excited to see headed by Ms. Ruska. The born- all that Ms. Ruska will bring to and-raised Addersfield citizen Addersfield! asserts that the recipe for the premiere product is an heirloom passed down through at 6 perations of Addersfield locals. stimonials from users of the

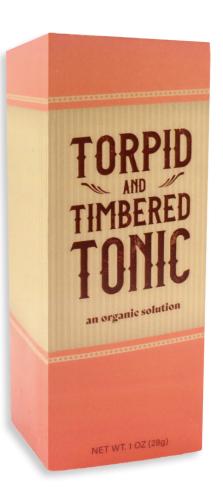
ducts unanimously agree that he product yields fantastic results and contains significant healing properties. Specific details of the effects will be released in further issues of this publication as they are introduced to the public.

Fiona Ruska, granddaughter of Ms. Ruska, a Junior Accountant Addersfield and invigorating health care to the newly appointed director, simply lacking in passion for the

It is safe to say that everyone









LETTER TO THE EDITOR

"Faith in the Foundry"

know me; I'm the neighbor you call and criticisms of their grandmother. when you're snowed into your driveway. Please exhibit social restraint, for the I'm the quiet, white-haired gentlemen sake of those sweet, sweet girls who do sitting in the second pew, every Sunday not deserve to be morning. I was there working the light social circles. booth at every Pine Pioneer badge adoring and wil presentation. I lead a department at the and successful m Mill that employs a great number of you If they're brought up had and it's been my honor to guide the team grandmother's mistakes, they'll never to success after success.

You know me. I was born in I know what Vena did was deplorable. Addersfield and I will die here, She left Addersfield, she left our family, surrounded by my beloved family and and she left her home. This is not the friends. I will die, I can only hope, with behavior typically exhibited by the honor and the knowledge that I have members of our community, but Vena served this town well. I pray that the sought to do everything in her power people of this town support me as I to no longer be a part of this horde. believe that I have supported them.

community. I really try to be nothing but notion of empathy) and she did whatever a positive influence on this town; I work she could to accomplish that for herself.

change in marital status. I am now a in this town and we should strive to my wife after 55 years.

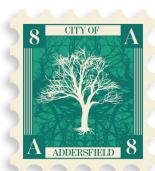
My dear friends, my colleagues, my fellow dersfielders, please don't cast on Vena. My ex-wife has choices in her life, both elfless, and this particular decision affects absolutely no one outside of my family. I dread the thought

of my darling granddaughters, Fiona I am a man of this town. Many of you and Poppy, subjected to cruel gossip onderful ow of their reach their true potential.

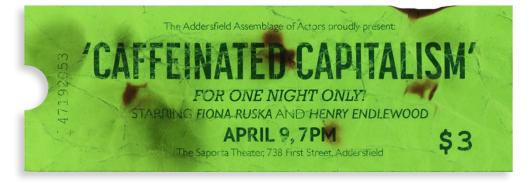
She wanted so badly to get out of here I try not to ask too much of this (a desire for which I have absolutely no

to leave nothing destructive behind me. Don't allow her personal folly to seep I pray that I might ask the same of you. into the pores of our loving home. Vena Many of you are aware of my recent no longer has any influence over anyone survivor of divorce, having been left by remove ourselves from the shadow of her vacancy.

> In love and kindness Yours, Herman Ru-







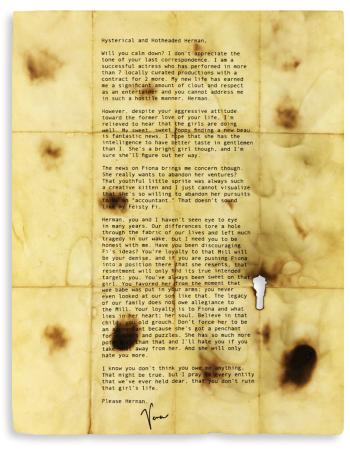
SECOND EXHIBITION

full of characters. The town, narrative, the viewers must surrounding itself, serves as a character be presented with a series communities across the narrative of time. of comprehensive accounts. strates the town's isolation. The truths that exist of these With a focus on The City, Letters from characters are not always Herman, and Fiona, the ex-wife, Vena, share details told from the perspective Second Exhibition served about a volatile divorce of the actors, but from the as a premiere for infor- and a mutually beneficial viewpoint of an outsider, a mation revealed outside deal, A review of Fiona's voyeur, an "other." This style of their own perspective. professional performance of narration is inherent to life and therefore also significantly present in the world of Addersfield.

audience The viewership of Addersfield should be critical of the information being presented. Unreliable narrators are an organic quality of life and thus are applicable to the narrative of this town. The opinions and presentations of the significant characters are subjected to the views of outsiders: a trial endured by all.

The Second Exhibition of The City of Addersfield presented ephemera for each of the main characters that were all from the perspective of someone else. In order for an audience to gather a full understanding

Addersfield is a town of the characters within the A map of Addersfield's cities demon-Herman's



LOCAL THEATE PREMIERE BOM

Don't waste your time; it's not worth the three dolla WRITTEN BY BERNIE SQUIRES

This weekend The Addersfield their latest original production from the audience through energies to the plight of Marcus. to an audience of approximately emotional appeals of the struggles. Little of the production did

Salvato is locally recognized favor in its accidental mission to are shit at art. for his work as a civil servant hide the amateur set design. in the Addersfield community. His introduction into the world "Caffeinated Capitalism" tripped of theatre is a result of creative their way through the screenplay pursuits with other young artists. and clumsily made it to the

The very complicated quietly followed Ms. Ruska around Assemblage of Actors premiered screenplay strives to seek empathy the stage, bringing the lowest of

The featured actors to cites his inspiration highly anticipated conclusion. tion as "the perils of Addersfield-darling Fiona Ruska, a harmful economic playing Salvato's Mara, has acted owes no loyalty to its in several productions with the ated followers and the Assemblage, but any skill she of coping through the may have possessed was entirely disastrous nightmarish unsolicited absent in this spring play. Henry Endlewood, famed Mill laborer,

40 guests at the Saporta Theater. of humanity and the lower class, anything to entice this reporter, who Written and directed by local but the message falls entirely flat so desperately wanted to support icon Thom Salvato, "Caffeinated in the weak execution. Direction is local art and theater. However, Capitalism" tells the drug induced clearly not Mr. Salvato's strength. if the work continues to be this tale of the romantically entangled The awkward staging yielded desolate, graceless, and tiresome, Mara and Marcus as they lazily argue even more awkward interactions audiences will be sure to leave with a their way through the tragedies of between the stars and the seemingly singular and solid understanding of contemporary society and culture. insignificant chorus of supports. one timeless, dramatic lesson: The Freshmen playwright Thom Poor lighting worked in the play's Addersfield Assemblage of Actors

mation. own conclusions about the tionately narrative before them.

narrators is often utilized controversial in nature, but, throughout the experience.

supervisor reveals her in an effort to mimic real deteriorating motivation as life and to encourage close an accountant. This infor- analysis by the audience. he seeks this forgiveness. collected from Vladmir Nabokov famously external sources, provide employed this tactic is his well-rounded context for the 1955 novel, *Lolita*. The settings and the characters. novel tells of a romantic and building a strategy to move Offering these potentially sexual relationship between biased perspectives allow a man and his step-daughter the audience to form their Dolores, whom he affec- journey through The City of "Lolita." This relationship presented with wide variety The trope of unreliable is inherently criminal and of tactical approached

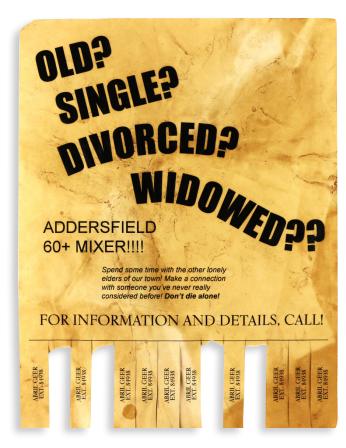
however, because the tale is being shared by the person of power in the relationship (the instigator, self-identifving Humbert Humbert), the novel is written with a message of normalcy and a quest for acceptance. Humbert is seeking approval for his pedophilic and illegal relationship by warping the narrative as a romance. He asks the audience to understand his perspective and forgive his crimes (he writes the tale while incarcerated) and he does this by silencing the voice and opinions of his victim, Dolores. The one-sided story completed by her immediate in fictional productions reaches to entice and seduce the readers into the mind and this world of Humbert as

The details learned from the Second Exhibition yielded helpful information in forward. In order to give the audience agency in their nicknames Addersfield, they must be

THIRD EXHIBITION

A mourning widow finds receipts for a dozen roses and cries. A depressed actor sees a cast list void of their name and is sorrowful. An executive looks upon a stack of freshly printed business card and soaks in a moment of pride. Small, minute details hide in the cracks of the world, communicating directed and specific information without motivation. An entire world of narrative lives in locations outside of novels and fiction. Stories exist in places all around society, resting in hidden corners. There are various methods of delivering these structures of narrative with each mode serving different qualities and quantities of effectiveness.

Indirect and detailed communications narratives are the driving town, an audience can build create the subject of a feature film people within its limits. or a best-selling novel. The



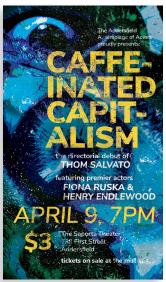
Α multitude of

of of the pieces that live in this narrative. Marketing tools impressions force of The City of and comprehend a story consumerism while simulta-Addersfield. The town is not of foundational events and neously informing a viewer of targeted details.

The Third Exhibition town is an authentic place, strategies offer opportu- of The City of Addersfield with organic people and true nities to achieve these goals. offered documentation of interactions. By studying Advertising is a fantastic advertisements that further the information and details vehicle to contribute to a flesh out the narrative. A

poster for the annual Birch Bash shares the familiarity of the community. A flyer for an elderly singles event reveals post-divorce Herman's desire to move on from his failed marriage. A theatrical tabloid introduces Fiona's professional transition and dramatic pursuits. Where advertisements are built





with marketing intentions, in function in story-telling.

narrative within film culture. their mission. Design and Communications Professor Leon Gurevitch studies the effectiveness of including narratives within film advertising.¹⁰ Gurevitch concludes that the success of these strategies comes from the relationship with the audience. "Narrative meaning is gained in the space between the film and the advert and in the interaction between spectacle and narrative across both

texts."10 This relationship is empirically relevant to ensuring successful communication, thus intentional and mindful design must be employed.

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Well targeted and carefully produced advertising designs can profitably achieve goals of communicating narratives. Within Addersfield, this means that Fiona's posters must designed to entice an audience of vouthful creatives, where Herman's flyers for must be quickly Addersfield, they primarily consumable and easily reproducible. These details are In an analysis of imperative to the success of

FOURTH EXHIBITION

Annie Atkins gave a lecture This is why Atkins pays the town and its inhabitants. at the Adobe Max Design so much attention to the The herald that ignites the Conference in Los Angeles." details of these ephemeral interest of the audience is During this talk, Atkins assets: they are the crux of a letter from Lumber mill spoke of the significance exposition. of printed assets within in element called "the herald" and the manner in which it regularly expedites the narrative. A herald is defined as "one that precedes or foreshadows" and "one that conveys news or proclaims."12 In the context of film, Atkins describes the herald as that which begins the action. When Harry Potter receives a letter from an owl telling him that he has been accepted to Hogwarts, the story begins.¹³ When Charlie Bucket unwraps a candy bar to find the golden ticket to Mr. Wonka's Chocolate Factory, the story begins. About 98% of the time, according to Atkins, the herald in film is a piece of paper.¹⁴ Something tangible, legible, and communicative that jump starts the journey

November 2019, to be undertaken by the a significant purpose in Graphic Designer characters and the audience. revealing information about

screenplays and film. She comprised of these elements. investigator in a neighboring spoke at length about an Each individual piece serves town, Mr. Theodore Agata.

Owner and CEO, Pomona The City of Addersfield is Roisier, to an insurance





over our case?"

So much information nication, the narrative is The participants learn as

"Theo. I hate to ask this launched and the audience motivation and digging. of you," Ms. Roisier writes. is intrigued. The spectators "The mill has burned down. now understand the physical It was a terrible accident scene presented before than spread across the town. them; they are at Mr. Agata's Addersfield is in ashes... The desk at the Andrix Agency town, the mill, myself - we of Insurance as he invesneed your help. Can you look tigates the fire that yielded this claim.

And thus the experience is revealed from this short rockets. The audience is letter. Context is established, captivated by this introcharacters are introduced, duction and are urged to and setting is detailed, begin their own investi-With this single commu- gation into the situation.

they read and engage with physical documents and pieces in front of them. Herman is mourning his failed marriage, Vena is absent from her past life in Addersfield, and Fiona is yearning for a more validating life. But now the audience has context for why this evidence is collected and arranged and why it matters.

The herald supplies the context and structure for the narrative. The fall of Addersfield is hidden within all of the collected evidence. but the pieces of the story can fall into place with a little

POTENTIAL

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The City of Addersfield is a study in success of experiential narrative. Through the process of writing, designing, and creating Addersfield, author Danielle Rozsnyai learned valuable skills in critical analysis of design work and its relationship with storytelling. Rozsnyai hopes to utilize these finely tuned abilities to jump start a graphic design career with a focus on prop design and communication. The City of Addersfield serves as a potential jumping off point for Rozsnyai to design the type of projects that she wishes to pursue.

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- All artwork included was created and photographed by Danielle Rozsnyai, unless otherwise stated and sourced.

