Point of View Exercise

Virginia Woolf writes her novel, *Orlando*, from both the male and female perspective from within the same character. More recently, David Levithan’s novel *Every Day* has a protagonist that inhabits a different 17 year old person’s body everyday—some days the character is male, some female. As a writer, you need to address the story from multiple perspectives—you need to understand the opposite sex (or from within the sexes).

EXERCISE: A man is sitting alone at a table in a crowded sidewalk café. A woman from another table gets up, walks over, and sits down opposite him. Now, you will write three versions of the same scene from three different perspectives.

Write the scene in the first person from the perspective of one of the characters.

Write the scene in the third person (limited or all-knowing, you choose).

Write the scene as a dialogue (not as a play, but a dialogue). Example:

“Could you please pass the sugar?” he asked.

“No,” she replied.

Length: 250 words for each version

Due: Friday, 11/13, typed

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