

Improve reading fluency with simple sentence structures and a fast-paced plot that keep readers engaged.

## Emma

The font spacing and size are easily readable yet still appropriate for the intended audience.

wanted it to. Which I often did. No better way to hide from people that bothered me.

Just as I grabbed the handle to the front door, Ma yelled, "Stop, Emma!"

I stopped. But I didn't let go of the door handle, and I didn't look back at my mother. "What is it, Ma?"

"Look at me!" Ma commanded. I obeyed, slowly letting go of the door handle. I saw she already had her arms crossed, and she was shaking her head. "You do *not* speak to me this way. Your father and I have taught you better than this. Joseph never—"

"Joe is perfect! I know!" I began to pull on my jacket, punching my arms into the sleeves. My older brother was *always* the perfect one. He was smart and full of respect, all that my parents ever wanted. "Speaking of your *perfect* son, where is he?"

My mother's face went blank. "He . . . he . . . he said he's going—"

"Out." I finished her sentence since I had heard Joseph taking off only twenty minutes earlier. Ma had sent him off, yelling, "*Have a good time!*" By the look on Ma's face, I could tell she was finally making the connection.

"Okay." Ma dropped her eyes. Her voice softened as she returned to Mandarin. "*You're right. I just . . . worry about you.*"

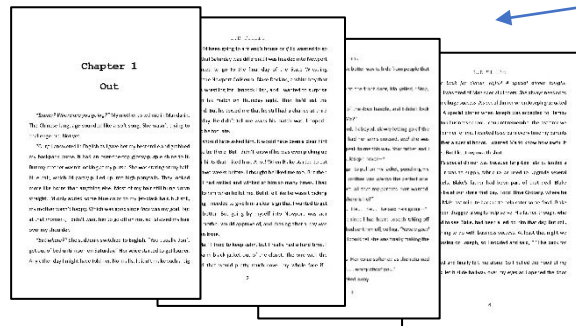
"Well, don't! I'll be fine!" I looked away.

Free reading guides provide question and reflection prompts to engage readers in discussion or writing opportunities. For example:

What made Emma's brother, Joseph, perfect?

Plots contain relevant and relatable themes and topics, such as dealing with anger and judgment.

The Way I See It books are written from culturally diverse perspectives. Emma is told from a Chinese American point of view.



Short chapters promote a quicker pace and help keep students engaged.