# Characters

## Main character:

**Ezra Faulkner**, 17 years old. He played tennis before the car crash. Now he participates in a speech and debate team.

# Summery

Ezra was a popular boy, he had perfect grades, a beautiful girlfriend, he was homecoming king, and he was the tennis captain. Everyone wanted to be just like him. Everything fell apart. He saw his girlfriend cheating on him when it was the night of prom. Ezra was mad and he drove home with his car. He calls his car the Voldemort. There was an accident when Ezra got in the car. A Land Rover bumped right into him. Ezra was taken to a hospital, while the other car just drove away. Luckily, he survived. His knee is shattered, he will never be able to play tennis anymore. None of his friends visited him when he was in the hospital. When school started again, he tried to keep to himself because he felt like he doesn’t fit in with his old friends. He met a girl that was new at school, Cassidy. When they have their first talk, they immediately get into an argument. Cassidy apologizes the next day and they start to hang out more. Toby Elliot, Ezra his childhood best friend, invites them to sit with the debate team.

Cassidy and Toby already know each other from the debate tournaments. They are signing each other up as a joke, but they can’t back out now. Luke is also a member of the debate team. He doesn’t like Ezra, he feels threatened by him, like he is afraid to lose power. Therefore, he is very harsh and hostile towards Ezra. Luke his girlfriend Phoebe Chang is also a member of the debate team, she thinks that Luke is way too harsh towards Ezra. When Luke calls Ezra crippled, he crossed Phoebe her line. She slaps him and breaks up with him. The homecoming dance is in sight, Ezra is nominated for king. He wants to go with Cassidy to the dance, but suddenly she starts acting weird. Ezra gets dressed up, but Cassidy never shows up. Ezra found Cassidy sitting in a park where they used to go to on a date. She tells him that her boyfriend from San Francisco came back and that Ezra needs to leave her alone. Meanwhile, Charlotte Hyde, Ezra’s ex, tries to get back together with him. Ezra is hanging out with his old friends again. Ezra and Cassidy run into each other at the trauma therapy, they are having an argument. He found out from Toby that Cassidy her brother died.

Ezra wants to win her back and decides to make Cassidy a snowman out of tumbleweeds. Cooper, Ezra’s dog, is coming with them. Cassidy likes it but she tries to take it down. Ezra doesn’t understand why she is acting so weird. As he stomps angrily away, Cassidy tells him to run away, and he sees a coyote. Ezra can’t run because of his knee, therefore he is stressed out. Cooper runs to attack the coyote. The coyote bit him in his neck, there is a lot of blood. They are taking him to the animal hospital. As they are waiting, Cassidy tells him that she realized that the person who ran the Land Rover to Ezra’s car was her brother. Cassidy can’t be with Ezra, because when she is with him, the only thing she thinks about is her death brother and how he didn’t survive the accident. The dog sadly died. Ezra is telling himself that he needs to make the most of his life and that he shouldn’t worry so much about everything around him. He intends to live.

Titelverklaring:

Ezra his life is completely changed after his accident, he develops and learns a lot. He is not busy with sports anymore because of his knee. Just as he says at the end ‘He intends to live. Everything is just getting started.

## Minor characters

**Debate team**: Luke, Sam, Phoebe, Toby, Austin, Cassidy and Ezra

**Toby Elliot**

* Childhood friend.
* Toby caught the severed head in Disney Land.
* A very loyal friend
* Senior

**Cassidy Thorpe**

* Girlfriend
* Parents are doctors
* Brother is dead
* Lives across the park
* Senior

**Luke Sheppard**

* Enemy
* Boyfriend of Phoebe Chang, he wasn’t very nice to her.
* Called Ezra cripple
* Junior??????

**Phoebe Chang**

* Friend
* Girlfriend of Luke Sheppard
* Junior

**Charlotte Hyde**

* Ex-girlfriend that tries to get back with Ezra eventually.
* Dates Evan after she dated Ezra

**Owen**

* Brother of Cassidy
* Died by the causes of a car accident which involved Ezra.

**Evan McMillan**

* Boyfriend Charlotte
* New captain of the tennis team.

# Genre

**Novel of education/ coming of age novel**

* psychological development of main character is central theme
* gradual process of growing awareness
* main character(s) develop their attitude to life

**Psychological novel**

* focus on feelings and emotions of the characters
* focus on the psychological background and development
* the events are less important than the character’s development

**Love story**

* love is main theme
* sexuality and relationships
* obstacle in the way of relationships

# Plot

**Car crash=**

The night the car crash happened was the night of prom. Charlotte cheated on Ezra and Ezra got in the car.

Ezra and Owen got in the same car crash. They crashed together; Ezra survived but Owen didn’t. Owen got a problem with his heart as cause of the car crash. He then died at home.

Ezra was driving a black SUV when the car crash happened. He called the car Voldemort.

Ezra couldn’t sport anymore; he wasn’t the captain of the tennis team and he couldn’t take Cooper for a run. He also couldn’t sit in the sun for long because of his medication. When Ezra was in the hospital, he realized that his ‘friends’ weren’t really friends. They didn’t even visit him at the hospital.

**Debate tournament=**

The debate team went to a tournament. Ezra got signed up by Toby and Cassidy got signed up by Ezra. Cassidy was mad at Ezra because she didn’t want to go (We later found out that she didn’t want to go because of the people that would look at her. They wouldn’t look at her like she was Cassidy, they would look at her and think of her dead brother. They would feel sorry for her). Eventually Ezra and Cassidy shared a bed. Cassidy also kind of cheated in the tournament, she had been competing as Ezra and she sent Ezra to go compete as her, they switched.

**Friendship with Toby =**

Toby and Ezra were best friends but when toby caught a severed head in Disney land they grew apart. Toby eventually went to Ezra when he was sitting on the front row at the pep rally. They became friends again.

**Break up =**

Cassidy’s and Ezra’s break up. The afternoon before the homecoming dance Cassidy discovered that Ezra was involved in her brothers crash and death (this was because of the joke he made about his car). She didn’t want to date anymore because she could only think of her brother when she saw Ezra. She went to the castle park alone and Ezra went out looking for her. When Ezra found her, she lied about having another boyfriend. Ezra walked away and then later found out this wasn’t the reason of the breakup. He went over to her house early in the morning, made a snowman of tumbleweeds but he got sent away with cooper. He then almost got attacked by a coyote, but cooper saved him. The neck of cooper was bleeding because of the attack. Cooper, Ezra and Cassidy went to the animal hospital. There, Cassidy explained her problem with Ezra. Eventually Cooper also died.

**Homecoming king=**

Ezra didn’t go to homecoming because of the breakup. He was nominated for homecoming king and won. “Ezra Faulkner and Jillian Nakamura named homecoming kind and queen”. Page 248

# Narrator

Ezra Faulkner (he/him)

# Point of view

Limited point of view (first person point of view).

# Setting

* Town in the US
* School called “eastwood high”
* The story starts in the summer when Ezra got in a car crash. The story itself is about a year in high school (senior year).

# Flashback

Ezra looked back on the accident this was one of the few flashbacks. He also looked back on the childhood friendship he had with Toby.

# Theme

“The aftermath of a personal tragedy”, page 272.

# Metaphor

Panopticon
Ezra is stuck in patterns and expectations. He’s not critical about his capabilities and Cassidy tries to make him free if all these expectations.